

**August 17**

**SAINT CLARE OF MONTEFALCO, VIRGIN**

*If a deacon is present, he reads the monition (introduction) after the sign of the cross and the greeting, before the invitation to penance. If however there is no deacon present, the commentator, reads the introduction before the entrance hymn. The entrance antiphon is only recited when there is no entrance hymn. Feast.*

**Entrance Antiphon**

**Mt 11:29**

***Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Mt. 11: 29)***

**Monition**

The Augustinian family celebrates today the feast of Saint Clare of Montefalco, a model religious of total surrender to God and to her sisters.

She was born in Montefalco in the year 1268, and died in Perugia in 1308. She made her religious profession with the name, *Clare of the Cross*. She was demanding with herself and with the sisters, especially in common life, as stated in the Rule of Saint Augustine. He recommended the spirit of sacrifice and personal asceticism as bases of a solid spiritual life. The passion and the cross of Jesus were her preferred devotions.

**Invitation to penance**

As we begin this Eucharistic celebration, let us ask God to grant us the conversion of our hearts, thus, we shall attain reconciliation and the growth of our communion with God and with our brothers.

**The Gloria is said or sung.**

**Collect**

Lord God,  
you deepened the holiness  
of Saint Clare of Montefalco  
as she contemplated in prayer  
the suffering and death of your Son.  
May we too draw strength  
from this passion,  
and be renewed always in your likeness.  
Through Christ our Lord, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

## Prayers of the Faithful

God, our Father, calls us all to be holy, inviting us to be perfect as He is perfect. Aware of our weaknesses, let us invoke Him, trusting in the intercession of Saint Clare of Montefalco.

- That the Church, a sinner but continually purified by the love of Christ, may be for the world the joyful image of the new Jerusalem, where God will be all in all: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That men and women may understand the value of virginity as a total self-giving to God and to the brothers: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That the cloistered life in God of our Augustinian contemplative sisters may help build the Church and attract more vocations who will intercede for others: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That God may infuse his light and give his strength to those responsible for the well-being of our country and of the whole world, and that He may grant mutual harmony among citizens: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That the sacrament of the Eucharist be a nourishment and strength that purifies our hearts each day: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*

Oh God, You who grant your salvation to all, through Saint Clare of the Cross, bring about in our midst, men and women who will serve you with an undivided heart and will help us understand the essence of life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord

## Prayer over the Gifts

On this feast of Saint Clare, O Lord,  
be mindful of our sincerity  
as we ask you to accept the sacrifice  
which we now offer.  
Through Christ our Lord

## Preface.

**V. The Lord be with you.**

**R.** And with your spirit.

**V. Lift up your hearts.**

**R.** We lift them up to the Lord.

**V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**R.** It is right and just.

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For in Saint Clare, you have given your people a wonderful example  
of love for the Cross of your Son.

It was no longer she who lived, but Christ who lived in her,  
for in his love for her  
he gave her a share in his saving Passion.

Through the way of the Cross  
you brought her to contemplate your mysteries  
and to imitate your tender mercy and compassion  
for the poor and the sinful.

And therefore, with Angels and Archangels,  
and with all the choirs of heaven  
we sing the hymn of your glory  
and acclaim without end:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

**Communion Antiphon**

**Gal 2:20**

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.

**Prayer after Communion**

Father,  
you renewed the mysteries of the Passion of your Son  
in the heart of Saint Clare,  
graciously grant that the bread of life,  
which we have received,  
may always preserve us in your love.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**August 19**

**SAINT EZEKIEL MORENO, BISHOP**

*If a deacon is present, he reads the monition (introduction) after the sign of the cross and the greeting, before the invitation to penance. If however there is no deacon present, the commentator, reads the introduction before the entrance hymn. The entrance antiphon is only recited when there is no entrance hymn. St. Ezekiel Moreno is celebrated as a FEAST for the Recollects in the Iberian Peninsula and Latin America, thus the **Gloria** is recited or sung. For the Recollects in the Philippines, Taiwan and Sierra Leone, it is celebrated as a SOLEMNITY, thus the **Gloria** is said or sung, and **Credo** is recited. Obligatory memorial for other places.*

**Entrance Antiphon**

*Cf. Ps 105 (104):1*

***O give thanks to the Lord, and call on his name. Make known his deeds among the peoples.***

**Monition**

St. Ezekial Moreno was born in Alfaro (Logroño) on April 9, 1848. After professing as an Augustinian Recollect, he travelled to the Philippines, where he was ordained priest and worked with exemplary apostolic zeal. Since 1888, he lived in Columbia where he developed a multifarious evangelizing work. He was named Apostolic Vicar of Casanare and was ordained bishop in 1894. On June 10, 1896, he took possession of the Diocese of Pasto.

