



TRIDUUM

ST. ANTHONY MARY CLARET 2022

DAY ONE. GROWING IN COMMUNION

Setting the scene

Hermanos: Brothers: We have gathered to begin the triduum in honour of St. Anthony Mary Claret. We do so in this year that constitutes a time of special grace due to the celebration of the Synod of Bishops that we have been preparing for from 2021 to 2023. It is proposed to all the members of the Church to advance in the building up of a synodal Church based on dialogue, searching and thanksgiving. Under the patronage of Fr. Claret we beseech the Lord to instil in us what the Synod asks of us: the spirit of “communion, participation and mission”.

We welcome this invitation to “walk together” in order to dwell today on the dimension of communion, of “doing with others”, which is essential to contribute to the longed-for renewal of the Church. Within this synodal framework, the first day of our triduum aims to prepare us to “weave new and deeper relationships with our brothers and sisters along the way”. In this way we will respond to the challenge of being one in Christ from the vocation received by each one of us.

Hymn (*Suitable song or the text below*)

*Ideal missionary,
oh Claret my good friend.
Around the world I go with you
to meet the Lord.*

I wish to be like you:
to travel the roads with an inner fire,
dragging men behind a great ideal
and tell the islands the passage of God.

I wish to be like you:
working all day in the Lord's vineyard,
let someone else use my nets,
let someone else use the loom.
My denarius, my inheritance: the face of God.

I wish to be like you
and feel the tenderness of the maternal Heart,
who sent me his arm to the peoples of the South
and say in my ear: I am your Mother.

I wish to be like you:
to walk a thousand paths, to proclaim without fear,
one hand in time, with one hand towards God
and listen to the Spirit: The Lord is coming.

Greeting from the celebrant

Prayer

Lord our God,
who made St. Anthony Mary Claret
a zealous apostle of your glory and the salvation of all,
grant us the ardent charity that burned in his heart
to continue with passion and effectiveness
his apostolic work in communion with many
and merit to be recognised
as faithful servants of the Gospel.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
God for ever and ever. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians *(1:10-13; 3:21-23)*

"I beg of you, brothers, in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord, to agree among yourselves and do away with divisions; please be perfectly united, with one mind and one judgment. For I heard from people of Cloe's house about your rivalries. What I mean is this: some say, "I am for Paul," and others: "I am for Apollo," or "I am for Peter," or "I am for Christ." Is Christ divided or have I, Paul, been crucified for you? Have you been baptized in the name of Paul? Because of this, let no one become an admirer of humans, for everything belongs to you, Paul, Apollos,

Cephas, life, death, the present and the future. Everything is yours, and you, you belong to Christ, and Christ is of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 1)

Happy the man who trusts in the Lord

Happy indeed is the man
who follows not the counsel of the wicked;
nor lingers in the way of sinners
but whose delight is in the law of the Lord
and who ponders his law day and night.

Happy the man who trusts in the Lord

He is like a tree that is planted
beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper.

Happy the man who trusts in the Lord

For the Lord is kind and good,
protects the path of the righteous
and delivers them from all evil.

Happy the man who trusts in the Lord

Suggestion for community meditation

Communion is an inner attitude that takes root in us and, if nurtured, grows over time. It needs space to grow, and sometimes it is threatened by the viruses of individualism, competitiveness, indifference...

If we remain in communion of life with the Lord, the Father becomes the centre of our life; he centres us and thus we can bear fruit in abundance. Separated from Him, we separate ourselves from each other, we move away from the communion we are called to live and witness to. The more we separate ourselves from God, the more we distance ourselves from one another, and the more we separate ourselves from one another, the more we distance ourselves from God.

To make Church-Communion with people who are different from ourselves is a challenge. Communion requires closeness, proximity, dialogue, prayer and discovery of the richness of diversity.

Communion is God's great dream expressed by Jesus in different gospel scenarios. May the inevitable differences between one another not lead us to separate or to turn our backs on one another because the others are "not our own."

