

October 24, 2022

Good Morning All,

~From Deacon Chet Johns - Novena for the Souls in Purgatory - Begins today - attached.

~Calling all interior designers! A committee is being formed to assist with decorating the church for the Advent/Christmas and Easter seasons. If you are interested, please contact Diane Yuravich at dkyurri@yahoo.com. Diane would like to have a meeting the first week of November. Men and women are welcome! Share your talents!

1. Today's Readings: [Monday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time | USCCB](#)

2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: Today's saint, St. Anthony Mary Claret, is not well known even though he lived in the 1800s. He was a Spanish bishop and founder of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary also known as the Claretians. The article today is a few pages of his autobiography, easy to read and gives us a glimpse of the heart and mind of a young man that will become a saint.

3. Quotes of the Day: St. Anthony Mary Claret

~"Love is the most necessary of all virtues. Love in the person who preaches the word of God is like fire in a musket. If a person were to throw a bullet with his hands, he would hardly make a dent in anything; but if the person takes the same bullet and ignites some gunpowder behind it, it can kill. It is much the same with the word of God. If it is spoken by someone who is filled with the fire of charity- the fire of love of God and neighbor- it will work wonders."

~"Our Lord has created persons for all states in life, and in all of them we see people who achieved sanctity by fulfilling their obligations well."

St. Anthony Mary Claret, Pray for Us!

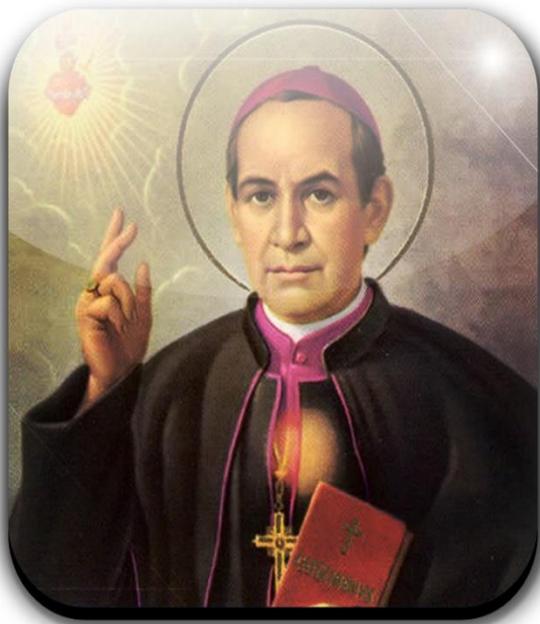
St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

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*An excerpt from the
autobiography of St
Anthony Mary Claret*

Chapter VI **FIRST DEVOTIONS**

36. Ever since I was a small boy I have been attracted to piety and religion. I used to attend Mass on all feasts and holy days and on other days, too, when I possibly could. On feast days I usually attended two Masses, a Low Mass and a High Mass, always together with my

father. I cannot remember ever playing, looking around, or talking in church. On the contrary, I was always so recollected, modest, and devout that when I compare those early years with the present I am ashamed because, to my great embarrassment, I must admit that even now I lack the fixed attention and heartfelt fervor that I had then.

37. I attended all the functions of our holy religion with great faith. The services I liked best were those connected with the Blessed Sacrament, and I attended these with great devotion and joy. Besides the constant good example of my father, who had great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, I had the good fortune of discovering a book entitled *Courtesies of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament*. How I loved that book! I liked it so much that I learned it by heart.

38. When I was ten years old, I was allowed to make my First Communion. Words cannot tell what I felt on that day when I had the unequalled joy of receiving my good Jesus into my heart for the first time. From then on, I always frequented the sacraments of Penance and Communion, but how fervently and with what devotion and love: more than now--yes, more than now, I must say to my embarrassment and shame. Now that I know so much more than I did then, now that the many benefits I have received since then have accumulated continually; in gratitude I should have become a seraph of love, whereas God knows what I am. When I

compare my early years with the present, I grow sad and tearfully confess that I am a monster of ingratitude.

39. Besides assisting at Holy Mass, frequent Communion, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, which I did with great fervor because of God's goodness and mercy, I also attended the pastor's catechism class and explanation of the Gospel that took place every Sunday and feast day. These sessions always closed in the afternoon with recitation of the Holy Rosary.

