Saint Anthony Novena Book

For Nine or Thirteen Tuesdays



A COLLECTION OF PRAYERS TO ST. ANTHONY

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St. Anthony Novena Book

Compiled by FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF DUNS SCOTUS COLLEGE DETROIT, MICHIGAN

"None among the blessed is so blessed, None among the happy so happy, as he Who always bears God in his heart."

-ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA.

St. Anthony Messenger 1615 Republic Street Cincinnati 10, Ohio

SPEC. CAPAM

Nihil Obstat: Fr. Sebastian Erbacher, O. F. M. Censor Deputatus

Imprimi Potest:

FR. URBAN FREUNDT, O. F. M. Minister Provincial

Imprimatur:

+ MICHAEL JAMES GALLAGHER Bishop of Detroit

March 22, 1933



"ST. ANTHONY INTERCEDING" Painter-Heinrich Told.

DIVINE PRAISES

Composed by St. Leonard of Port Maurice, O. F. M.

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste Spouse.

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

(Indulgence one year each time. Plenary once a month, for daily recital during a month, on usual conditions. Two years each time publicly recited after Mass or Benediction.)

NOTE: The name of "Anthony" is always pronounced as though it were written "Antony."

FOREWORD

"The Saint of the Whole World"

T N his celebrated Apostolic Letter, ANTONIANA Solemnia, published on the occasion of the Seventh Centenary of the death of St. Anthony of Padua, 1931, the Supreme Pontiff, Pius XI, gave voice to sentiments concerning the "Saint of the Whole World," as Pope Leo XIII characterized Anthony, which will forever remain memorable, and which may serve as a fitting introduction to this manual of prayers. "Why should We not cherish the fond hope," wrote the Holy Father, "that St. Anthony, whose aid having been invoked everywhere by universal and earnest praver, should increase Christian faith and charity among souls and lead his clients from the transitory and earthly things of this life to those which are heavenly and eternal? Why should We not feel certain that, not only for individuals, but also for civil society as a whole, many blessings will result from these solemnities? Just as our Saint, by Christian wisdom, illumined his stormy age, infected everywhere with immorality, and imbued it with the sweetness of his virtue, so it is hoped that, the minds and the hearts of the people having been touched during these sacred festivities, our times, too-so often unmindful of God and eternal happiness, and constantly tossed about by the desire for pleasures and craving for unrestrained liberty-will be moved and attracted by St. Anthony's example to those higher and nobler things for which we

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are born and destined. . . . May God grant, through the intercession and protection of St. Anthony, this Flower of Sanctity and Jewel of the Franciscan Order, that these words may be carefully considered and put into practice."

LIFE OF ST ANTHONY

Fernando de Bouillon, who later became St. Anthony of Padua, was born 1195, at Lisbon, Portugal, of noble parents, a descendant of the famous Crusader, Godfrey de Bouillon. At the age of 15 he joined the Canons Regular of St. Augustine and was sent to Coimbra. Eight years later, inspired by the sight of five Franciscan friars martyred in Morocco, he joined the Franciscans and immediately sailed for Morocco in the hope of winning the martyr's crown. T11 health forced him to return to Spain a year later. A storm at sea brought him to Italy, where he lived in retirement, during 1221, at the little Franciscan hermitage of Monte Paolo, near Forli, Tuscany. Obedience then sent him to teach theology for a year at Bologna. From 1225 to 1231 he labored in various parts of France and Italy with remarkable success as a preacher of the Word of God, converting multitudes of sinners and working many wonders. Always a staunch defender of human rights, he unrelentingly championed the cause of the poor and the oppressed against the tyranny and political abuses of the 13th century. The memory of Anthony of Padua will remain immortal as a defender of oppressed humanity, he having been the first on record to sponsor and effect a law that forbade imprisonment for debt.

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He died at Padua, June 13, 1231, and he was canonized, May 30, 1232. He is popularly known as: The Wonder-Worker; Finder of Lost Articles; Jewel of Poverty; Saint of the Whole World; and, in the words of Pope Pius XI, the "Gem of the Franciscan Order."

DEVOTIONS IN HONOR OF ST. ANTHONY

Note: Those who would understand why St. Anthony is a real, living personality to the countless thousands who confide in his intercessory powers as implicitly in our own day as did the Paduans of his own day, must study this universal veneration in the light of the Church's teaching regarding her canonized Saints. The basis for this devotion, the Church teaches, is that all her members are united with God by faith and love in a real unity. Far from being merely exalted patterns of human conduct, the Saints are living members, constructive powers of the Body of Christ. Essentially and forever fellow-workers of Christ, we are confident that they can and will help us, for God is in them; and where God is, there is always help. The Saints help only through God; they accompany the work of our redemption with their fostering love and intercession to elevate our prayers for aid into the great unifying prayer of the whole Body of Christ.

The origin of novenas may be traced to the nine days during which our Lady and the Apostles remained in prayer in the upper room, awaiting the coming of the Holy Ghost. Novenas of prayers, especially efficacious because of their persevering nature, become more efficacious when we offer them up through our Lady and the Saints. Hence the popularity of novenas, which the Church has ever encouraged by attaching to them rich indulgences.

Tuesday is the day dedicated to St. Anthony of Padua. He died on Friday, June 13, and was buried on the following Tuesday, June 17, 1231, and this day having been a day of astounding miracles, the clients of the Saint preferred to visit his tomb and ask favors of him on Tuesday. The devotion of the nine consecutive Tuesdays was revealed at Bologna in 1617, to a devout client of St. Anthony. Nine was the number originally given by the Saint himself.

However, thanks to the fervor of the clients of St. Anthony, the number of Tuesdays gradually increased to thirteen, in commemoration of the death of the Saint, June 13, 1231. The devotion of the Thirteen Tuesdays in honor of St. Anthony has ever been favored by the Church. Leo XIII, who left nothing undone to honor the Wonder-Worker of Padua, showed a preference for the number of *thirteen* in fostering devotion to the Saint. The exercises begin on Tuesday, about the middle of March, and end on the Tuesday before June 13. Any other consecutive Tuesdays, however, may be chosen. The ordinary manner of making a novena applies to this devotion.

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(A Plenary Indulgence is granted to the faithful on each day of the consecutive Tuesdays or Sundays, once only, at any time during the year, on condition that they spend some time in pious meditation, or vocal prayers, or any other works of piety, to the glory of God and in honor of St. Anthony. The usual conditions of Confession and Communion are required. Leo XIII, March 1, 1898.)

"If," says St. Augustine, "he seems deaf to their cries, it is only to grant their main desire, by doing what is more expedient for them." God alone knows what is good for us: how often is the refusal of our requests a far greater favor than would be the grant of them.

Certainly our Divine Master who once said, "Whatsoever you ask of the Father in My Name the same shall be given unto you," will not turn a deaf ear to your prayers. If, like the Apostles, you enter the novena with a spirit of reverence, of perseverance, of resignation to the will of God, and of repentance, you can rest assured that every prayer will be granted somehow and at some time by our dear Lord.