Text of St. Anthony Mary Claret and commentary

“You will see an apple which will serve as a simile: the apple, being one and the same, has three things very distinct from each other, which are: smell, colour and taste; neither the smell is taste, nor the taste is colour, nor the taste is smell or colour, and yet it is one apple: here is how the apple gives you some idea of the unity of the divine nature, and of the Trinity and distinction of persons.” (St. Anthony M. Claret, *Catechism Explained*, p. 43).

When we think of creating communion, Claret’s metaphor of the apple fits very well, even though our saint is speaking of the union between the Persons of the Trinity. For our model of communion is the Holy Trinity. “Spirituality of communion means... a gaze of the heart above all towards the mystery of the Trinity who dwells in us, and whose light must also be recognised in the faces of those who are close to us.” (Cf. Claret, *ibidem*).

We are called to create a climate of encounter, welcome, communion and integration in our families and communities, in our mission and in our environment (cf. QC 23) as the allegory of the apple shows us. To keep us united even if we have colour, smell and taste because the components are different, but they can never be separated in order to give us the best of an apple.

Prayers

God of love, you seek us and invite us to welcome your friendship and to remain in it. Teach us to respond more deeply to the invitation to grow in communion with the whole Church.

R. The joy of our heart is in the Lord.

God of life, you who call us to accept the life of your Son and to give life to the world. Grant that we may know how to offer ourselves in order to become one in you so that the world may believe.

R. The joy of our heart is in the Lord.

God who gathers your people for the synodal journey, grant that the Spirit of love may remain in us, in our communities, in our parish gatherings and assemblies, in our families, so that we may celebrate this triduum and this synod fruitfully.

R. The joy of our heart is in the Lord.

God of peace, you who call us to the communion of love, grant that we may be a reflection of your peace in our communities and places of mission. Grant that we may build bridges across the divisions and discord that may arise among us.

R. The joy of our heart is in the Lord.

Other intentions can be added...

Our Father

Closing Prayer

Lord, you who have called us to a missionary life and you grant us the joy of sharing in your body and blood, grant that by listening to your Word every day, we may incarnate it, like the Virgin Mary, in our lives. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Final hymn: *Hymn to St. Anthony Mary Claret*



DAY TWO. GROWING IN PARTICIPATION

Setting the scene

On this second day of the triduum in honour of Fr. Claret we feel called to participate in the building of the Kingdom in collaboration with the People of God to which we belong by virtue of our baptism. Imitating St. Anthony Mary Claret, let us today allow the voice of the Lord to resound loudly within us and make us feel the urgency of evangelisation and of an evangelisation in close fraternal communion. Let us not be snipers. United in the same evangelising ideal, let us learn to “do with others,” as he said, what we cannot do alone. Is it not true that unity is strength?

We are on a synodal journey. The path we are all called to follow consists, first and foremost, in discovering the face and the form of a synodal Church, in which “everyone has something to learn. Faithful people, episcopal college, Bishop of Rome: one listening to the other; and all listening to the Holy Spirit, the *Spirit of truth*.” In this “walking together,” we ask the Spirit to help us to discover that communion, which brings together in unity the variety of gifts, charisms and ministries, is for mission. (*For a Synodal Church: communion, participation and mission*. Preparatory document n.15).

Hymn (*Suitable song or the text below*)

Claret, Christian of fire,
poor, chaste and compassionate,
red-hot missionary,
with a wanderer's desire
and contemplative ardour.

This is that good servant
that his talents doubled,
who, dead to the world, lived
and, like a son of thunder,
from east to west he burned.