40. In addition to attending these morning and afternoon services, I used to enter the church at nightfall, when hardly anyone was there, and talk alone with our Lord. With great faith, trust, and love, I would speak to God, my good Father. A thousand times over I would offer myself to his service. I wanted to become a priest so that I could dedicate myself to his service day and night. I remember telling Him, "Humanly speaking, I see no hope, but you have the power to make it happen, if you will." Then, with total confidence, I would leave it all in God's hands, trusting Him to do whatever had to be done: which He did, as I shall say later.

41. At this time I chanced upon another book called *A Good Day and a Good Night*, which I read with great pleasure and profit. After reading from it awhile, I would close it, press it to my heart, look up to heaven with tears in my eyes, and say, "Lord, how many good things I was ignorant of. My God, my Love, who could ever help loving you?"

42. The realization of how much good I have derived through reading good and pious books has prompted me to distribute them generously, in the hope that they will bring my neighbors, whom I love, the same happy results they brought to me. May all men know how good and lovable and loving God is. My God, make all creatures come to know, love, and serve you with full faith and fervor. All you creatures love your God, for He is good and his mercy is endless.

Chapter VII **EARLY DEVOTION TO MARY**

43. During these same years of my childhood and youth, I had a very warm devotion toward the Blessed Virgin Mary. I only wish that I had the same devotion now. To use Rodriguez's comparison, I am like those old servants in great houses who hardly do anything and, like old pots and pans, are kept in the household more out of pity

and charity than for any great usefulness. That is how I am in the service of the Queen of heaven and earth: she puts up with me out of pure charity. To show that this is the plain truth, without the least exaggeration, I am going to relate what I used to do in honor of Mary Most Holy.

44. When I was a little boy, I was given a pair of rosary beads, and I was more pleased with them than with the greatest treasure. I used them after school when my classmates and I marched in double file to the nearby church where our teacher led us in reciting a part of the rosary.

45. At about this time I discovered in our house a book called *El Roser*, the rose-tree, which contained pictures and explanations of the mysteries of the rosary. I learned from it how to recite the rosary, litanies, and other prayers. When my teacher heard of this, he was very pleased and had me kneel by his side in church so that I could lead the rosary. When the older boys saw how this had put me in the teacher's good graces, they learned it too. From then on, we alternated in leading every other week, so that all came to learn and practice this holy devotion that, after Holy Mass, is the most profitable.

46. After that time, I recited the rosary not only in church but at home every night, as was the custom of my parents. After I had finished grammar school and had begun to work regularly in the factory, I recited the three parts daily along with my fellow workers, who kept on working as I led them. We said the first part before eight o'clock breakfast, the second before lunch at noon, and the third before nine in the evening when they went home to dinner.

47. Besides the entire rosary that we said every working day, we also recited a Hail Mary on the hour and the Angelus at its due times. On feast days I spent more time at church than at home, as I rarely played with other children. I used to entertain myself at home, and even in the midst of these innocent diversions I seemed to hear the voice of the Virgin calling me to church. I would say "I'm coming," and off I went.

48. I never tired of being in church before the image of Our Lady of the Rosary, and I talked and prayed so trustingly that I was quite sure the Blessed Virgin heard me. I used to imagine a sort of wire running from the image in front of me to its heavenly original. Although I had not yet seen a telegraph line at that time, I had imagined

how it would be to have a telegraph line to heaven. I can't explain how attentive, fervent, and devout I was at prayer then, but I was more so then than I am now.

49. As a small child I and my sister Rose, who was very devout, made frequent visits to the shrine of the Virgin called Fussimanya, a league away from my home. I cannot describe the devotion I felt at this shrine. Even before I got there, as soon as I could see the outline of the chapel, I felt so emotional that tears of tenderness welled up in my eyes. We started saying the rosary and kept praying all the way to the chapel. I have visited the shrine at Fussimanya whenever I could, not only as a child but as student, priest, and even as archbishop before I left for my diocese.

50. All my joy was to work, pray, read, and think about Jesus and Mary. I enjoyed keeping silence and spoke very little because I liked being alone so as not to be disturbed in my thoughts. I was always content, happy, and at peace with everyone. I never had a quarrel or fight, great or small, with anyone.