In his sincere desire to serve, he drew an unfailing strength when the interests of Christ and the Church were involved. As a shepherd completely devoted to his faithful, he bore with firmness all kinds of trials, including the painful cancer that accompanied him during the last months of his life and that brought him to retire at the convent of Monteagudo, where he died on August 19, 1906. He was canonized by John Paul II in Sto. Domingo (Dominican Republic) on October 11, 1992, during the closing of the Fifth Centenary of the Evangelization of Latin America. May his example and intercession help us to live faithfully the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**Invitation to penance**

At the beginning of our celebration, let us ask the Lord to pardon our sins in order to celebrate worthily this Eucharist.

**Collect**

O God, who in the bishop Saint Ezekiel gave us an example of fidelity to the Gospel and a pastor after the heart of your Son, grant us, through his prayers, to live as joyful witnesses to Christ, and always to be faithful to our consecration to the service of your Church. Through Christ our Lord.

### **Prayers of the Faithful**

In celebrating the feast of St. Ezekiel Moreno, who made his life as a generous offering to the Gospel, let us invoke the help of God for the Church and for all humanity.

- That the Holy Church of God be enriched by the life of her saints, and that she may promote and lead with zeal the mission of announcing the Gospel to the nations: Let us pray to the Lord.

*R. We pray to you, hear us.*

- That all the pastors of the Church united to the successor of Peter may lead a life in imitation of Saint Ezekiel, a model shepherd: Let us pray to the Lord.

*R. We pray to you, hear us.*

- That relationships among nations may be based on mutual respect and understanding: Let us pray to the Lord.

*R. We pray to you, hear us.*

- That the poor, the sick and those who suffer may through the intercession of Saint Ezekiel, find in Christ the consolation and relief for their lives: Let us pray to the Lord.

*R. We pray to you, hear us.*

- That more faithful will be called to become missionaries who will proclaim unflinchingly the Gospel of the Kingdom: Let us pray to the Lord.

*R. We pray to you, hear us.*

- That we who have answered the call to be witnesses of faith in Christ Jesus the God-Incarnate, while living our own vocation, we may become the Church that loves and contemplates and proclaims Him: Let us pray to the Lord.

*R. We pray to you, hear us.*

Shepherd of the faithful, All-powerful God, full of goodness, You who chose the bishop Saint Ezekiel Moreno in order to nourish the people with your word and to illumine them with the example of his life, listen to our supplications.

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

As we recall the memory of Saint Ezekiel  
we ask you, O Lord,  
to bestow your blessing on the gifts we offer you;  
may our communion in this sacrifice  
free us from our sins  
and fill us with heavenly nourishment.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### **Preface**

**V. The Lord be with you.**

**R.** And with your spirit.

**V. Lift up your hearts.**

**R.** We lift them up to the Lord.

**V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**R.** It is right and just.

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God  
through Christ our Lord.

For you filled the bishop Saint Ezekiel with the Spirit of your Son,  
and made him an ardent defender of your glory.

He gave himself to his brethren in common life.  
He showed himself a shepherd of your flock by word and example.

He sought no other glory than to serve the Church.  
He recognized and loved your Son in the poor, the sick, the weak and oppressed.  
His desire was always to do your will.

Therefore, Lord, in union with the Angels and the Saints,  
we in join in singing the hymn of your glory:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Cf. Lk 10:1.9**

The Lord sent disciples to announce in every town and place: "The Kingdom of God has come to you."