Greeting from the celebrant

Collect prayer

God of goodness and Father of tenderness,
May we know you and make you known,
love you and make you loved,
serve you and make you served,
praise you and make all creatures praise you,
kindling in the whole world the fire of your love,
for all to be reborn
to the new life of grace and love.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit and is God
for ever and ever. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark (6, 35-38)

“It was now getting late, so his disciples came to Jesus and said, “This is a lonely place and it is now late. You should send the people away and let them go to the farms and villages around here to buy themselves something to eat.” Jesus replied, “You yourselves give them something to eat.” They answered, “If we are to give them food, we must go and buy two hundred silver coins’ worth of bread.” But Jesus said, “You have some loaves: how many? Go and see.” The disciples found out and said, “There are five loaves and two fish.”

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 96)

*Sing to the Lord a new song.
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.*

Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
proclaim his salvation from day to day.
Proclaim his glory among the nations,
to all peoples, their wonders.

*Sing to the Lord a new song.
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.*

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
more admirable than all the gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols;
but the Lord made the heavens.
Praise and splendour before Him;
power and glory in his sanctuary.

Sing to the Lord a new song.
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Render unto the Lord, O families of the peoples,
give the Lord glory and power.
Know that his name is glorious,
bring offerings and come to his courts.
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.
say to all nations: the Lord reigns.

Sing to the Lord a new song.
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Let heaven rejoice, and earth be glad;
the sea and all it contains.
Rejoice in the land and all that is in it.
Then all the trees in the forest will be overflowing with joy,
before God who comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness,
and the peoples with its truth.

Sing to the Lord a new song.
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Suggestion for community meditation

- In the story of the multiplication of the loaves, Jesus is moved with compassion after seeing the hungry crowd. He knows that humanity needs to be fed. He does not want to feed them without the participation of his disciples, without counting on the little they could offer: five loaves and two fish.
- Today he calls us to be his co-workers in his unconditional concern for others. He urges us to give the gifts we have received and to participate in the mission of the Spirit. Sometimes something as small as a kind look, an attentive ear or our presence alone is enough to make another person feel welcome. When we offer our gifts and talents, the Spirit makes them bear fruit in surprising ways.
- What must pass from hand to hand are not just doctrines, theories or precepts, but bread and compassion. Jesus does not send people away, he never dismisses anyone, he never turns anyone away from himself. He loves everyone, shares food with them and makes his apostles, so different in character and ideas, share in the task of distributing the food. Everyone has a place in his heart. Jesus tells the disciples to take care of the people: "You give them something to eat." Buy, say the disciples; Jesus says give. Jesus is different: he asks for collaboration, participation in the mission and he asks each of us to give small things, seeds of a miracle without measure.

- What can I do? I have only five loaves. But Jesus does not look at the quantity; even less is enough. Jesus asks for the disciple's heart. Five loaves and two fish is not enough, but it is all there was. It is little, but the miracle could take place. If we make our bread available and feed a hungry person, we will not change the world, but we do not abandon those who are in need. The new world begins with the first gesture of a good Samaritan.

Text of St. Anthony Mary Claret and commentary

“These are the people who accompanied me in my apostolic work in that diocese so full of weeds and thorns. I must thank God very much for having given me such good companions. They were all of impeccable conduct. They never spoke nor thought of interests or honours; their only aim was the greater glory of God and the conversion of souls.

I learnt from all of them, for they gave me an example of all the virtues, especially humility, obedience, fervour and the desire to be always working. You never saw in any of them a disinclination to go anywhere; all of them were always ready to work and willingly occupied themselves with whatever they were ordered to do, whether in the missions, which was the most common thing, or in taking care of some distant parish or vicariate” (*Autobiography* 606-607).

In these words of St. Anthony Mary Claret we discover how his missionary intuition led him to explicitly support

the decisive participation of all in the mission, lay people as well as priests and consecrated people.

Today, the need to widen the spaces for participation, to encourage more people to become involved, to help the baptised to discover that they are Church is strongly emphasised and that, as such, their life and mission concern them,. The shared apostolate is an irreplaceable means of discovering and making ecclesial co-responsibility effective.