How to Make the Exercises in Honor of St. Anthony

Visit an altar or shrine of the Saint on nine consecutive Tuesdays. The public novena to St. Anthony may be started on any Tuesday; but it must be continued without interruption for nine or thirteen Tuesdays or Sundays. Attend the services; receive Holy Communion one or more times during the novena, either in St. Anthony Shrine or in any church.

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One of the most acceptable prayers that can be offered to St. Anthony, to obtain any favor, or in thanksgiving for a favor received, is the Apostles' Creed, to which may be added the invocation:

"St. Anthony, beloved of God and man, pray for us."

The feast of St. Anthony is celebrated on the 13th of June; the Translation of his relics on the 15th of February.

NOVENA PRAYERS IN HONOR OF ST. ANTHONY

Acts of Contrition, Faith, Hope and Charity

(Prayer before the Acts.-St. Francis of Assisi)

O Great and Glorious God, and my Lord Jesus Christ! Enlighten, I beseech Thee, the darkness of my mind. Give me a right faith, a certain hope, and a perfect charity. Grant that I may know Thee, O Lord! in order that I may always, and in all things, act according to Thy most holy and perfect will. Amen.

Acts of St. Leonard, O.F.M.

ACT OF CONTRITION

O my God! I am sorry I have sinned against Thee, because Thou art so good. I hate all sin, and purpose never to sin again.

ACT OF FAITH

My God, I believe in Thee, and in all Thy Church teaches, because Thou hast said it, and Thy word is true.

ACT OF HOPE

My God, I hope in Thee, for grace and for glory, because of Thy promises, Thy mercy, and Thy power.

ACT OF CHARITY

My God, because Thou are so good I love Thee with my whole heart, and for Thy sake I love my neighbor as myself.

Salutation to St. Anthony

I salute and honor thee—O blessed St. Anthony—in the most sweet Heart of Jesus—and I thank Him for all the graces—with which He so abundantly endowed thee—To increase thy glory—I offer to the Most Holy Trinity for thee —this Divine Heart—humbly beseeching thee—to be always my faithful guide—and not to allow me to die in sin. Amen.

O truest and most loving patron, St. Anthony— I implore thee in union with the most loving Heart of Jesus—which He suffered to be opened for sinners after His death—show me how great is thy power before the throne of God—and let me be comforted in my affliction—with the hope —that like all who call upon thee in their need— I may be able to say with a joyful heart—"God truly lives and reigns—in His servant St. Anthony." Amen.

The Responsory to St. Anthony

If then you ask for miracles: Death, error, all calamities, The leprosy and demons fly, And health succeeds infirmities.

CHORUS

The sea obeys and fetters break, And lifeless limbs thou dost restore; While treasures lost are found again When young or old thy aid implore.

All dangers vanish at thy prayer, And every need doth quickly flee: Let those who know thy power tell, Let Paduans say, "These are of thee." The sea obeys and fetters break, etc.

May glory to the Father be, And to the Son eternally, And to the Spirit, in essence one, In Persons three be honor done. The sea obeys and fetters break, etc.

V. Pray for us, blessed Anthony.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET'US PRAY

O God—may the votive commemoration of Blessed Anthony—Thy Confessor—be a source of joy to Thy Church—that she may be always fortified with spiritual assistance—and deserve to enjoy eternal rewards—through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

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O wonderful St. Anthony—glorious on account of the fame of thy miracles—and through the condescension of Jesus—in coming in the form of a little child to rest in thy arms—obtain for me of His bounty—the grace which I ardently desire —from the depths of my heart.—Thou who was so compassionate towards miserable sinners—regard not the unworthiness of those who pray to thee—but the glory of God—that it may be once again magnified—by the particular request which I now ask for—with persevering earnestness.

May this small offering—which I make to thee in aid for the poor—be a pledge of my gratitude —and with them may it one day be granted to me—through the grace of Jesus Christ and thy intercession—to possess the kingdom of Heaven. Amen. (300 days' Indulgence, once a day.—Leo XIII, May 6, 1899.)

Memorare in Honor of St. Anthony

Remember, O thou miracle-working Saint that it never was heard—that thou hast left without help or relief—anyone who in his need had recourse to thee.—Animated with the most lively confidence—nay, even with full conviction of not being refused—I fly for refuge to thee—O most favored and blessed friend of the Infant Jesus! —Despise not my supplications—but bringing them before the throne of God—strengthen them by thy intercession—and obtain for me what I ask help and consolation in my need—O most glorious miracle-working, mighty St. Anthony. Amen.

St. Anthony, loved and honored by the Chi'd Jesus, obtain what we ask of thee.

St. Anthony, powerful in word and work, obtain what we ask of thee.

St. Anthony, generous to those who invoke thee with confidence, obtain what we ask of thee.

After the blessing with the relic, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory (three times).

THE NINE TUESDAYS IN HONOR OF ST. ANTHONY

Prayer to Be Said Each Day-O gentle and loving St. Anthony, in whose arms the Infant Jesus ever loved to rest, intercede for me in my present need.

First Tuesday—Glorious Saint, in the name of the Queen of Angels and of all the Heavenly Choirs, I salute thee, and humbly ask that with them thou wouldst approach the throne of God, and lovingly offer my petition, strengthening it by thine intercession. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.)

Second Tuesday — Blessed Anthony, saluting thee in the name of the Patriarchs and Prophets, and thanking God that, like unto them, thou wast endowed with divine knowledge and foresight, I beseech thee that with them thou wouldst approach the throne of God and obtain for me my petition by your united prayers and merits. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.)

Third Tuesday—Blessed Anthony, in the name of all the Holy Apostles and Disciples of Christ, I salute thee and thank God for having chosen thee also to proclaim His Gospel and spread the Faith; and beseech thee to unite thy prayers with theirs that through your united merits my petition may be granted. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.) Fourth Tuesday — Blessed Anthony, who like unto the Martyrs and Confessors, wert ever ready to suffer persecution for Christ's sake, I salute and beseech thee that with them thou wouldst approach the throne of God, and obtain for me my petition by your united prayers and merits. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.)

Fifth Tuesday—Blessed St. Anthony, in the name of all the holy bishops and priests, I humbly salute thee and thank God through Whose grace thou didst convert countless numbers to Christ and salvation by thy preaching and example, Unite thy prayers with theirs that through your united prayers and merits my petition may be granted. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.)

Sixth Tuesday—Blessed St. Anthony, I salute thee and thank God that, like all holy monks and hermits, thou didst through God's grace spend thy life in fasting, watching, praying, and mortifying of self. Unite thy prayers with theirs that through your united prayers and merits my petition may be granted. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.)

Seventh Tuesday—Blessed St. Anthony, Lily of Purity, I salute thee in the name of all virgins and holy Innocents, who like unto thee, preserved their purity unsullied and overcame the desires of the flesh. Unite thy prayers with theirs that through your united prayers and merits my petition may be granted. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.)

