



MISSIONARI  
CLARETIANI  
IMMACULATI CORDIS MARIÆ FILII

# NUNC

NUNTII DE UNIVERSA NOSTRA CONGREGATIONE

CLARETIAN INFORMATION BULLETIN

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175 YEARS  
Spreading  
THE OF THE  
Flame Spirit



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Fr. Mathew Vattamattam, CMF

General Superior

## INAUGURAL ADDRESS

**D**ear brothers, friends, and Claretian family: all of you present here at this moment of prayer and those who participate online,

Today at the Congregational level, we open the 175th anniversary of the foundation of our beloved Congregation. On July 16, the Major Organisms and communities will have specific events to launch the jubilee year at the local level.

This is a year of grace, a Kairos moment for us to enkindle the fire of God's love that the Spirit inflamed our Founder, St. Anthony Mary Claret and his companions. St. Claret discovered the depth of his missionary vocation in the same passage of Isaiah that Luke uses to present Jesus' vocation: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim the Good News to the poor."

Our Founder started the Congregation because he was convinced that this spirit was given also to others and his work was not a solitary mission but a mission "to do with others".

This charismatic gift spread throughout the world and widened the Claretian family in the Church with several branches in it. We have received the same spirit of our Founder, and today we are to be on fire with God's love and radiate the light of the Gospel around us in a Claretian way together with all those who have the same gift.

Jubilee is a time to be grateful for the gift of the charism and for the great missionaries whose lives bloomed in the charism for the glory of God, the salvation of souls, and their





sanctification. We think of our Founder, Co-founders, the Claretian martyrs, the Superiors General, and a great multitude of missionaries who form a community in heaven interceding for us. We thank the Lord for every missionary of the Claretian family who keeps alive the fire of God's love in their hearts and let it shine brightly in the various peripheries of human struggles.

We live in an epoch of amazing technological advancement, globalization and interconnectedness, information accessibility, environmental awareness, growing social fragmentation, confusion of values, dehumanizing poverty, irrational exploitation of nature, and other ills of our times.

Amidst this complex reality marked by volatility, uncertainty, and ambiguity, the only way to be faithful to our missionary vocation is to be rooted in Christ and our missionary charism and have the courage to walk through the uncertainties of our times with the light of Christ. Such a journey cannot be one of isolation but together on the synodal path.

I would like to begin this prayer session with a symbolic action which I hope would represent what the Lord would allow to happen in this jubilee year: that each Claretian, every community and all Major Organisms and the whole Claretian family be on fire with God's love. Without that fire, we will be like a collection of candles gathered in a candle store. With his fire burning in us, we become beams of light radiating its brightness without being burnt out. The only way to fight darkness is by lighting the lamps.

Let this be the primary aim of this Jubilee year that we are aflame with Christ's love and walk forth courageously together, spreading its flames wherever the Lord sends us on a mission.





## THE LOGO

The logo was designed to be universally recognizable without the need for language or explanation while also being simple in design. The center of the logo features a **CMF** (Son of the Heart of Mary), representing something identifiable, Marian, and universal. The calligraphic typography used is simple and quick, with a slightly rounded horizontal line that “embraces” the surrounding lettering and, combined with the “f,” creates a cross, symbolizing that God is at the center of everything (the greater glory of God). The number **175** is positioned to the right of the main element, offsetting it and giving it significance, but not making it the image’s focal point.

The third component of the logo embodies the **fervent blaze of the Holy Spirit**. Its flames are dynamic and in constant motion, emanating from the central flame. This symbol is derived from the acronym “**cmf**” and perfectly complements the motto, which signifies **175 years of spreading the flame of the Spirit**.

The Claretian Missionaries are the instrument of the Holy Spirit to enkindle people by all means in the fire of God’s love.

Puede descargar el logotipo: <https://www.claret.org/logo>.

## NUEVO PENTECOSTÉS

INTRO: Em – C – G – G/F#...(bis)

Em C  
Con un viento suave así brotó,  
G G/F#  
Una grande obra: la Congregación.  
Em C  
Una nueva historia comenzó,  
G G/F#  
Con aquellos que el Espíritu impulsó.

