

Grit Homework: Due Tuesday November 8th

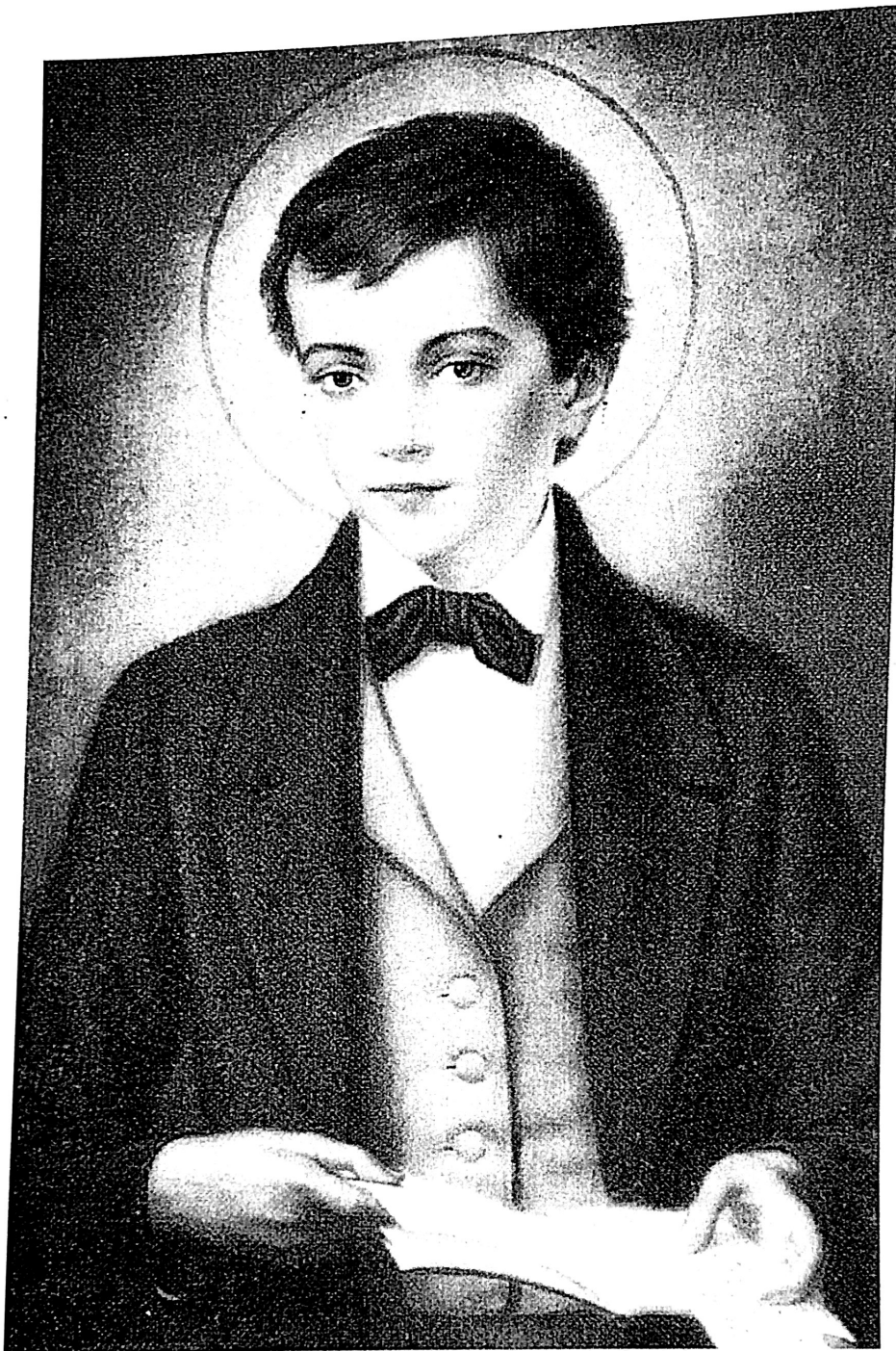
Read the attached article about child saint, St. Dominic Savio. While reading, reflect on his portrayal of leadership. What were his values?

Writing Assignment:

Choose one leader you respect. This person can be someone whom you know well, such as a team coach or teacher, or it can be a famous leader like St. Dominic, the President, or Martin Luther King Jr.

Write a minimum of one paragraph explaining why you respect this person.

1. Use an MLA header
2. Does this person demonstrate their values to you through their leadership?
3. How do you know?



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St. Dominic Savio died at the age of 14 in 1857. When he was canonized a saint in 1954 by Pope Pius XII, he was (and remains) the youngest person ever to have been canonized a saint by the Catholic Church without being some sort of martyr.

Born and raised in Italy, Dominic showed signs of sanctity early on. When he was just 4 years old Dominic was frequently found by his parents in solitary prayer. He learned to be an altar boy at age 5, and if he got to the church before the priest unlocked the doors in the morning, he would kneel (in the mud, snow, whatever) until the priest arrived. When he was just 7 years old, he wrote in his journal that he had four rules:

- 1) I will go to Confession often, and as frequently to Holy Communion as my confessor allows.
- 2) I wish to sanctify the Sundays and festivals in a special manner.
- 3) My friends shall be Jesus and Mary.
- 4) Death rather than sin.

He happened to attend the school of St. John Bosco, and John became a mentor for Dominic.

As a pre-teen, he experimented with severe physical penances (putting rocks in his bed, wearing a hair shirt, etc), but when his superiors found out, they forbade him from continuing them. Instead, he decided to simply perform all of his duties with as much love and humility as possible, which he summed up with the motto, "I can't do big things but I want everything to be for the glory of God." (Remind you of another saint?)

Unfortunately, he contracted a lung disease and died soon after. After he died, John Bosco wrote a biography of Dominic, which was instrumental in Dominic being canonized.