Eighth Tuesday—Blessed Anthony, I salute thee in the name of all holy widows and widowers and thank God Who endowed thee with such great and varied virtues. United thy prayers with theirs that through your united prayers and merits my petition may be granted. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.)

Ninth Tuesday—Blessed Anthony, I salute thee in the name of St. Joseph, the chaste Spouse of Mary, and of all holy souls still living, and thank God for the graces He bestowed upon thee. I humbly beseech thee to plead on my behalf before the throne of God that my petition may be granted for His greater honor and glory and for the comfort of my body and soul. (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.)

BEADS OF ST. ANTHONY

(The Beads of St. Anthony consist of thirteen decades of three beads each and call for thirteen Our Fathers, Hail Marys, and Glorys. Conclude the beads with the Responsory. Recite while meditating on the thirteen petitions of the responsory composed by St. Bonaventure.)

1. St. Anthony, who raiseth the dead, pray for those Christians now in their agony, and for our dear departed relatives and friends.—Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory.

2. St. Anthony, zealous preacher of the Gospel, fortify us against the errors of the enemies of God, and pray for the Pope and the Church.— Our Father, etc.

3. St. Anthony, powerful with the heart of Jesus, preserve us from the calamities which threaten us on account of our sins.—Our Father, etc.

4. St. Anthony, who drivest away devils, make us triumph over their snares.—Our Father, etc.

5. St. Anthony, lily of heavenly purity, purify us from the stains of the soul, and preserve our bodies from all danger.—Our Father, etc. 6. St. Anthony, healer of the sick, cure our diseases and preserve us in health.—Our Father, etc.

7. St. Anthony, guide of travelers, bring to safe harbor those who are in danger of perishing, and calm the troubled waves of passion which agitate our souls.—Our Father, etc.

8. St. Anthony, chosen vessels of God, aid us to know our calling in life and obtain for us the grace to follow it.—Our Father, etc.

9. St. Anthony, who restorest to young and old the use of their limbs, obtain for us the perfect use of the senses of our body, and the faculties of our soul.—Our Father, etc.

10. St. Anthony, finder of lost things, help us to find all that we have lost in the spiritual and in the temporal order.—Our Father, etc.

11. St. Anthony, protected by Mary, avert the dangers which threaten our body and our soul.— Our Father, etc.

12. St. Anthony, helper of the poor, help us in our needs and give bread and work to those who ask.—Our Father, etc.

13. St. Anthony, we thankfully proclaim thy miraculous power, and we beseech thee to protect us all the days of our life.—Our Father, etc.

St. Anthony, loved and honored by the Divine Child Jesus, obtain what we ask of thee.

St. Anthony, powerful in word and work, obtain what we ask of thee.

St. Anthony, heeding the prayers of those who invoke thee, obtain what we ask of thee.

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LITANY OF ST. ANTHONY (For Private Devotion)

- Lord, have mercy on us! Christ, have mercy on us!
- Lord, have mercy on us! Christ, hear us! Christ, graciously hear us!
- God, the Father of Heaven, Have mercy on us!
- God, the Son, Redeemer of the world, Have mercy on us!
- God, the Holy Ghost, Have mercy on us!
- Holy Trinity, one God, Have mercy on us!
- Holy Mary Pray for us! Holy Father Francis.
- St Anthony of Padua,
- St. Anthony, glory of the Order of Friars Minor,
- St. Anthony, martyr in desiring to die for Christ,
- St. Anthony, pillar of the Church,
- St. Anthony, worthy priest of God,
- St. Anthony, apostolic Preacher,
- St. Anthony, teacher of truth,
- St. Anthony, hammer of heretics,
- St. Anthony, terror of evil spirits,
- St. Anthony, comforter of the afflicted,
- St. Anthony, helper in necessities,
- St. Anthony, deliverer of captives,
- St. Anthony, guide of the erring,
- St. Anthony, restorer of lost things,
- St. Anthony, chosen intercessor,
- St. Anthony, continuous worker of miracles,

Be merciful unto us Spare us, O Lord! Be merciful unto us Hear us, O Lord! From all evil O Lord, deliver us! From all sin,

- From all dangers of body and soul,
- From the snares of the devil,

From pestilence, famine and war, From eternal death, Through the merits of St. Anthony, Through his zeal for the conversion of sinners, Through his desires for the crown of martyrdom, Through his fatigues and labors. Through his preaching and teaching, Through his tears of penance. Through his patience and humility, Through his glorious death, Through the number of his wonderful deeds, In the day of judgment, We sinners We beseech Thee, hear us! That Thou bring us to true penance, That Thou grant us patience in our trials, That Thou assist us in our necessities. That Thou grant our petitions, That Thou kindle the fire of divine love within us, That Thou favor us with the protection and intercession of St. Anthony, Son, of God, Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world . . . Spare us, O Lord! Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world . . Graciously hear us, O Lord! Lamb of God who takest away the sins of the world . . Have mercy on us, O Lord! Christ. hear us! Christ, graciously hear us! V. Pray for us, blessed Anthony: R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

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LET US PRAY

Almighty and eternal God, Who didst glorify Thy faithful confessor, Anthony, with the perpetual gift of working miracles, graciously grant that, what we confidently seek through His merits, we may surely receive by His intercession. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

St. Anthony's Prayer Before Preaching

Make, O Lord, my tongue like a swift arrow to declare Thy marvelous works. Send forth, O God, Thy Holy Spirit into my heart, that I may perceive; into my mind, that I may remember, into my soul, that I may meditate. Inspire me to speak piety, holiness, tenderness, and mercy. Teach, guide and direct my thoughts and senses from the beginning to the end. May Thy grace ever help and correct me, and may I be strengthened now with wisdom from on high, for Thy infinite mercy's sake. Amen.

Meditations during the Devotions of Nine or Thirteen Tuesdays or Sundays in Honor of St. Anthony

FIRST WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of God

The first and the greatest commandment of God is to love Him with our whole heart, our whole mind, our whole soul (Mt. 22:37), with all our powers. Love of God is the bond of all Christian perfection; it is the essence of holiness.

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St. Anthony loved God above all things. This love was the motive power of all his actions, thoughts and words. For the love of God he gave up all and consecrated his life to the Lord and the salvation of souls.

Pray for an increase of the love of God. This week make a special effort to make your morning offering fervently and renew your good intention frequently during the day. My God and my All!

SECOND WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of Neighbor

The second commandment is like to the first: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (Mt. 22:39). "Thereby shall men know that you are my disciples that you have love for one another" (Jn. 13, 35). "Whatsoever you shall have done to one of these, the least of my brethren, you shall have done it to Me" (Mt. 25:40).

Forgetful of self, St. Anthony spent himself in the service of others. To relieve the needs of body and soul; to make his fellowmen happy —that was his one thought.

