
PRAYER TO SAINT CLAUDE COLOMBIERE

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"Extraordinary graces are not good for me...it would be pouring precious liquor into a leaking hogshead that can hold nothing. I ask God for only a solid, simple manner of prayer, which may give Him glory and will not puff me up..."
(– St. Claude de la Colombiere, SJ)

St. Claude, to most throughout your life you appeared to be mostly ordinary. Known for your placid demeanor, your quiet countenance masked the "unruly emotions" that roiled within you.

You were a spiritual partner of St. Margaret Mary in your devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, but the depth of your extraordinary friendship with Jesus was hidden.

February, the most ordinary of all months, was given to you, St. Claude, because it was in this month that you passed from this world to the next. Even so, it fits.

The ordinary work of this month brings glory (and not puffery) to the Kingdom:

There are funds to be raised and holy works to be praised;
classes to teach and homilies to preach;
poor to be served and marginalized to be heard.

And then there are the meetings:

Essential sausage making, the wurst of our works.

Dear Lord, make your presence felt at the Superiors Meeting,
Companions in School

Leadership meeting, Jesuit Conference gathering, Higher Education meeting,
and the regional visitations to San Diego and Arizona.

Finally, may the Spirit guide all those gathering at the Vatican this month as they discern how to address the abuse crisis.

With you, St. Claude, we pray to God:

*"that the Heart of Jesus and Mary be in our minds
so that they can communicate to us their movements,
and for our hearts not to move,
but according to the impression received from them."*

St. Claude Colombiere