### **Prayer after Communion**

May the reception of your holy mysteries,  
renew your life in us, O Lord,  
so that we who rejoice in remembering Saint Ezekiel  
may profit from his example of apostolic zeal.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**August 21**

**SAINT PIUS X, POPE**

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**Monition**

We, Augustinian Recollects, call to mind today Pope Saint Pius X, to whom we owe our elevation to the rank of an Order, which was realized through the brief *Religiosas Familias* of September 16, 1912.

Saint Pius X, was born Giuseppe Melchiorre (Joseph Melchor) Sarto in Northern Italy in the year 1835. At 23, he was ordained priest and named bishop of Mantua in 1884; was a cardinal archbishop of Venice in 1893, and was elected pope 1903.

He promoted traditional devotional practices and orthodox theology. His most important reform was to publish the first [Code of Canon Law](#) into one volume. He was noted for his conservative theology and reforms in liturgy and church law. Pius X worked to increase devotion in the lives of the clergy and laity, particularly in the Breviary, which he reformed considerably, and the Holy Mass. He restored to prominence Gregorian Chant, and placed a renewed liturgical emphasis on the Eucharist, saying, "Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to Heaven." He encouraged frequent reception of Holy Communion. Pius X said in his 1903 motu proprio 'Tra le sollecitudine': The primary and indispensable source of the true Christian spirit is participation in the most holy mysteries and in the public, official prayer of the church.

His program of governance had three fundamental points: first, doctrinal formation that he promoted with the publication of his catechism; second, the intensification of the spiritual and liturgical life, importance of frequent communion and fostered the access of the children to the Eucharist; finally, he moved for the autonomy of the Church. As we recall today Saint Pius X, the Order of Augustinian Recollects desires to appropriate for itself his motto, "*To establish everything in Christ,*" meeting Christ and walking from Him once again.

**Collect**

Father,  
to defend the Catholic faith  
and to make all things new in Christ,  
you filled St. Pius X with heavenly wisdom and apostolic courage.  
May his example and teaching  
Lead us to the reward of eternal life.  
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### **Prayers of the Faithful**

As we remember Pope Saint Pius X, who was an illustrious guide for the Catholic Church by example and word, let us ask the Father to continue helping His Church to grow in holiness.

- That the example of the holy pastors may move us to walk through the pathway of holiness: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That the word of the Pope, bishops and priests may bring to the faithful light and hope: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That God may illumine those who have public responsibility so that they may govern with absolute respect for spiritual and moral values: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That the Lord may bless the Order of Augustinian Recollects in its evangelizing mission and testimony to common life: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That the poor, sick and those who suffer may find in Christ consolation and relief through the intercession of Saint Pius X: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That the children, who were the preoccupation of Saint Pius X, with the nourishment of the Eucharist, may mature as persons until they become truly Christians worthy of such name: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*

Lord, through Saint Pius X, we ask you to grant your Church virtuous and wise pastors, who can lead her to the future fatherland. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Lord,  
be pleased to accept our offerings.  
May we follow the teaching of St. Pius X,  
and so come to these mysteries with reverence  
and receive them with faith.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord our God,  
we honor the memory of St. Pius X  
by sharing the bread of heaven.  
May it strengthen our faith and unite us in your love.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

August 27

SAINT MONICA

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**Entrance Antiphon**

Mt 7:7-8

*Ask and it will be given you; seek and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you...*

**Monition**

Today, we celebrate the feast of Saint Monica, born in Tagaste (Argelia) in the year 331, of a well-to-do and deeply Christian family. At the peak of her youth, she married Patricius, who was not yet a Christian. We know her well through the references, which her son, Augustine, left us in the book of his *Confessions*: the maturity of her faith, her courage as a Christian woman; now she tried to obtain through her prayer and tears the conversion of her husband and son.

She was an admirable example of a mother and a Christian wife. Proven in faith, she persevered faithfully in the mission that God had entrusted her. She died in Ostia Tiberina at the age of 56 in 387. The narrative that Augustine has left us regarding his conversation with his mother, her death and funeral is touching. Her remains are preserved in the Church of Saint Augustine in Rome.

In our present times, many mothers have united themselves in emulating Saint Monica and they pray unceasingly for the faith of their children. We all pray for them and their intentions, as we put our lives into the hands of God, trusting fully in Him.

