



Prot. SG 286/2024

MESSAGE OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL

Dear brothers,

I hope this letter finds you well and filled with the Holy Spirit. I write to you with great joy as we approach the feast of our beloved Founder, Saint Anthony Mary Claret, a time for reflection and celebration for the whole Claretian Family. This October 24, the Jubilee Year closes on the occasion of the 175th anniversary of the presence of Saint Anthony Mary Claret in the Canary Islands.

Each year, this celebration offers us a precious opportunity to renew our commitment to the charism and spirituality we inherited from Claret. I invite you to dedicate time in the coming days to reflect on the life of our founder and how his example can inspire us today.

Let us remember that we have the privilege of knowing Claret not only through his photographs, which are like windows to his soul, but also through his Autobiography, that "spiritual selfie" that reveals his burning heart. What moves me most about Claret, and I hope you too, is his missionary passion. He was an apostle who burned with love for Christ and for souls, living his mission audaciously until the end of his life.


I would like us to meditate especially on how Claret lived his vocation in community. He was never alone in his mission. Whether with the first missionaries in Vic or with his team in Cuba, Claret always surrounded himself with committed companions. He described these brothers with an affection and admiration that we should aspire to emulate in our own communities. I propose an exercise: imagine that Claret were to visit your community today. What would he write about us? Would he see that same fire, that passion for mission, that unity in service? It's a challenging question, but necessary for our continued growth. On this feast day, I encourage you to:

1. Dedicate time to reading and reflecting on Claret's life.
2. Share our mission enthusiastically with those we serve.
3. Strengthen the bonds in your communities, inspired by the example of Claret and his companions.

Let us unite in prayer, asking the Lord and our Blessed Mother to ignite in us the same fire that burned in Claret's heart. Let us also remember our Blessed Martyrs, whose sacrifice inspires us to live our vocation with joy and total dedication.

May this feast of Saint Anthony Mary Claret be a time of renewal and grace for each of you and for our entire spiritual family.

With fraternal affection in the heart of Mary,


Fr. Mathew Vattamattam, CMF
Superior General

Rome, October 24, 2024.