### PRECORO

Am Em  
El mismo Espíritu desciende en este hoy,  
G D  
Y evoca un nuevo Pentecostés;  
Am Em  
Convocando nuestra vida a la misión,  
G D  
Nos envía al estilo de Claret.

### CORO

D G  
//Y ES FUEGO QUE ARDE EN CARIDAD,  
C  
ES FUEGO QUE ABRASA AL CAMINAR,  
D C  
ES FUEGO QUE ENCIENDE A TODOS,  
G  
EN SU AMOR//

INTERLUDE: Em – C – G – G/F# - Em – C - D

Em C  
Con toda la Iglesia en misión,  
G G/F#  
Caminamos juntos en la comunión.  
Em C  
Arrraigados en Cristo el Señor,  
G G/F#  
Y audaces misioneros con ardor

### PRECORO

### CORO

INTERLUDE: Em – C – G – G/F#

FINAL: Em – D – Em – Em – D – Em – C – D – G

# JUBILEE PRAYERS

Four prayers to be used during the Jubilee Year prepared by the CESC Team in Vic.

## A FIRE WITH LOVE

Our God and Father,  
you are the fire that ignited the soul of Claret  
and has remained alive and burning  
in our life and our history.

Keep it active, burning God  
so that it may remove the ashes of our tepidity  
and stir up the embers of our vocation  
to continue illuminating  
the crossroads of so many dark pathways,  
and warm up the cold silence of the poor.

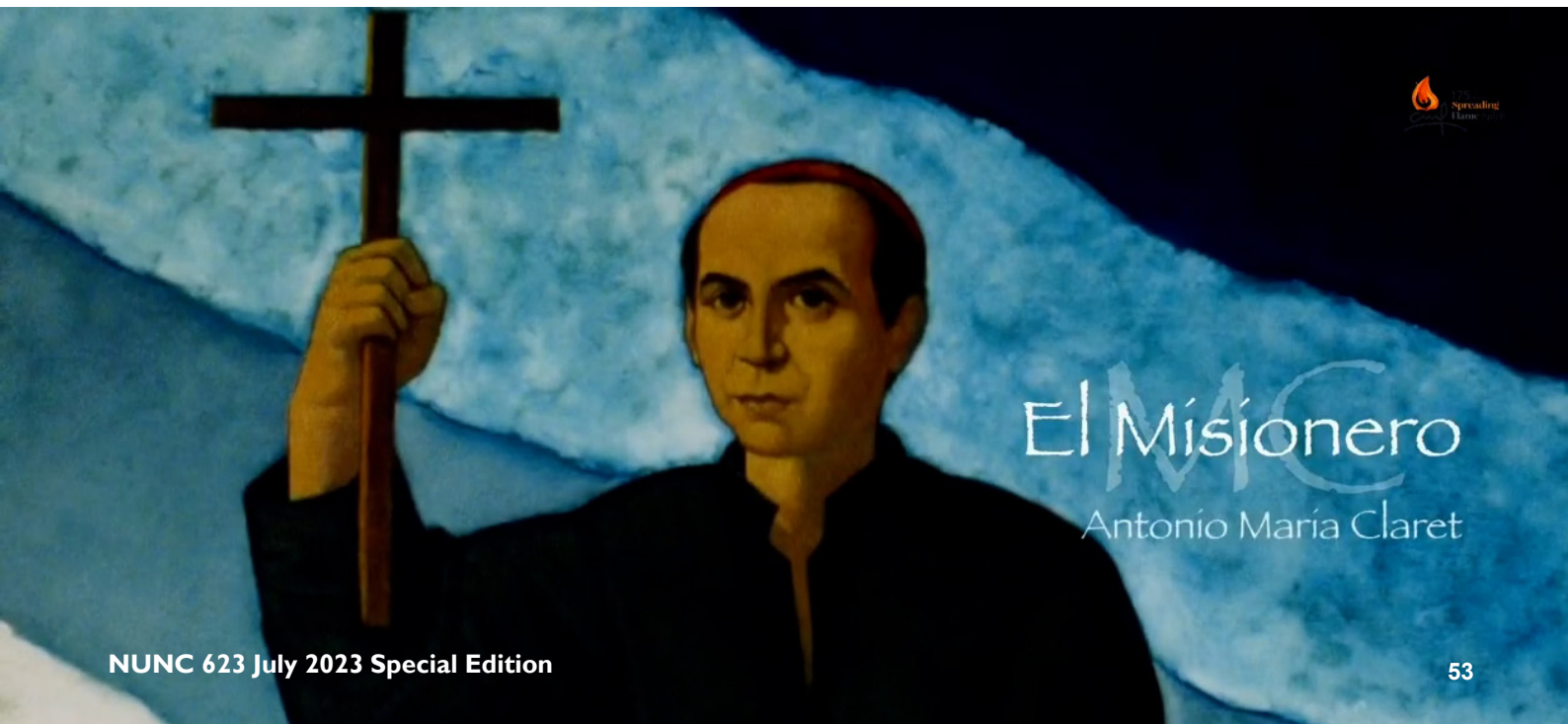
Lead us not into the temptation  
to distance ourselves from you.  
We want to go on playing with that fire...  
in the forge of your love.  
For if we lacked your love  
we could not be men on fire with love.  
Amen.