Pray for greater love of neighbor. Show this love in some practical manner this week. Begin at home. Be kind and charitable in thought, word and deed. Is there no one near you whom you might help? A kind inquiry is already a helpful and welcome act of charity.

THIRD WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of Poverty

As a religious, Anthony made the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. He loved poverty because Jesus loved it; because it removed still more the danger of the "root of all evils," the desire for money (1 Tim. 6:10). Detachment

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from this earth's goods made him free for the service of God, a child of God relying entirely upon His Providence.

Pray for contentment with what you possess. Do not attach your heart to any creature. Wealth is not necessary for happiness; often it is the source of worry and great troubles. He that possesses God in his heart by a good conscience is rich; he that has everything that this world can give, but is a stranger to God and religion, is truly poor. Did the depression not teach you how many things there are which you really do not need? Did it not bring out how little is required to make you really happy?

FOURTH WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of Chastity

Anthony is known as "the lily of chastity." The infant Jesus would certainly not appear to one whose soul is wallowing in the sins of the flesh. The chaste soul "thinketh of the things of God" (1 Cor. 7:34), is not a slave of passion but free and master of self, "sees God" here in prayer and contemplation, in all His works, in daily duty, and will see Him in a special light for all eternity.

Pray for this beautiful virtue and greatest ornament of your soul. You can be sure that your petitions will be heard more readily if you offer them with a pure heart through the intercession of St. Anthony. Your body is a "temple of the Holy Ghost." Keep it clean and reserve it for divine service only. God cannot dwell in a heart that is unclean. You would not invite a distinguished guest into a filthy house. Clean house this week, clean the temple of your body and the sanctuary of your soul.

FIFTH WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of Obedience

The great virtue of Jesus was His obedience to the Will of His Father. He was "obedient unto death, even unto the death of the cross" (Phil. 2:8). He had come to earth, not to do His own will, but the will of Him that had sent Him. St. Anthony was a perfect religious and therefore loved and practiced obedience. Not what he liked, but what his superiors wanted him to do, was the rule of his life.

Pray for a love of obedience to the will of God, to the laws of the Lord, and the commandments of the Church. Do you really obey cheerfully and promptly? Do you submit your judgment and your will to those whom God has placed over you? Is it difficult for you to see the will of God in the commands and ordinances of your superiors? Perhaps for a long time you have been disobedient. Why not correct this matter this week in honor of St. Anthony? It is the prayer, the petition of an obedient soul that finds a hearing with God. Of this there can be no doubt.

SIXTH WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of Prayer

Loving converse with God, that is prayer. If we love God, we love to converse with Him. St. Anthony loved solitude for this reason: it gave him time and opportunity to pray. What could be more ennobling than this constant companionship with God in the deepest recesses of the soul. Could you be more happy than when enjoying the intimate friendship of God in prayer?

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Often say to Jesus: "Lord, teach me to pray." The time which you devote to prayer is never lost for your family, your business, your work, your friends, your many duties. You lose most valuable time on those days on which you have failed to pay your respects to God in prayer. "Without Me you can do nothing" (Jn. 15:5), said the Lord, and St. Paul adds, "I can do all things in Him who strengtheneth me" (Phil. 4:13).

This week begin to say your morning and evening prayers with increased fervor. You can find God everywhere. If you do not meet Him in your very soul, it is not His fault. "Draw nigh to God and God will draw nigh to thee" (St. James 4:8). Is there any family trouble in your home? Would you like a more friendly atmosphere, or a more cordial relationship between the members of your household? A wonderful means to unite the members of your family in true love is family prayer. If all are on friendly terms with God in prayer, they cannot be unfriendly toward one another. "Where two or three are gathered together in My name, I shall be in their midst" (Mt. 18:20).

SEVENTH WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of the Apostolate

Jesus retired into the desert to pray and fast as a preparation for His public ministry. St. Anthony spent years in the seclusion of his monastery cell preparing himself by prayer and study for the day when God would call him to go forth into His vineyard, for the salvation of souls. In prayer we obey the injunction of Jesus: "Abide in Me" (Jn. 15:4). In our daily life of

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duty we answer His call: "Go ye forth" (Mt. 20:7) and do whatsoever our vocation in life demands.

Everyone of us can and must preach the Gospel of Jesus. The most effective sermon is that of example. Catholic Action, in which the Holy Father is so much interested, flourished in the first days of Christianity when the faithful not only strove after personal holiness but also endeavored in every way to bring others into the true fold of Christ.

What can you do, and do this week, to bring some soul to God? Ridding yourself of a certain fault; practicing a certain virtue—might lead someone nearer to God. Is not some good soul waiting for you to say the word? Could you offer some literature that would explain your faith? A deed of kindness will open the hardest heart to the grace of God. Do you ever pray for the conversion of sinners? Have you never been asked about some point of Catholic doctrine? Could you give a complete and satisfactory answer? You often meet people who fear to approach a priest. If you do not make them acquainted with the true faith, who will?

EIGHTH WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of Sacrifice

Jesus died for all men that they might have life eternal. The saints wished to show their gratitude for such love by offering their lives to Jesus in return. St. Anthony desired nothing so much as to be martyred for his faith, to die for the love of God. This grace was denied him, therefore he led a life of mortification, of selfdenial, of sacrifice.

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Jesus tells us: "If any man wish to be My disciple, let him come after Me, daily take up his cross and follow Me" (Mt. 16:24). The way to heaven leads over Olivet and Calvary. We, too, must bear our daily cross, our trials and sufferings, patiently, for the love of God, if we wish to be saved. Your worries and difficulties, the many disagreeable things of your life, are so many tiny splinters of the Cross of Christ. They are precious relics, for they bind you close to Jesus and remind you that He has not forgotten you.

Conformity with the will of God in your daily life is real holiness. This week make a special effort to be patient; to accept gladly all that God sends you; to be particularly kind to others when things go wrong with yourself. When Jesus was crushed with pain and agony on the cross, He uttered the sweetest and most loving words that were ever spoken. The more a soul is crushed, the more does it give forth its interior goodness and greatness. Is your exterior conduct during trials and tribulations an index of the contents of your soul? You cannot give forth what is not found within.

NINTH WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of Humility

Humility is the foundation of the spiritual life. It is so important that Jesus makes it one of the principal traits of character in a Christian. "Learn of me, because I am meek and humble of heart" (Mt. 11:29). For a long time the brilliant talents and the deep knowledge of Brother Anthony remained a secret to his very companions in the Order of Friars Minor. Even St. Francis failed to notice him at the chapter appointments made

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in Assisi in 1221. A kind Provincial took Anthony with him and assigned him to the little Franciscan hermitage at Monte Paolo, near Forli, to say Mass for the lay brothers. Anthony loved to be hidden and unknown. This seclusion served to bring him closer to God in prayer and humble obedience. In God's own good time this bright light was brought forth from under the bushel and placed upon a candlestick, whence it was never to be removed.