Growing in participation renews our sense of belonging to the Church and strengthens communion. Reflecting and discerning together on how we are to be Church in our present time should lead us to the essence and reason for our existence and mission: to proclaim Jesus Christ. In short, it makes us more authentic, it configures us as disciples-missionaries.

Prayers

Claret invites us to discover in the Word, the call that God makes to us. Through his intercession let us pray for the Church, for the world and for the Claretian Family:

- You who sent your Son Jesus so that we may have life and life in abundance, we present the Church to you so that we may remain open to your Word and proclaim it untiringly. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

- You who invite us every day to live listening to your Word, help us to discover in it your call to announce the Gospel, as Fr. Claret lived it. *Let us pray to the Lord*
- You who call us every day to follow you with new missionary zeal, awaken in us attitudes of availability, participation and dedication. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- Lord Jesus, Word of the Father, encourage us to allow ourselves to be challenged by it and to learn to read it in the light of the events around us. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- Lord Jesus, you gave us Mary as our Mother, and model of listening to your Word, help us to pass it on and offer it as she did. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
- Lord Jesus, you who called St. Anthony Mary Claret to preserve the beauty of the Church in a difficult moment of its history, grant us to live the beauty of announcing the Gospel with everyone, without excluding anyone, and awakening the best in each one, so that we may be witnesses of the love that we proclaim. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

Other intentions can be added...

Our Father

Closing Prayer

Lord, you who have called us to a missionary life, grant us the joy of partaking of your Body and Blood, make it so that by listening to your Word every day, let us, like the Virgin Mary, incarnate it in our lives. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Final hymn: *Hymn to St. Anthony Mary Claret*





DAY THREE. GROWING IN MISSION

Setting the scene

Today we finish the triduum of preparation for the celebration of the feast of Fr Claret. In this meeting we want to remember once again and give thanks for the gift that God has given us with his life and mission. He has been and continues to be the transmitter of the Word that invites us to be apostles, in order to become communicators, spokesmen, of the Word in our time. We feel sent to be the cry of the Apostle.

We are on a synodal journey. A synodal Church is a Church “going forth,” a missionary Church, “with open doors”... The perspective of “walking together,” moreover, is even wider, it goes beyond ecclesial boundaries to embrace the whole of humanity, with whom we share “joys and hopes, sorrows and anxieties.” (Cf. *For a Synodal Church: communion, participation and mission*. Preparatory document n.15)

Hymn *(Suitable song or the text below)*

He was an accurate arrow,
that goes to the target with passion;
I had in my heart
of his Mother and Mediatrix
the quiver of his illusion.

Shepherd with a noble staff,
made Church in such a way,
who was always sweet and strong,
and even die in exile
sought life in death.

Lord of the cud and the wheat,
Christ Jesus, Saviour,
by this, your faithful friend,
take us always with you
to the Father in Love.

Greeting from the celebrant

Prayer

Merciful God,
you were for St. Anthony Mary Claret “most sufficient,”
the treasure that filled his life with love and joy.
He put his trust in You,
was able to live a poor life in imitation of your Son Jesus,
who, though he was rich, yet for our sake became poor.

Help us to live like him,
so that our proclamation of the Gospel
is credible and reaches the poorest,
whom you have chosen
as the Kingdom's favourites.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit and is God
for ever and ever. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy (4, 1-5)

“Brothers, in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by the hope I have of his coming and his kingdom, I urge you to preach the Word, in season and out of season, reproving, rebuking or advising, always with patience and providing instruction. For the time is coming when people will no longer endure sound doctrine but following their passions they will surround themselves with teachers to please their itching ears. And they will abandon the truth to hear fables. So be prudent, do not mind your labor, give yourself to your work as an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 23)

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd,
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want

