

3. BLESSING OF THE SICK WITH THE RELIC OF ST. ANTHONY



(HAND EXTENDED) They shall lay hands upon the sick and they shall be cured. May Jesus, the Son of Mary, the Lord and Savior of the world, be merciful and propitious to you, through the merits of blessed Anthony. Amen.

May all sickness be removed through the imposition of my hands, especially through the invocation of all the Holy Angels, Archangels, Patriarchs, Apostles, Martyrs, Confessors, Virgins, and all the Saints together, and may we be helped through their merits and prayers.

May Jesus Christ be with you, to defend you:

May He be within you, to preserve you;

May He be before you, to lead you;

May He be behind you, to guard you;

May He be above you, to bless you;

Who with the Father and the Holy Spirit

Lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Through the intercession of the most Blessed Virgin Mary and of blessed Anthony, may God, in His most tender mercy, deliver you from your present infirmity and from all ills of mind and body, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

IN ONE OF HIS SERMONS ST. ANTHONY SAID:

"The saints are like the stars. In his providence Christ conceals them in a hidden place that they may not shine before others when they might wish to do so. Yet they are always ready to exchange the quiet of contemplation for the works of mercy as soon as they perceive in their heart the invitation of Christ."

QUOTES OF ST. ANTHONY

"The life of the body is the soul; the life of the soul is God."

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"Solicitude for material things distracts the soul and divides it. The devil seizes the divided soul and drags it to hell."

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"Attribute to God every good that you have received. If you take credit for something that does not belong to you, you will be guilty of theft."

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Many miracles have been attributed to St. Anthony, including our countless, unrecorded, everyday miracles of finding lost articles.

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PRAYERS TO SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA

FEAST DAY: JUNE 13



SAINT ANTHONY'S BREAD

It is the custom of giving bread to the poor when a prayer to St. Anthony has been answered.

Pope Leo XIII, in his letter of 1898 on the Thirteen Tuesdays, commended the practice of giving "St. Anthony's Bread" to the needy.

St. Anthony of Padua

Born in Lisbon, Portugal in 1195, he was given the name Fernando. In 1220 he joined the Augustinian Monks. His life changed when he witnessed the bodies of the first Franciscan martyrs, who had been killed preaching the faith in Morocco, brought back to Europe. Fernando greatly desired to follow in their footsteps. Inspired by their courage and love for Jesus Christ, he joined the Franciscans and his name was changed to Anthony.

His first assignment as a friar was as a missionary to the Muslims in Morocco. When he arrived there he became seriously ill and was forced to return to Europe. En route, his ship was hit by a fierce storm and Anthony landed in Italy, where he would spend the rest of his life. Recognized as a gifted preacher and teacher, St. Anthony drew great crowds everywhere, especially in the city of Padua. He challenged people to care for the poor, and he spoke out about injustices in society.

Anthony had true compassion for everyone. He emphasized God's love as unending and never-ending. He encouraged people to repentance and sacrifice in their lives. He was patient in trial, humble about his own talents, and genuinely enthusiastic in sharing his faith.

He was widely known for his holiness and great devotion to our Blessed Mother. Tradition says that Mary rewarded him by presenting the Infant Jesus to hold in his arms.

During his lifetime, St. Anthony performed many miracles to help the sick and the poor. After living the last years of his life ill and in terrible pain, he died on June 13, 1231, at the age of 36. Through the centuries so many miracles have been attributed to him that he is called "The Miracle Worker." His feast day is June 13th.

UNFAILING PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY

"Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints" O holy St. Anthony, gentlest of saints, your love for God and charity for His creatures, made you worthy when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Miracles waited on your word, which you were ever ready to speak for those in trouble or anxiety.

Encouraged by this thought, I implore you to obtain for me **(Here mention your petition)**. The answer to my prayer may require a miracle; even so, you are the Saint of Miracles!

O gentle and loving St. Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the sweet Infant Jesus, who loved to be folded in your arms; and the gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. Amen.

NOVENA TO ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

The word "NOVENA" comes from Latin and means "nine each." It refers to prayers offered over a nine-day period. This novena prayer above to St. Anthony can be prayed over nine consecutive days.

WEEKLY TUESDAY DEVOTION

THESE THREE PRAYERS

ARE USED BY THE FRANCISCANS FATHERS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PROVINCE LOCATED AT ST. LEONARD CHURCH, BOSTON, MA. AND ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE, MA.

9 DAY NOVENA PRAYERS IN HONOR OF ST. ANTHONY

1. Prayer of Petitions to St. Anthony

I salute thee with all my heart, I salute thee a thousand times O Saint Anthony. Thou art a chosen vessel of divine grace; Jesus is with thee. Thou art blessed as the most humble and the most admirable son of thy Seraphic Father, Francis. Remember, O remember, miraculous Saint that thou never failest to help and console him who invokes thee in his need. Animated with great confidence and the certainty of not praying in vain, I have recourse to thee, who art so rich in grace and the most fortunate friend of the Infant Jesus. O Saint Anthony, Saint of miracles, Saint of help, I have need of thy assistance,
I have need of this special favor.

(mention favor)

Therefore, console me in my present necessity, and give me the help that with full confidence I hope for.

Bless me, O great Saint, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



2. Prayer to the Infant Jesus in the arms of St. Anthony

Sweet Infant Jesus, thou best and only hope of afflicted souls, I prostrate myself at Thy feet and beseech Thee, through Thy immeasurable love and grace, whereby Thou didst visit Thy blessed servant Saint Anthony, and comforted and embraced him, to come to me at his intercession and let me taste how sweet Thy presence is to the souls that trust in Thee.