Pride caused the fall of our first parents. All their children have inherited a tendency to crave esteem, to be honored, to be noticed, to be made over. We do not wish to be ignored, to be unappreciated, to occupy a lowly position, to stand back, to remain hidden. Our inordinate love of the esteem of others is the cause of many sins. If, as St. Theresa says, "humility is truth," then pride must be a lie. We actually desire that our fellow men consider us to be what we know that we are not. We are vain; we love attention; we wish to be flattered.

Make a special effort this week to be truly humble. Take yourself as you are in the sight of God. Be patient with your limitations. Cheerfully accept the little humiliations of daily life, such as disappointments, slights, misunderstandings, failures, even insults. Do not nurse a grievance, nor refuse to do your duty because you feel hurt over something. After all, of what can you really be proud? St. Paul says: "What hast thou that thou hast not received? And if thou hast received, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?" (I Cor. 4:7). "Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine."

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TENTH WEEK

St. Anthony and the Blessed Virgin

Like all great servants of God St. Anthony had a special love for and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Herein, too, he was a true Franciscan, for the Friars Minor have ever proved themselves the champions of Mary Immaculate. After he had received the last sacraments in Arcella, near Padua, Anthony began with marked fervor his favorite hymn in honor of the Mother of God: "O gloriosa Domina," O glorious Lady. No doubt it was she who interceded for him in his youthful days, when his heart struggled with severe temptations against his vocation. In her honor he always preserved the lily of purity without stain. In death he relied upon her maternal love and power to assist him in his last combat with the enemies of salvation. A man who loved Jesus so much as St. Anthony loved and served Him in life must indeed have had an extraordinary love for His holy mother.

Have you a real devotion to Mary, the Immaculate Mother of God? Do you love her as your spiritual mother? How do you honor Mary ever a Virgin? It would be impossible for a mere mortal to pay homage to Mary as her divine Son has done. Therefore the saints never feared to go too far in their veneration of her to whom the archangel Gabriel said: "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women" (Lk. 1:28). Because of her dignity as Mother of God, and of the part she played in our redemption, Mary is especially honored by the Church of Christ. She herself foretold to her cousin Elizabeth: "for behold, from henceforth all

generations shall call me blessed" (Lk. 1:48). Do you live like a child of Mary? Is there anything in your daily conduct that would show a resemblance to your Mother? Which of her virtues are you trying to imitate? God Himself taught us how to greet her. The "Hail Mary" came from heaven. Do you say it often? Devoutly? Ever linger over its beautiful words while your mind pictured the fairest of God's creatures, all fair and without stain? Do you merely possess a rosary, or do you also recite it, often? Perhaps you have forgotten the *Memorare* once learned at your mother's knee. If you never forget Mary, you will always be mindful of her Son.

ELEVENTH WEEK

St. Anthony's Love of the Blessed Sacrament

As a priest St. Anthony was a dispenser of the mysteries of God. He offered the sacrifice of the Mass and distributed the Bread of Life to the faithful. A son of St. Francis, that great lover of the Eucharistic King, Anthony also had a special devotion to the Real Presence of Christ in the tabernacle. He defended this doctrine of the Church against the heretics of his day who centered their attacks especially upon it. During the period of his secluded life in the convent he sought grace and strength and light for the development of his soul-life in daily Mass. The mountain hermitage was not a lonely place, with Jesus so close on the altar where he could contemplate his divine Master without disturbance.

Do you sufficiently appreciate the presence of Jesus on the altar? Do you honestly strive to requit the love of Jesus for you, which He mani-

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fests in the Blessed Sacrament? Is Holy Mass really your treasure, not hidden, but known and drawn upon for the graces of which you daily stand in need? How often do you receive Holy Communion? What fruits does it produce in your life? "For where thy treasure is, there is thy heart also" (Mt. 6:21). Could you not pay Jesus an occasional visit? Emanuel, God with us, delights (Prov. 8:31) to be with the children of men; therefore it must be the delight of the children of men to be with their God. Show by your conduct in church that you really believe in the presence of God and that you truly love Him. There are moments in your life when your soul is sad and your heart heavy. If you could but unburden your hidden grief and pour out your feelings to someone who understands! Your Friend is Jesus, the Prisoner of love in the tabernacle. He invites you to see Him. "Come to me, all you that labor, and are burdened, and I will refresh you" (Mt. 11:28). Jesus knows you and perfectly understands your needs; He loves you and wishes to help you. Your attitude toward the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Mass, and Holy Communion, is a good and reliable barometer of your love of God.

TWELFTH WEEK St. Anthony's Use of the Tongue

When in 1263 the body of St. Anthony was transferred from its first resting place to the present glorious tomb in Padua, the tongue of the saint was found fresh and intact. St. Bonaventure, the Minister General of the Order, was present

at the opening of the coffin. He took up the tongue with reverence and said: "O blessed tongue, which always blessed the Lord, and made others bless and praise Him; it is now manifest what great merits thou dost possess in the sight of God." Anthony employed his tongue to sing the praises of God in prayer; to preach the word of God and thus to spread the knowledge and the love of God among men. He never abused his tongue by blasphemy, cursing, or any kind of profanity; by uncharitable speech or even useless talk.

Have you ever checked up on your sins of the tongue? Fix your attention on this point during this week. In what manner are you most prone to sin by speech? Are you given to profanity? Do you take God's holy name in vain? Does it take more time, or is it more difficult, to breathe the sweet name of Jesus in a prayer than to utter it in a curse, an oath, or as a mere filler of your defective vocabulary? Is gossip your weak or your strong point? Perhaps you have never slandered your neighbor, but have you never been guilty of the sin of defraction. Do you know that we must not only compensate others for the injury done to their property but also restore a good name that we may have impaired by our talk? People generally value their reputation higher than their money. Control your tongue, and you will become a saint. St. James says: "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man" (3:2). He tells us that this "little member" is "a fire, a world of iniquity, an unquiet evil full of

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deadly poison. By it we bless God and the Father: and by it we curse men, who are made after the likeness of God" (verses 6, 8-9). If you are a man, join the Holy Name Society; if you are a woman, help start a League of Women for the Advancement of Clean Speech.

THIRTEENTH WEEK

St. Anthony's Perseverance

Like all saints, Anthony realized that salvation is a matter of good ending and not of excellent beginning. "He that shall persevere unto the end, he shall be saved" (Mt. 10:22). So Anthony did all in his power by his beautiful and holy life to induce God to give him this greatest of graces one which man cannot strictly merit—the gift of final perseverance.

The struggle of life for holiness must not dishearten you. Great temptations are no sign that God has forsaken you; they rather indicate that the evil spirit is not sure of your possession; they are really a mark of God's love. Our souls must be tried constantly; our virtue must be tested repeatedly; there is no other way that leads to perfection. Job calls life a "warfare" (Job 7:1) and St. Paul, speaking of personal experience, refers to it as a "fight" (2 Tim. 4:7)). Alone we are helpless; but with God we shall conquer self and all the enemies of the soul. Having suffered with Christ, we shall arise with Christ to victory and eternal glory.

