

# ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA



Anthony was called the “Wonder Worker  
for his many reported miracles.  
He preached to crowds in the rain,  
but his audiences remained dry  
despite the downpour.

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I ask that if you find anything edifying, anything consoling, anything well presented, that you give all praise, all glory and all honor to the Blessed Son of God Jesus Christ. If on the other hand, you find anything that is ill composed, uninteresting or not to well explained, you impute and attribute it to my weakness, blindness, and lack of skill.

The Lord manifests Himself to those who stop for some time in peace and humility of heart. If you look in murky and turbulent waters, you cannot see the reflection of your face. If you want to see the face of **Christ, stop and collect your thoughts in silence, and close the door of your soul to the noise of external things.**

The greeting of angels and the blessing of God are not for those who live in the public square, meaning outside themselves, agitated and distracted. The sweet greeting “Hail” was directed at the Virgin Mary when she was absorbed in prayer, in the reserved atmosphere of her home. God, to be able to speak to the soul and to fill it with the understanding of His love, leads it into solitude, detaching it from the worries of worldly things. **He speaks to the ear of those who are in silence, and He communicates His secrets to them.**

Earthly riches are like the reed. Its roots are sunk in the swamp, and its exterior is fair to behold; but inside it is hollow. If a man leans on such a reed, it will snap off and pierce his soul.

Actions speak louder than words; let your words teach and your actions speak. We are full of words but empty of action, and therefore are cursed by the Lord since He Himself cursed the fig tree when He found no fruit but only leaves.

Christians must lean on the Cross of Christ just as travelers lean on a staff when they begin a long journey. They must have the Passion of Christ deeply embedded in their minds and hearts, because only from it can they derive peace, grace, and truth.

We should speak, then, as the Holy Spirit gives us the gift of speech. Our humble and sincere request to the Spirit for ourselves should be that we may bring the day of Pentecost to fulfillment, insofar as he infuses us with his grace, by using our bodily senses in a perfect manner by keeping the commandments. Likewise we shall request that we may be filled with a keen sense of sorrow and with fiery tongues for confessing the faith so our deserved reward may be to stand in the blazing splendor of the saints and to look upon the triune God.

But the apostles “spoke as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.” Happy the man whose words issue from the Holy Spirit and not from himself!

Among all things that are lovable, there is one that is more lovable than the rest, and that most lovable of all things is life.

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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.

Just as a lily does not lose any of its beauty in emitting its sweet fragrance, so too did our Lady preserve Her virginity in giving birth to the Savior.

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.

Damned money! Alas! How many religious did it blind! How many cloistered religious did it deceive! Money is the 'droppings of birds' that blinded the eyes of Tobit.

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

These symbolize the greedy and usurers whose teeth are swords and knives which they use to devour the poor and steal their meager possessions. All of them are children of this world who consider the children of light to be stupid and believe themselves to be the prudent ones. Their prudence is their death.

Christ acts like a loving mother. To induce us to follow Him, He gives us Himself as an example and promises us a reward in His kingdom.

The Glorious Virgin did not have a stain in her birth because she was sanctified in her mother's womb and safeguarded there by angels.

Anyone, then, who desires to live chastely in Christ Jesus, must flee not only the mouse of lust, but even from its very scent.

The spirit of humility is sweeter than honey, and those who nourish themselves with this honey produce sweet fruit.

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

Blessed, therefore, is the womb of the glorious Virgin who for nine months was worthy to carry all goodness, the highest goodness, the bliss of angels and reconciliation of sinners.

The Father clothed His Son Jesus in a white robe, that is, flesh without any stain of sin conceived by the Virgin Immaculate.

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I saw the snares that the enemy spreads out over the world and I said groaning, "What can get through from such snares?" Then I heard a voice saying to me, "Humility."

The rainbow is a symbol of the peace and reconciliation which the blessed Virgin, our Mediatrix, effected between God and man.

Our Lady, our only hope, we are asking You to illumine our souls with the brilliance of Your grace... that we may be worthy of His glory.