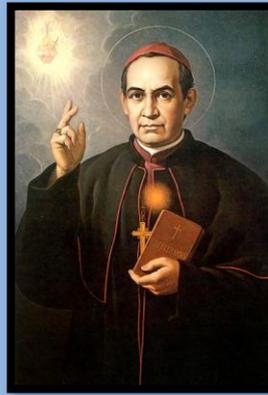


BIOGRAPHY

Antony María Claret, was born at Sallent in Spain, of pious and respectable parents. As a youth he practiced the weaver's trade, but later became priest. After some time in the parochial ministry, he went to Rome, hoping that the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith would send him to the foreign missions. But God disposed otherwise, and he returned to Spain, where he travelled throughout Catalonia and the Canary Islands as an apostolic missionary. Besides writing many worthwhile books, he founded the Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Having been appointed archbishop of Santiago in Cuba, he was conspicuous for the virtues of a zealous shepherd. He restored the seminary, promoted the teaching and the discipline of the clergy, started projects for social welfare, and founded the teaching Sisters of Mary Immaculate for the Christian education of girls. At length having been summoned to Madrid, to become confessor to the Queen of Spain and her adviser in the most serious affairs of the Church, he gave an outstanding example of austerity and of all virtues. At the Vatican Council he strenuously defended the infallibility of the Pope. He was responsible for a remarkable spread of devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and her Rosary. Finally he died in exile at Fontfroide in France in the year 1870. Renowned for his miracles, he was beatified by Pope Pius XI and canonized by Pius XII.



**ST. ANTHONY MARY CLARET
BISHOP & CONFESSOR**

**FEAST DAY:
23 OCTOBER (1962)
24 OCTOBER (1969)**

COLLECT

○ God, with the virtues of an apostle Thou didst exalt blessed Anthony Mary, and through him build in Thy Church new religious congregations of men and women: grant, we pray, that led by his counsels and helped by his prayers, we may unremittingly work for the salvation of souls. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Who Liveth and Reigneth with Thee, in the Unity of the Holy Ghost, God, world without end. Amen

NOVENA TO ST. ANTHONY MARY

St. Anthony Mary Claret, during thy life on earth thou often comforted the afflicted and showed such tender love and compassion for the sick and sinful. Intercede for me now that thou dost rejoice in the reward of thy virtues in heavenly glory. Look with pity on me (**or on the person afflicted or whose conversion is desired**) and grant my prayer, if such be the Will of God. Make my troubles thine own. Speak a word for me to the Immaculate Heart of Mary to obtain by her powerful intercession the grace I yearn for so ardently, and a blessing to strengthen me during life. Do thou assist me at the hour of death, and lead me to a happy eternity. Amen.