Pray for the grace of final perseverance every day of your life.

Prayer to St. Anthony for the Recovery of Lost Graces

O great and faithful friend of the Lord, who by the holy purity of thy heart and mind, didst merit to see and converse with Him even in this life, thou to whom He has granted, according to the firm belief of the faithful, the gift of recovering for those who invoke thee the precious gifts which they have lost, obtain for us (or for N.) by the prayers and merits all the holy friendskip and union with God which should have been ours if we had always been faithful to Him. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Restoration of Things That Are Lost

O great St. Anthony, who hast received from God a special power to recover lost things, help me to find that which I am now seeking. Obtain for me also an active faith, perfect docility to the inspirations of grace, indifference to the vain pleasures of the world, and an ardent desire for the things of everlasting value. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Prayer to St. Anthony for Peace of Mind

Most dear and faithful servant of Christ, blessed Anthony, to whom God has granted such favors that, through thy intercession, lost temporal goods are recovered, pray for me a sinner that I may acquire and preserve peace of mind, with light and knowledge to discern good from evil and

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truth from error, so that being delivered from all evils, scruples, darkness, and uneasiness of mind and conscience, I may, with peace of mind, purity of conscience, and justice of life, faithfully serve my God and Savior, Who is worthy of all honor and glory. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Invalids and Shut-ins.

Dear Jesus, I deeply sympathize with Thee.

I picture Thee bleeding and heart-broken in Gethsemani's Garden. Not one friend to comfort Thee!

I see Thee stripped of Thy garments, lashed at the pillar and crowned with thorns.

Thy sweet, tender flesh has been cut into ribbons. Every sensitive nerve is made to throb.

Thy cross was Thy bed of suffering. Thy bed of death. Only vinegar to drink!

Only nails to clasp Thy hands; only curses to soothe Thy mind!

As I suffer upon my bed, I love to think that Thou hast given me the grace to taste even a drop from Thy cup of sorrow.

With Saint Paul I love to think that my sufferings are only fulfilling and perpetuating Thy Sacred Passion.

May every pain, every sorrow, every throb of a fevered heart which I endure, be an act of love on my part both for Thee and my fellow-man.

O Mary, Mother of sorrows, obtain for me the grace to keep the sufferings and sorrows of Christ in perpetual remembrance. Dearest St. Anthony, pray for me, that I may bear my sufferings in the spirit of patience and resignation taught us by the Man of Sorrows. Amen.

Prayer for Direction in Choosing a State of Life

Dearest St. Anthony, deign to add thy powerful intercession to my humble petition for divine guidance in choosing a state of life.

O Almighty God, whose wise and amiable Providence watches over every human event, vouchsafe to be my light and guide in all my undertakings, especially in the choice of a state of life. I know that on this important step my sanctification, peace, and eternal salvation may depend. I know that I am incapable of discerning what may be best for me; therefore, I cast myself into Thy arms, beseeching Thee, my God, to direct, by Thy grace, every moment and action of my life to the glorious end of my creation. I renounce most sincerely every other wish, than to fulfill Thy designs on my soul, whatever they may be; and I beseech Thee to grant me the grace to qualify myself for any station Thy adorable Will may hereafter assign to me. Do Thou be my light and my counsel and mercifully deign "to make the way known to me wherein I should walk, for I have lifted up my soul to Thee." (Ps. cxlii, 8). Preserve me from listening to the suggestions of my self-love, or worldly prudence, contrary to Thy holy inspirations. "Let Thy good spirit lead me into the right way" (Ibid. 9) and Thy adorable

Providence place me, not where I may be happiest according to the world, but in that state in which I shall love and serve Thee most perfectly. This is all I ask of Thee, and all that I desire. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for Those in Ill Health

O God, whose property it is always to have mercy and to spare, graciously receive my prayer, that I, and this Thy servant, who are bound with the chain of our sins, may by the compassion of Thy loving Kindness be graciously absolved. Show forth upon Thy sick servant the power of Thy aid, that, by the assistance of Thy loving kindness and the intercession of St. Anthony, he may be found worthy to be restored in health unto Thy holy Church. Hear me, Almighty and Eternal God, the everlasting health of those who believe, hear me for Thy sick servant, -..... for whom I implore the aid of Thy tender mercy, that, being restored to bodily health, he may give thanks to Thee in Thy Church. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Grant, O Lord God, we beseech Thee, that this Thy servant may enjoy continual health of mind and body; and through the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, and St. Anthony, be freed from his present sorrow, and enjoy eternal gladness. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Indulgenced Prayer to St. Anthony

O St. Anthony, powerful worker of miracles, in whose heart the fire of the love of God and of God's poor burned so strongly that you were privileged to embrace the Child Jesus Who chose to be born in poverty, I confidently ask you to

beg our dear Savior to have pity on me in my present affliction. Obtain for me the grace which I humbly ask (*name it*). If you obtain it for me, I promise thee bread for the poor whom thou didst so ardently love in life. Amen. (Add one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory.)

(Indulgence: 100 days, once daily. Leo XIII, May 2, 1897.)

St. Anthony, whom the Infant Jesus loved and honored, obtain for me what I ask of thee.

Closing Prayer at the End of the Novena

O Blessed St. Anthony, my faithful intercessor, I have now, through the grace of God, and thy assistance, finished the pious exercises in thy honor. I had, indeed, the will and desire to do all in my power for thy greater honor and glory: but thou knowest my weakness and misery, and want of devotion; therefore I beseech thee to make amends for all my failings, and to offer thy merits and good works for me, that I may find grace and a hearing with God. Obtain for me through thy merits, the blessing of a virtuous life, a true knowledge of my God and of myself, a perfect mortification of my senses, and a complete triumph over all temptations. I place myself under thy special protection; assist me to follow thy example in life, and come to my aid in death; in that dread moment let me experience the power of thy help. Amen.

St. Anthony's Prayer Against Evil Spirits

Behold The Cross . . . Of The Lord.

Fly, ye enemies of our Salvation,

The Lion of the Tribe of Juda,

The root of David hath conquered :

Alleluia! Alleluia!

(One hundred days indulgence, once a day.—Leo XIII, May 21, 1892.)

St. Anthony Lilies

applied in illness, and worn against vile temptations are blessed on June 13th each year.

S. A. G.

It is a pious custom to write the letters S. A. G. (St. Anthony Guide or Guard) in some corner of letters or parcels, asking the Saint to take charge of them in transmission through the mails.

Prayer to St. Anthony

Holy St. Anthony, thou comforter of the afflicted, who hast through thy whole life labored and endured so much for the honor of God, and even now dost not cease to pray for those that call upon thee, I come full of confidence to thee, and recommend all my needs and distresses to thee. Through thy powerful intercession, thou great Saint of God, rescue me from all dangers which menace my soul, that it may not perish for eternity; help me to be truly sorry for my sins, to control my passions, to root out all my evil inclinations, especially this one. . . . Pray for me that I may be filled with thy holy zeal for God's honor, and thy hatred against sin, that I may imitate thy chaste, loving and humble heart; if it is for my good, obtain this temporal favor for me. . . . Bring consolation, rest and peace unto my soul which sighs under heavy tribulations and cease not to be unmindful of me at the throne of God; until together with thee, I will praise our infinite, kind, and merciful Father for all eternity. Amen.

