



## DO I HAVE TO BE NICE TO EVERYONE?

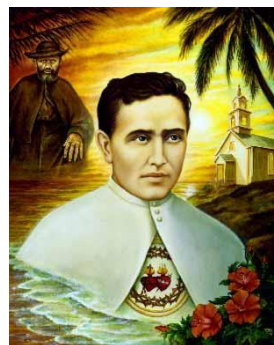


**#309 WHAT IS CHARITY?** Charity is the power by which we, who have been loved first by God, can give ourselves to God so as to be united with him and can accept our neighbor for God's sake as unconditionally and sincerely as we accept ourselves. Jesus places love above all laws, without however abolishing the latter. Therefore St. Augustine rightly says, "Love, and do what you will." Which is not at all as easy as it sounds. That is why charity, love, is the greatest virtue, the energy that inspires all the other virtues and fills them with divine life.

## SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES

### ST. DAMIEN OF MOLOKAI

Damien joined the Sacred Hearts Fathers in 1860 and was sent to Honolulu, Hawaii, where he was ordained a priest. For the next nine years he worked in missions on the big island, Hawaii. When he was 33 years old, he went to the leper colony on Molokai, after volunteering for the assignment. After sixteen years caring for the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of those in the leper colony, he eventually caught the disease himself. He is considered a "martyr of charity". He died when he was 49 years old, and Pope John Paul II beatified him on June 4, 1995.



### GOSPEL



### ANSWERS

"BUT THAT YOU MAY KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS"—HE SAID TO THE MAN WHO WAS PARALYZED, "I SAY TO YOU, RISE, PICK UP YOUR STRETCHER, AND GO HOME."

— LUKE 5: 12-26

## ANSWER IN YOUR OWN WORDS:

---

---