



Prot. SG 331/2025

**MESSAGE OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL
ON THE FEAST OF ST. ANTHONY MARY CLARET-2025**

Dear brothers,

A joyful and grace-filled feast of our beloved Founder, St. Anthony Mary Claret, to each of you!

Celebrating our Founder's feast in this Jubilee Year, we return to his life as to a spring of Gospel inspiration. Claret teaches us how to walk as pilgrims of hope and artisans of peace in a world hungry for meaning. When we contemplate his missions, we are amazed at how people flocked to hear him—not seeking spectacle or gain, but the Bread of the Word and the fire of hope. The crowds that filled the cathedral of Vic—so packed that even the baptistry once collapsed—came because Claret was a man who fed souls. In him, the Eucharist celebrated and the Word proclaimed became nourishment for the weary, clarity for the confused, consolation for the wounded, and hope for the poor.

From where did Claret learn such tenderness and apostolic ardor? He learned it at the school of Mary, the Mother and Formatrix of apostles. Over the years, a profoundly maternal and nurturing dimension blossomed in his heart. In that moving note of 1870—one of his last—he contemplated Mary and saw her Missionaries as “the arms and maternal breasts” through which she nourishes her little ones with wisdom and love. In an age like ours, saturated with eroticized imagery, such language can surprise. Yet for Claret it was mystical and Eucharistic: a symbol of self-giving love that generates life, a call to nurture others with what we ourselves draw from the Heart of Mary and the Heart of Christ.

This, brothers, is our call today: to be men who nourish hope, who generate life around us; to form communities that are home, table, and refuge; to exercise ministries that nurture, heal, and lift those entrusted to us. The Kingdom of God—which Jesus came to announce—remains the great alternative vision our world longs for. Let us not fear to witness to this hope with clarity, compassion, and courage.

As pilgrims in this Jubilee, let us, like Claret, drink deeply from the source of authentic Love that alone satisfies the deepest longings of the human heart. And as sons of the Heart of Mary, may streams of living water flow from within us (cf. Jn 7:38), reaching the deserts of human hearts and making them bloom with new life.

I entrust each of you to the Immaculate Heart, that she may make us, like Claret, passionate seekers of God and tireless servants of our brothers and sisters.

Happy Feast of our Founder!


Fr. Mathew Vattamattam, CMF
Superior General

Rome, October 24, 2025.