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Prayer for Employment

Blessed Anthony, ever mindful of the needs of the afflicted, consuming thyself in the service of God and for the good of souls, an enemy of idleness, and a tireless worker in the vineyard of the Lord, ask God to grant me a suitable occupation which may procure for me and mine a decent livelihood, and at the same time be a means of personal sanctification and of real service to my fellowman. Amen.

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PRAYERS AT MASS IN HONOR OF ST. ANTHONY

Preparatory Prayer

O loving father, St. Anthony, who didst always assist at Mass with such fervor as to excite all present to devotion, I desire to hear this Mass in thy honor, and to offer it by the hands of my guardian angel to the Holy Trinity. Obtain for me, therefore, thy love, thy fervor and reverence, that through the merits of the Holy Sacrifice I may be cleansed from my sins and comforted in my necessities.

My God, I offer Thee all the Masses this day celebrated throughout the world for sinners in their agony, and for those who shall be overtaken by death today! May the precious blood of Jesus, their Redeemer, obtain for them mercy.

(Indulgence of 300 days.—Pius X, Dec. 18, 1907.)

At Mass

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

(Indulgence of 50 cexs.)

It is in Thy name, O adorable Trinity! it is to honor Thee, and to do Thee homage, that I assist at this most holy and august sacrifice. Permit me, then, O Lord, to unite my intention with that of Thy minister now at the altar, in offering up this precious Victim and give me the same sentiments I ought to have had on Mount Calvary, had I been an eye-witness to that bloody sacrifice. Glorious St. Anthony, offer this divine sacrifice on my behalf and on behalf of all making this novena, for all our intentions, for the exaltation of our holy mother the Church, and her head upon earth, and for the conversion of sinners. Amen.

AT THE CONFITEOR

I confess, O my God, not only in Thy presence, Who seest the innermost secrets of my heart, but in the presence also of all the blessed in heaven and faithful on earth, that I have often and grievously offended Thee in thought, word, and deed, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Yes, Lord, I have sinned; I acknowledge to my shame, and with the most bitter regret, that I have ungratefully abused all Thy gifts; and therefore I humbly beseech you, O Blessed Virgin Mary, seraphic Father St. Francis, St. Anthony of Padua, and all ye saints and angels, intercede for me. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to listen to them; grant to the ardor of their prayers what Thou mayest justly refuse to the coldness of mine; and to their great and glorious merits the reward from which my offenses should shut me out.

INTROIT

"In the midst of the Church she shall open his mouth, and shall fill him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding, and shall clothe him with the robe of glory." (Eccles. XV, 5.)

AT THE KYRIE ELEISON

Have mercy on us, O Lord, and forgive us all our sins. Have mercy on us. We have done nothing to entitle us to be heard; but Thou didst hear the woman of Cana and the blind man of Jericho, and we, too, cry aloud: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us!" Lord, have mercy on us.

AT THE GLORIA

Glory be to God on high, and peace on earth to men of good will. We praise Thee; we bless Thee; we adore Thee; we glorify Thee; we give thanks for Thy great glory, O Lord God, O heavenly King. O God the Father Almighty! O Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son! O Lord God! O Lamb of God! O Son of the Father! O Thou who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. For Thou alone art holy; Thou alone art Lord; Thou alone art most high, O Jesus Christ, together with the Holy Ghost, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

Grant, O Lord, that the votive solemnity (commemoration) of Saint Anthony, Thy confessor, may give joy to Thy Church, and that, being continually guarded by spiritual defenses, it may merit the fruition of eternal joys. Through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

EPISTLE

(Book of Wisdom VII, 7)

"Wherefore, I wished, and understanding was given me; and I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came upon me; and I preferred her before kingdoms and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. Neither did I compare unto her any precious stone; for all gold in comparison of her is as a little sand, and silver in respect to her shall be counted as clay. I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light, for her light cannot be put out. Now, all good things came to me together with her and innumerable riches through her hands. And I rejoiced in all these for this wisdom went before me, and I knew not that she was the mother of them all. Which I have learned without guile, and communicate without envy, and her riches I hide not. For she is an infinite treasure to men; which they that use become the friends of God, being commended for the gift of discipline. And God hath given me to speak as I would, and to conceive thoughts worthy of those things that are given me, because He is the guide of wisdom and the director of the wise."

GRADUAL

"The mouth of the just shall meditate wisdom and his tongue shall speak judgment. The law of his God is in his heart, and his steps shall not be supplanted." (Psalm XXXVI, 30, 31.)

HOLY GOSPEL

(St. Matthew V, 13, 15)

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt lose its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is good for nothing any more but to be cast out and to be trodden on by men. You are the light of the world. A city seated on a mountain cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but upon a candlestick, that it may shine to all that are in the house.

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I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages; God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made; consubstantial to the Father, by Whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, AND WAS MADE MAN; He was crucified also for us; suffered under Pontius Pilate; and was buried; the third day He arose again according to the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven, sits on the right hand of the Father, and is to come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; of Whose kingdom there shall be no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son; Who together with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified; Who spake by the prophets. And One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the remission of sins: and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERTORY

"And my truth and my mercy shall be with him; and in my name shall his horn be exalted." (Psalm LXXXVIII, 25.)

PRAYER

Accept, O Heavenly Father and Eternal God, this offering of bread and wine which we make to Thee in union with Thy priest that it may become the Body and Blood of Thy Divine Son, for Thy greater honor and glory and the salvation of souls. Through the lily of purity with which Thou didst adorn the soul of Thy servant, Anthony, and which he hid amidst the thorns of mortification, grant us purity of soul and body, and through his intercession, by means of which Thou didst deign to work so many wonders, may our indifference be transformed into ardent love and our pride into humble obedience, that by his aid we may be enabled to overcome our passions and faults, and to return Thee thanks for Thy mercies in time and eternity. Amen.

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AT THE LAVABO

Thou, O Lord, Who didst vouchsafe to wash the feet of Thy disciples, before their invitation to Thy holy table, wash us also, we beseech Thee; and wash not only our feet and hands, but our hearts, our desires, and our souls, that we may be wholly innocent and pure.

WHEN THE PRIEST GOES TO THE MIDDLE OF THE ALTAR

O most holy and adorable Trinity, vouchsafe to receive this our sacrifice in remembrance of our Savior's Passion, Resurrection and glorious Ascension, and grant that we may die with Him to our sins, rise with Him to a new life, and ascend with Him to Thee. Let those saints, whose memory we celebrate on earth, remember us before Thy throne in heaven, and obtain mercy for us, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

AT THE ORATE FRATRES

May the Lord receive this sacrifice from thy hands, to the praise and glory of His own name, for our benefit, and that of all His Holy Church.

