

Saint Clare
11 August



About Saint Clare

Saint Clare was born in Assisi and came under the influence of Saint Francis. She left home at the age of 18, with Saint Francis' guidance, she began a community of Sisters that grew to become the Order of the Poor Clares.

She had a strict rule of poverty for this new order which was much stricter than that of any other religious order at the time. In the year 1215 Clare obtained from Pope Innocent III the privilege of owning nothing, so that the Sisters of the Order would live on only alms given to them.

Saint Clare is the patron saint of television because of a vision she had while lying sick in bed on Christmas Eve, in which she saw the crib and heard the singing as if she were present in the church.

Clare was a noted contemplative and a caring mother to her nuns. She died at Assisi in 1253.

How does the life of Saint Clare apply to us today?

Saint Clare founded her new religious order by renouncing all her wealth and wished for this order to be devoted to a simple austere life of prayer. Saint Clare was influenced by Saint Francis and she in turn was able to influence her widowed mother to join her Order as well. So while we aren't going to found a new religious community or we may not be able to sell everything we own, there are those times where giving of ourselves willingly will help influence others to know, love and serve Christ. Even if it is a simple action like buying a homeless person a warm cup of coffee. These simple acts of kindness are tangible signs of showing our faith in Christ.

Quote:

"We are to become vessels of God's compassionate love for others."

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Collect

O God, who in your mercy led Saint Clare to a love of poverty, grant, through her intercession, that, following Christ in poverty of spirit, we may merit to contemplate you one day in the heavenly Kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel

Matthew 19:27-29

They will be repaid a hundred times over and inherit eternal life

Peter spoke to Jesus.

'What about us?' he said.

'We have left everything and followed you.

What are we to have, then?'

Jesus said to him,

'I tell you solemnly,

when all is made new and the Son of Man sits on his throne of glory, you will yourselves sit on twelve thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel.

And everyone who has left houses, brothers, sisters, father, mother, children or land for the sake of my name will be repaid a hundred times over, **and also inherit eternal life.'**

Antiphon

Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I will come to him and reveal myself to him.

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Hymn for the Memorial of Saint Clare

Saint Clare, to you material things
were known to be of fleeting worth.
They were only means to an end
as they would never last on earth.

Inspired by Saint Francis' word,
your Sisters lived a life austere,
simple lives of humility,
serving the poor with hearts sincere.

Saint Clare, may we who have been blessed,
be willing and ready to share
all the goods and wealth we possess
with those who have nothing to spare.

In this way we live out the faith
and witness to the One who died;
leaving behind what we don't need,
to let Christ be our only guide.

88.88 LM
Winchester New
Text: Chris deSilva and Alessio Loiacono

Music Links to the Scripture Readings

[Blest are they](#)

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