Suggestion for community meditation

- *"My spirit is for the whole world."* Claret did not confine his missionary vocation to one parish, to one diocese. He spent and wasted himself for everyone with all his strength, with all his heart. He made St. Paul's confession his own: *"Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel."* And he says it explicitly: *"My mission is to make the Gospel known, proclaiming it for nothing, making myself the servant of all in order to win them all over."*
- History tells us of the labours, fatigues, contradictions and persecutions of this great evangeliser whom the Lord made a light of the nations to bring the message of salvation to all. Claret was imbued with a spirit of participation. And he also had a universal spirit, in imitation of the Lord, of the Apostles and of many other missionaries of all times and places.
- What about us? Mission is not ours; it is a gift received for others. The mission is God's. He enables us to communicate hope and freedom. We have chosen the most disconcerting path imaginable: the path of the beatitudes. There is no true mission if there is no true

capacity to suffer for it, to give meaning to the wear and tear, critical moments, mistakes...

- That, following Claret's example, in our daily work we may be able to spend and wear ourselves out for the sake of the Gospel, not seeking recognition or human gratification, but only to respond faithfully to God's will, living a life worthy of the vocation to which we have been called.

Text of Saint Anthony Mary Claret and commentary

"Tell my dearest brothers the Missionaries to take heart and to work as hard as they can, for God and the Blessed Virgin will repay them. I am so fond of the priests who dedicate themselves to the missions that I would give them my blood and my life, I would wash and kiss their feet a thousand times and I would take away my food so that they could eat; I love them so much that I go mad with love for them, I don't even know what I would do for them. When I consider that they work so that God may be more and more known and loved, and so that souls may be saved and not damned, I do not know what I feel... As I write this, I have had to put down my pen to come to my eyes... O Sons of the Immaculate Heart of my dearest Mother Mary... I want to write to you, but I cannot for the sake of my own eyes... I want to write to you, but I cannot because my eyes are filled with tears. Preach and pray for me. Farewell, dear brother; here is this little piece of

paper, which I would like each of the missionaries to copy and take with him" (*Letter to Fr. J. Xifré, 20 August 1861; EC II, pp. 349-352*).

In this letter, each one of us is present, called to follow Jesus the missionary in the style of Fr Claret. We accept the call of our Father Founder to "encourage ourselves" and to "work"; in this way, we will overcome the temptations of discouragement and laziness; so that we will always live, as he did, giving ourselves totally to the mission.

That little piece of paper sent by Fr Claret reveals the richness of our missionary identity: we are men of fire. Our authentic mission is to experience God's love to the point of burning, scorching and kindling. We cannot burn if we are extinguished; we need to live prayer, community life and mission as spaces that keep alive the embers of our vocation and lead us to ignite everyone in the fire of divine love.

Pope Francis, during the audience he gave to the participants of our XXVI General Chapter, told us that if we want to be witnesses we cannot stop being adorers. Our Congregation, like consecrated life in general, "requires audacity, it needs older people who resist the ageing of life, and young people who resist the ageing of the soul." And to be rooted in Christ and to be audacious in mission, the Pope has shown us God's style: proximity, compassion and tenderness..." (QC 97).

Prayers

Let us lift up our prayer to God our Lord and Father of Jesus Christ, asking in faith and hope for what the People of God needs to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

For the holy Church, that in proclaiming the Kingdom of God in the world, she may be a sign of unity and brotherhood among all peoples, races, cultures and languages.

Lord, hear us.

For all evangelisers, that with joy and hope they may bring the Good News of salvation to all the ends of the earth.

Lord, hear us.

For the laity committed to the Gospel that they may incarnate it in their lives and radiate around them the sublime knowledge of Christ and his saving work.

Lord, hear us.

For all of us who journey together in the same evangelising mission, so that, impelled by the breath of the Spirit, we may know how to live in unity and fraternity, all of us collaborating with enthusiasm and dedication in the spreading of the Gospel.

Lord, hear us.

Other intentions can be added...