## SENT TO SPREAD

Good Father,  
you who send us to set the whole world on fire  
with the fire of your love,  
keep us always burning,  
to spread the gospel to the whole world.

As we celebrate our 175th anniversary  
we ask you to protect us from the worldliness  
of pride and vainglory,  
that stifle the gospel  
and destroy our family.  
Keep us always in the hope  
of being, through your faithful providence,  
a healthy and fruitful Congregation,  
a beloved Mother of diverse and united sons,  
a home and school of communion  
and a hive of missionaries.

Do not abandon us to the dangers  
that keep us away from the poorest  
and most needy  
and give us the light and strength of fidelity,  
anchored in the Fiat of our Mother.  
Amen.



El Misionero  
Antonio María Claret

# JUBILEE PRAYERS

Four prayers to be used during the Jubilee Year prepared by the CESC Team in Vic.

## SETTING THE WHOLE WORLD ON FIRE

We thank you, Father  
that you have called us to evangelise  
like our founder, St. Anthony Mary Claret,  
as children of our Beloved Congregation,  
missionary and martyr, in its 175 years of existence.

Set our hearts on fire with  
an intense love for you and for your sons and  
daughters.

Send us the fire of your love  
that we may set the whole world on fire.

Help us to keep our gaze fixed on Jesus,  
so that we may live today and always  
as his true disciples  
and call others to accompany us.

As sons of the Heart of Mary  
we ask you, Father, for that profound cordiality  
that is so necessary to be in the world as  
passionate messengers of the Gospel. Amen.

## THE LORD, OUR SHEPHERD

Our Father, you have been  
the shepherd and guide of our Congregation,  
our refuge from generation to generation.

We know that though the storm rages  
and the night grows very dark  
we have nothing to fear,  
for you always walk beside us  
giving us strength to carry on.

Good Shepherd, we shall lack nothing  
if you are with us  
and in meadows of fresh pasture you give us rest;  
Your rod and your staff comfort us  
when we are tired and weary.  
When we listen to your voice, we shall find  
no trial that we cannot overcome.

Lead us to quiet springs  
and heal our fears and sorrows  
when we cross dark pathways.  
Give us the courage to look to you  
to continue on the path that leads us to realize  
your dreams for us and our world. Amen..

## CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES 2023 – 2024

### 2023

- 31 May Announcement letter of the Superior General
- 01 Jun Composition and distribution of the Jubilee song Distribution of the Jubilee prayer
- 01 Jul Inauguration at General Curia (Live Broadcast)
- 01 Sep Rollout of the updated version of Fussimanya App
- 01 Oct Start of the publishing of the short videos on the history of the Congregation in different phases

### 2024

- 01 Feb Start of the publishing of the short videos on the mission of the Congregation
- 01 May Publication and distribution of books ( Publication and distribution of books: Claretian Missionaries Vol III (written by Gustavo Alonso) Reflections on The Definition of Claretian, and The Apostolic Prayer (prepared by the Province of Santiago)  
Various programs at the initiative of Major Organisms and communities
- 07-15 Jul Spirituality Congress (Vic, Spain)
- 15 Jul Vigil Service
- 16 Jul Jubilee Conclusion

# REFLECTION AT THE INAUGURAL CELEBRATION OF THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CMF FOUNDATION

We have just listened to the account of the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Community of disciples of the Lord, gathered in prayer together with Mary, the Mother of the Lord. The Spirit manifested himself as a strong wind and flames that rested on each one of them. *“They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages.”*

The transforming and energizing force of this founding moment of the Church is the same as our first brothers experienced during those retreat, with which they began to live in community the gift of a new missionary charism in the Church and in the world. Gathered in that small and poor cell of the seminary of Vic, in prayer and under the patronage of the picture of the Heart of Mary, they experienced, like the Apostles, that their hearts burned with the fire of love and they were launched to burn and ignite all their brothers and sisters with the proclamation of the Gospel.

This mural we are contemplating, painted by Fr. Maximino Cerezo in 1994, is a beautiful Claretian interpretation of Pentecost. Called to follow Jesus like the Apostles, we know that we are called by Mary, the Woman filled with the Spirit. She is our Mother, Formator and Foundress. With her we learn to open ourselves with docility to the transforming action of the Spirit. She urges us to go out of ourselves to embark on the new paths that the Spirit opens for the mission, as our last General Chapter reminds us: *“We dream of a Congregation, audacious and itinerant that, sent by the Spirit of the Lord (cf. Lk 4:18; Acts 8:28.39), goes forth towards the peripheries, approaches the youth, walks with them and encourages them to respond to the call of God”* (QC 63).

How well our brother Pedro Casaldàliga captured the depth of this moment, always new, of Pentecost, when, upon contemplating this painting, he addressed Mary of Pentecost saying: *“Open our ears and eyes, shake us from fear and inertia, give us a heart of flesh and chrism, endow us with joy and daring, send us, in the Wind that carries you, witnesses of your Son, deacons of Easter, servants, ecumenical brothers of the world!”*

The transforming and energizing power of Pentecost was reflected very well by our Father and Founder in a concise and inspiring text that defines the identity of a son of the Immaculate Heart of Mary as a man anointed by the Spirit. The Heart of Mary forges us in that Fire of love that makes us burn, scorch and ignite the whole world. With the strength of the Spirit, it is possible to endure the sacrifices and sufferings proper to the mission. That same strength impels us to live totally centred in the following of Jesus Christ as a missionary and in the passionate search for the glory of God and the salvation of the whole world, in the style of Claret.

Let us end by listening to and meditating on Claret's own words: [https://youtu.be/V8\\_pVgjEGtI](https://youtu.be/V8_pVgjEGtI)

Fr. Carlos Sánchez Miranda, CMF



# LETTER OF POPE FRANCIS ADDRESSED TO FATHER GENERAL



Rome, San John the Lateran, 8 July 2023

Dear Brother,

By means of a kindly letter, and in the name of the Missionaries, Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I have been made aware of the celebration of the Jubilee Year that begins on the 16 July, on the occasion of the 175 years of the foundation of that Congregation.

At this time of grace, I ask the Lord to send his Holy Spirit to each one of you, so that you can revive the fire of the charism that has been given to you through St Anthony Mary Claret, an untiring and creative apostle, who knew how to devote his life to Christ, bringing the joy of the Gospel to the geographic and existential peripheries of his time, trusting completely in Providence and attentive to the needs of the most fragile and abandoned people of society. I thank you for the work that you carry out in distinct pastoral areas and I encourage you to continue renewing your apostolic zeal, in the style of your founder.

May Jesus bless you and may the Blessed Virgin support you with her maternal protection. And, please, do not forget to pray for me.

Fraternally,

*Francis*

*(Translation of the original letter written in Spanish)*



You can find audiovisual material and content related to the Jubilee celebration at: <https://www.claret.org/jubilee>