THE SECRET

May this present oblation, O Lord, become salutary to Thy people, in whose behalf Thou hast deigned to immolate Thyself before Thy Father, who with the same Father and Holy Spirit livest and reignest God world without end. Amen.

AT THE PREFACE

It is truly meet, just and right, and available to salvation that we should praise, bless and glorify Thee, O Lord, at all times, venerating Thy servant, Anthony, since he bore in his arms Thine only-begotten Son, was visited by Him in the hour of death, and now beholds Him face to face in eternal glory, by whom the angels praise Thy Majesty, the dominations adore it, the powers tremble before it, the heavens, the heavenly virtues, and blessed seraphim, with common jubilee glorify it. Together with whom we beseech Thee that we may be admitted to join our humble voices, saying:

AT THE SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth. Heaven and earth are full of Thy Glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed be He who cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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Eternal Father, I offer Thee that immolation of Thy beloved Son which was once made on the cross, and is renewed now upon this altar; I offer Thee, in the name of all creatures, all the Masses that are being celebrated, or which shall be, in all the world, in order to adore Thee and render Thee that homage which is Thy due, in thanksgiving for Thy innumerable benefits, to appease Thy justice violated by our sins, and to furnish it with the satisfaction it has a right to expect; finally, to obtain all graces for myself, for the Church, for the whole world, and for the dear souls in Purgatory.

(His Holiness Pope Pius IX has granted an Indulgence of three years to all who, with contrite hearts, shall recite the above prayer during the holy sacrifice of the Mass. This indulgence is applicable to the souls in Purgatory.)

AT THE ELEVATION

Hail, O Victim of Salvation! Eternal King! Incarnate Word! sacrificed for me and all mankind! Hail, precious body of the Son of God! Hail, sacred flesh torn with nails, pierced with a lance, and bleeding on a cross for us poor sinners!

Hail, Sacred Blood, flowing from the wounds of Jesus Christ, and washing away the sins of the world! O cleanse, sanctify, and preserve my soul that nothing in future may ever separate me from Thee.

AFTER THE ELEVATION

It is now, O Eternal Father, that we truly and really offer to Thy divine Majesty that pure, holy, and immaculate Victim which Thou Thyself hast been pleased to grant us, and of which all other offerings were only the types and figures. The sacrifices of Abel, Abraham and Melchisedech were of no value when compared to ours. This glorious Victim—Thy dear Son Himself, the perfect object of Thy eternal love, and alone worthy of Thy altar—is an offering by so much the more precious than theirs, as God is greater than all creatures.

AT THE MEMENTO FOR THE DEAD

O God, the author of mercy, the lover of the salvation of mankind, we address Thy clemency in behalf of those for whom we are bound to pray, our benefactors, and all those commended to our prayers, who have departed this life, that by the intercession of blessed Mary, ever a Virgin, St. Anthony of Padua, and of all the saints, Thou wouldst receive them into the enjoyment of eternal happiness; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

AT THE PATER NOSTER

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass againt us. And lead us not into temptation: but deliver us from evil. Amen.

AT THE AGNUS DEL

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

AT THE DOMINE, NON SUM DIGNUS

Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof; say but the word, and my soul shall be healed. (Three times.)

Lord, I am not worthy to receive Thee; Thou must first prepare my soul; say but the word then, and it shall be ready for so great a guest; speak, Lord, and I shall be healed.

May the Body and Blood of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be the eternal life of my soul.

THE COMMUNION

"And he that had received the five talents, coming, brought other five talents, saying: Lord, Thou didst deliver to me five talents; behold I have gained other five over and above. His Lord said to Him: Well done, good and faithful servant, because thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will place thee over many things; enter into the joy of the Lord." (St. Matthew XXV, 20, 21.)

THE POST COMMUNION

Being filled with divine gifts, we beseech Thee, O Lord, by the glorious merits of Saint Anthony, Thy confessor, that we may enjoy the desired effect of this holy sacrifice.

AT THE BLESSING

Vouchsafe, O Eternal Father, to grant me Thy blessing for myself and all who are dear to me give me, with it, the grace to serve Thee faithfully in all things to the end, and may I be found worthy to share in the benediction reserved for Thy elect at the last day.

THE LAST GOSPEL

(St. John I, 1.)

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was made nothing that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men: and the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness; to give testimony of the Light, that all men might believe through him. He was not the Light, but was to give testimony of the Light. That was the true Light, which enlighteneth every man that cometh into this world. He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, He gave them power to be made the sons of God; to them that believeth in His name, who are born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. AND THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH, and dwelt among us (and we saw His glory, the glory as it were of the only-begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth."

Prayer to St. Anthony Before Holy Communion

St. Anthony, devoted friend of God, in life thou didst ever love and praise Our Lord and Savior with thy whole heart, and to prove His presence in the Blessed Sacrament didst cause an unreasoning animal to kneel in reverence before this mystery. I beg of thee to have compassion on me, to destroy all pride in my heart and to adorn it with all virtues, that this Holy Communion may not serve to my condemnation, but to my salvation; that it may be the weapon of my faith, the shield of my good will; that it may avail to purify me from all sin, to extirpate all evil desires, to increase in me love of God and my neighbor; to strengthen me in a life of virtue, and be an invulnerable protection against all my enemies. Open the eves of my soul, O St. Anthony, that after this Communion I may ever remain in God's love, and never more offend Him. Mindful of my numerous offenses. I contritely strike my breast and cry: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner! O Lord. I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof, say but the word and my soul shall be healed." Amen.

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Prayer to St. Anthony after Holy Communion

O St. Anthony, worker of miracles, I now possess in my heart Him Whom, from thy youth, thou didst serve so zealously, for Whom thou didst earnestly long to shed thy blood, Who came to thee in the form of a most beautiful child, and lovingly caressed thee. Oh, that He would look upon me with the pleasure with which He regarded thee, St. Anthony, His most faithful servant, upon whom He bestowed the richest measure of grace! Oh, that He would manifest the same liberality to me! But I hardly dare desire such favors, which alas! I have so ill deserved. Yet thy intercession is so powerful, St. Anthony, I beg thee to beseech Him, now that He is united with me, to give me also His grace, to embrace my heart, to take my soul unto Him as His friend, to strengthen me that I may be gloriously victorious in all the assaults of the world, the flesh, and the devil. O Jesus, I beg Thee, through St. Anthony, who was so pleasing to Thee, to have mercy on me. O St. Anthony, I ask thee, through thy heavenly joy at the visit of the Infant Jesus, to be my patron, and to obtain for me from thy dear Infant Jesus whatsoever is necessary and profitable for my salvation.

All ye saints of God, I beg ye, through the fervor with which ye received Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, to help me to extol, praise, and thank Him for all eternity. Amen.