Our Father

Closing Prayer

Lord, nourished by your sacraments,
we beseech you, sustained by your grace,
in imitation of our Father,
Saint Anthony Mary Claret,
let us be witnesses of your saving Word
in the whole world.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Final hymn: *Hymn to St. Anthony Mary Claret*

Hymn of St. Anthony Mary Claret

Jesus passed along your path one morning,
And seeing you, He called you by your name:
He would make you a witness of His Kingdom,
You would bring the Good News throughout His reign.

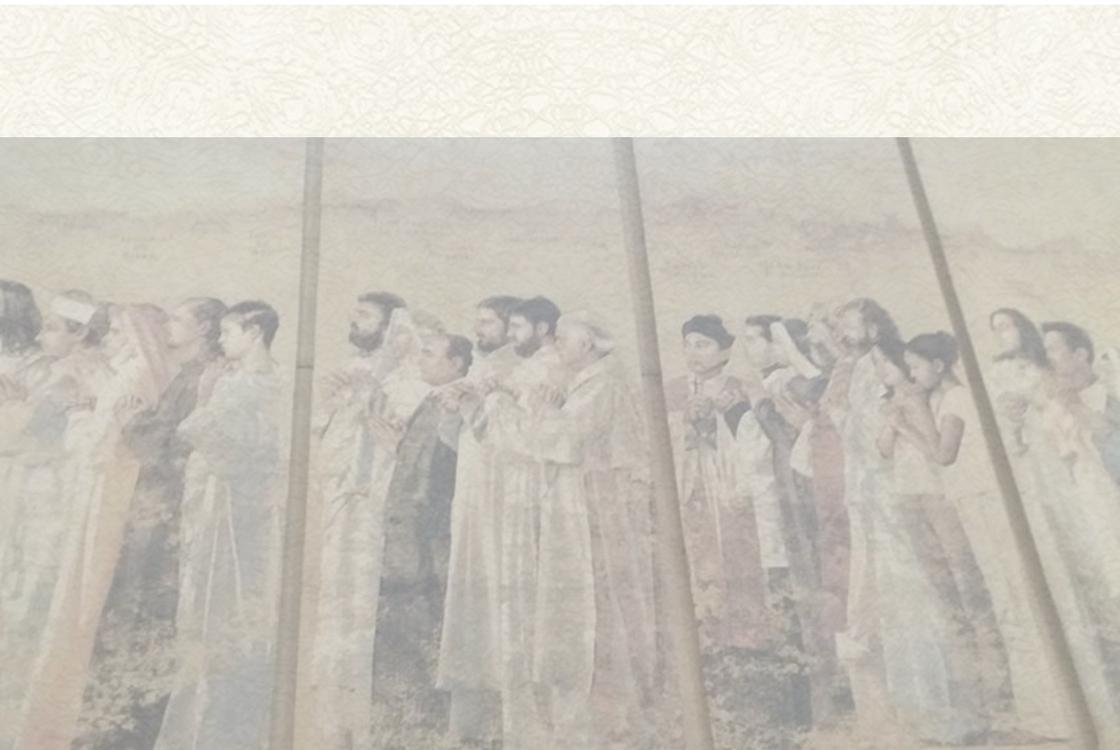
And you set out traversing seas and mountains,
To all you preached the message of the Lord:
You reached the farthest islands and their peoples
Showing them God's forgiveness and His love.