51. While I was engaged in these holy thoughts that so delighted my heart, I suddenly had the most terrible and blasphemous temptation against the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is the greatest pain I have felt in my whole life. I would have preferred to be in hell to be free of it. I couldn't eat, sleep, or look at her image. What suffering! I went to confession, but because I was too young to know how to express myself very well, the confessor made light of what I was saying, and I was in the same predicament as before. What bitterness! This temptation lasted until the Lord Himself chose to come to my aid.

52. Later I had another temptation against my own good mother, who loved me very much and whom I loved in return. I conceived a great hatred and aversion for her, and, to overcome the temptation, I forced myself to treat her with much tenderness and humility. I recollect that when I went to confession and told my director about my temptation and the means I had used to overcome it, he asked me, "Who told you to do these things?" I answered, "No one, Father." Then I Move to Barcelona he told me, "It is God who has been teaching you, son; keep on as you have been doing and be faithful to his grace."

53. No one dared use foul language or hold bad conversations in my presence. Once I happened to be present at a gathering of young men--ordinarily I didn't join in because I was well aware of the kind of talk that went on in such gatherings--and one of the better young men told me, "You'd better leave, Anthony. We're going

to talk about bad things." I thanked him for the advice and left, never to join them again.

54. My God, how good you have been to me and how poorly I have responded to your favors! If you had given such graces to any other son of Adam, he would surely have done better than I. I am so embarrassed and ashamed. How shall I answer you on judgment day when you say, "Render an account of your stewardship"? (Luke 16: 2).

55. Mother Mary, how good you have been to me and how ungrateful I have been to you! My Mother, I wish to love you from now on with all my heart, and not only to love you myself, but to bring everyone else to know, love, serve, and praise you and to pray the holy rosary, a devotion that is so pleasing to you. Mother, help me in my weakness and laziness so that I may be able to live up to my resolutions.

Source: saintworks.net

Novena for the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Our Catholic Faith teaches us the souls of the faithful departed must be entirely purified before they enter into eternal rest in Heaven. The souls of most people who have died in friendship with God must be purified in Purgatory. The holy souls in Purgatory are in great need of our prayers. You can pray the Novena for the Holy Souls in Purgatory for a deceased relative or friend. Or you can pray for a deceased group of people, such as victims of a natural disaster. Or you can use it to pray for all people who have died from a specific ailment. ***In order to complete the Novena by All Souls Day, you should begin on Monday, October 24th.*** On each of the nine days of prayer, we meditate on the suffering that each and every soul must endure in purgatory and pray a prayer specific to that day. We conclude with the Prayer to Our Suffering Savior for the Souls in Purgatory, the Hail Mary and Our Father.

Prayer to our Suffering Savior for the Souls in Purgatory

O most sweet Jesus, through the bloody sweat which Thou didst suffer in the Garden of Gethsemane, have mercy on these Blessed Souls. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer during Thy most cruel scourging, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer in Thy most painful crowning with thorns, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer in carrying Thy cross to Calvary, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer during Thy most cruel Crucifixion, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the pains which Thou didst suffer in Thy most bitter agony on the Cross, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.

O most sweet Jesus, through the immense pain which Thou didst suffer in breathing forth Thy Blessed Soul, have mercy on them. Have mercy on them, O Lord.”

(As you pray for the Souls in purgatory, state your intention(s) here

Blessed Souls, I have prayed for thee; I entreat thee, who are so dear to God, and who are secure of never losing Him, to pray for me a miserable sinner, who is in danger of being damned, and of losing God forever. Amen.

Day 1

Meditation/Reflection – Contemplate how each soul in purgatory must endure their current state of torment. Without their suffering, these poor souls cannot be cleansed of their sins.

Prayer: “O Jesus, my Savior, I have so often deserved to be cast into hell. how great would be my suffering if I were now cast away and obliged to think that I myself had caused my damnation. I thank Thee for the patience with which Thou hast endured me. My God, I love Thee above all things and I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee because Thou art infinite goodness. I will rather die than offend Thee again. Grant me the grace of perseverance. Have pity on me and at the same time on those blessed souls suffering in Purgatory. Mary, Mother of God, come to their assistance with thy powerful intercession.”

Followed by: Prayer to Our Suffering Savior, Our Father, Hail Mary