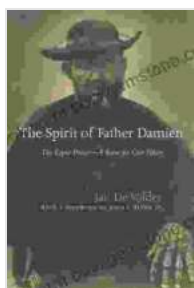


# The Leper Priest Saint for Our Times: Inspiring Lessons from St. Damien of Moloka'i

Saint Damien of Moloka'i was a Belgian priest who dedicated his life to serving lepers on the remote Hawaiian island of Moloka'i. His story is one of compassion, self-sacrifice, and love that inspires people to this day. Here are some reasons why St. Damien is considered a saint for our times.



## The Spirit Of Father Damien: The Leper Priest-A Saint for Our Times by Jan de Volder

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1197 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 235 pages
Lending	: Enabled



## A Life of Compassion

St. Damien was born in Belgium in 1840. He was ordained a priest in 1864 and volunteered to serve as a missionary in Hawaii. In 1873, he was assigned to the leper colony on Moloka'i. At the time, leprosy was a dreaded disease that was often fatal. Lepers were often shunned and ostracized from society. St. Damien, however, saw the lepers as his brothers and sisters in Christ. He dedicated himself to providing them with physical, emotional, and spiritual care.

St. Damien lived among the lepers, sharing their food and living conditions. He built them a church, a hospital, and a school. He also taught them how to read and write. He was a tireless advocate for the lepers, fighting for their rights and dignity. He also preached to them about the love of God and the hope of salvation.

### **A Model of Self-Sacrifice**

St. Damien's life was one of self-sacrifice. He gave up his comfortable life in Belgium to serve the lepers of Moloka'i. He knew that he would likely contract leprosy himself, and he did in fact develop the disease in 1885. However, he continued to serve the lepers until his death in 1889.

St. Damien's self-sacrifice is an inspiration to us all. It shows us that we are called to love and serve others, even when it is difficult or dangerous. We are called to put the needs of others before our own and to make sacrifices for the sake of love.

### **A Beacon of Hope**

St. Damien was a beacon of hope for the lepers of Moloka'i. He showed them that they were not alone and that they were loved. He gave them hope for a better future, both in this life and in the next. St. Damien's hope is a source of inspiration for us all. It reminds us that no matter how difficult life may seem, there is always hope. We can always find hope in God and in the love of others.

### **A Saint for Our Times**

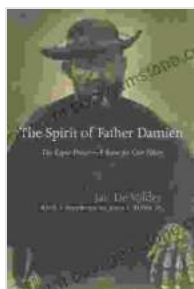
St. Damien of Moloka'i is a saint for our times. He is a model of compassion, self-sacrifice, and love. His story inspires us to love and serve others, even when it is difficult. He reminds us that there is always hope, no

matter how dark things may seem. St. Damien is a saint for all of us, and his legacy continues to inspire people around the world.

## Prayer to St. Damien of Moloka'i

O Saint Damien of Moloka'i, you who dedicated your life to serving the lepers of Moloka'i, I ask for your intercession. Please help me to be more compassionate and selfless. Help me to see the face of Christ in others, especially in those who are suffering. Help me to love and serve others, even when it is difficult. Help me to bring hope to those who are in need. Saint Damien of Moloka'i, pray for us.

**Amen.**



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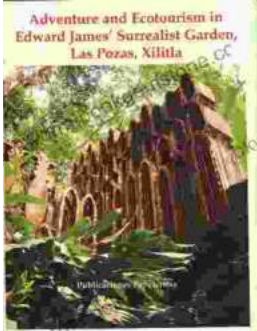
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