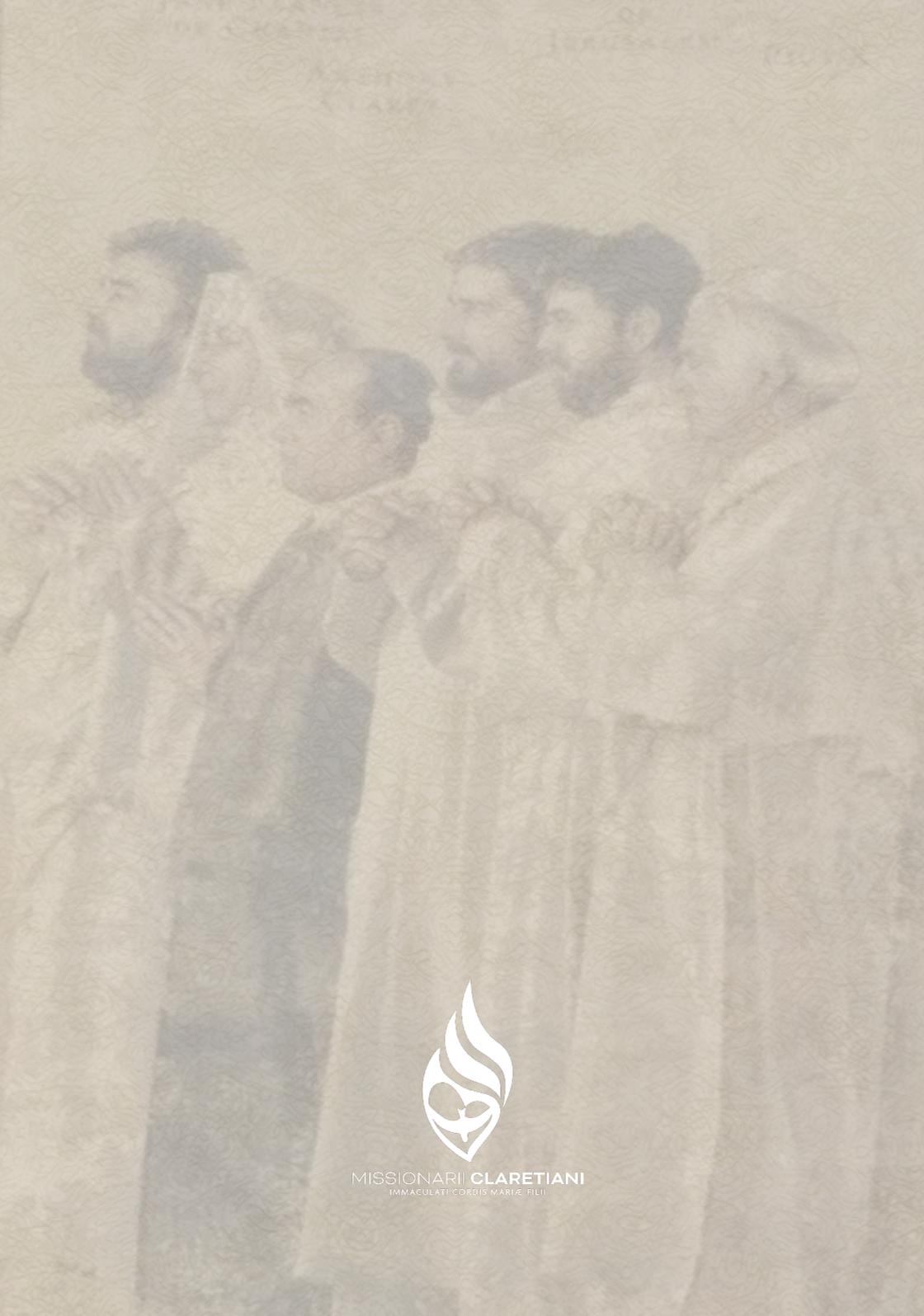
CLARET, you are a pilgrim, you are a sower
The seed you scatter is the Good News,
You reached all colours and races,
There's only one Father,
only one Lord.

CLARET, through your example,
we see our mission,
We must be witnesses,
we must bring hope,
We want to follow your footsteps
And tell the people that God is love.

Your aim to spread the gospel of the Kingdom,
Your life was filled with Jesus and His word;
And you brought him to villages and peoples,
Just like Mary, her son gave to the world.

We, too, will follow closely your example,
The new Claretian family in Christ;
We wish to be a beacon in the darkness
And to all bring the hope of a new life.





MISSIONARI CLARETIANI
IMMACULATI CORDIS MARIE FILII