



St. Julia Billiard

April 8

Who was St. Julia Billiard?

St. Julia Billiard, born on July 12, 1751, in Cuvilly, France, was a French Catholic religious leader who played a crucial role in the founding and development of the Institute of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. Her life and contributions are celebrated annually on her feast day, April 8.

Julia Billiard faced significant health challenges from a young age, but her deep spirituality and commitment to education overcame these obstacles. In 1804, she, along with Françoise Blin de Bourdon, established the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, a religious congregation dedicated to education and Christian formation. The order focused on providing education to girls, particularly those from impoverished backgrounds.

St. Julia Billiard's importance lies in her commitment to the education of women and her emphasis on living a life rooted in faith. Her dedication to the marginalized and her strong spiritual leadership contributed to the growth and impact of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur.

She is celebrated on her feast day, April 8, which marks the anniversary of her death in 1816. The feast day serves as a time for reflection on her life, teachings and the enduring impact of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. Catholics may attend Mass, pray and reflect on St. Julie Billiard's legacy on this day.

In her honour and celebration, individuals may participate in charitable acts, particularly for the education and well-being of girls and women. St. Julia Billiard is often remembered for her compassionate service, and therefore, acts of kindness and generosity are fitting ways to pay tribute to her legacy. Schools and institutions founded by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur may also organize special events and prayers on this day.

An interesting fact about St. Julia Billiard is that she had a profound mystical experience during the French Revolution, during which she was paralyzed for 22 years. Despite her physical limitations, she remained spiritually active, and it is said that her paralysis disappeared during moments of deep prayer. This miraculous healing was among the events contributing to her eventual canonization.

[St. Julia Billiard CES Website](#)

[Bless Frederic Ozanam Parish Website](#)



Quotes by St. Julia Billiard

"How good is the good God!"

"Let us love God; let us love Him very much, but let it be with a love that is free, not one that is servile."

Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

O St. Julia Billiard, woman of deep faith and dedication,
You who overcame physical challenges with an unwavering spirit,
We come before you in prayer, seeking your intercession.

You answered God's call to educate and uplift,
Founding the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur with courage and love.
May your example inspire us to embrace our own calling with joy and determination.

St. Julia, patroness of educators and those with physical ailments,
Intercede for us before the throne of grace.
Pray for our teachers, that they may instill wisdom and compassion in their students.

Help those facing physical challenges to find strength in their weakness,
Just as you did during your own miraculous healing.
May your intercession bring comfort and healing to those in need.

St. Julia Billiard, guide us in our journey of faith,
That we may, like you, live lives of deep prayer and service.
May we follow your example of love for the marginalized and dedication to education.

May God's grace be abundant, and His mercy be upon us.

St. Julia Billiard, pray for us.

Amen.

Patron Saint of:

Those Suffering from Poverty

Bodily Ills

Opposition of the Church





York Catholic District School Board



FEAST DAY:
April 8

SCHOOL LOCATION:
Markham, ON

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— Julia Billiard*

**St. Julia
Billiard**

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