**The Gloria is said.**

**Collect**

Lord our God,  
ever merciful to all who hope in you,  
you adorned your servant Monica  
with the priceless gift of reconciling her husband and children to you;  
through her prayers and example,  
grant that, with her as our intercessor,  
we may be messengers of your love for us  
and win over the hearts of our brethren to you.  
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.

## Prayers of the faithful

Brothers, let us present our prayer to God the Father with joy and confidence in the feast of Saint Monica.

- For the unity of the Holy Church, for the conversion of peoples and the spread of the true faith, peace and harmony among nations: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That mothers of families may live the fullness of love and devote themselves to the education of their children: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- For the aged, disabled and those who live alone; for the sick and for all those who suffer: Let us pray to the Lord. *R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- For separated and divorced couples: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us*
- That all of us the members of our community may live like Christ realizing the joy of our consecration: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- For our deceased family members and friends, that they may attain the fullness of life through our prayers: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*

All powerful and eternal God, consolation of the afflicted and strength of the weak, listen to the supplications of those who call to you, and through the intercession of Saint Monica, grant them the joy of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, sanctify and bless  
the gifts we offer to you  
on this feast of Saint Monica;  
through her intercession  
grant that we may always strive to advance  
your glory and the good of our brethren.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## Preface

**V. The Lord be with you.**

**R.** And with your spirit.

**V. Lift up your hearts.**

**R.** We lift them up to the Lord.

**V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**R.** It is right and just.

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For on this feast of Saint Monica  
it is fitting that we should celebrate  
the gifts she received from you.  
Born anew in Christ,  
she lived for you alone  
bringing glory to your name  
by her faith and good works,  
and so revealing your presence in her heart.

She gained her husband for you  
as he came to the end of his earthly life.  
She cherished her children  
enduring the pains of motherhood again  
whenever she saw them wander away from you.  
In your loving kindness you rewarded her faithful and daily tears  
with the conversion of her son Augustine.

Therefore, now and for ages unending,  
with all the hosts of Angels,  
we sing to you with all our hearts  
as we cry out together and acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

### **Communion Antiphon**

**Mt 7:11**

If you, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him.

### **Prayer after Communion**

We thank you, O Lord,  
for this saving sacrament  
that has brought us into communion with you;  
with humble hearts we ask you  
to permit us also to experience the gifts of your mercy  
that you conferred upon Saint Monica.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**August 28**

**OUR HOLY FATHER SAINT AUGUSTINE,  
BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH**

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**Entrance Antiphon**

**Cf. 1 Kings 4:29.31**

***God gave him wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and greatness of heart.  
His fame was in all the nations.***

**Monition**

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of our Father, Saint Augustine, an outstanding bishop of Hippo, a city in the northern part of Africa. He was born in the year 354. During the early years of his life, he grew up in a world beleaguered with crises and turmoil as a result of the decadence and downfall of Imperial Rome. After a long period of a restless journey in search for a meaningful life, he ended up a convert to Catholicism. He was baptized on Easter eve through the ministry of the bishop Saint Ambrose.

He wrote in his *Confessions*: “Lord, you made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.”

In the light of his profound doctrine and unwavering faith, he earned the title, “Father and Doctor of the Church.” His theological doctrines and profound reflections in his *Confessions*, his homilies and catechesis from his vast literary works have influenced deeply the thinking and faith of the Church for many centuries. In the words of Pope Benedict XVI, Saint Augustine was a man of great passion and faith, a man of great intelligence and enduring dedication to pastoral ministry.

In his *Confessions*, he exclaimed: “Late have I loved you, O beauty ever ancient ever new. You were with me, but I was out of myself; You were there with me but I was not there with you ... You called me, you shouted at me until my deafness gave way to you. Your brilliance and splendor burned brightly and your splendor dissipated my blindness.” (X, 27, 38) He died on August 28, 430 at the age of 76.

**Invitation to penance**

To begin our Eucharist celebration, let us ask the Lord that we may find conversion of our hearts through the intercession of Saint Augustine.

**The Gloria is said.**

## Collect

Lord, we ask you to renew in your Church  
the spirit you gave to the bishop Saint Augustine.  
Grant that in our thirst for true wisdom  
we may never cease to search for you,  
the living fountain of unending love.  
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.

The Creed is said.

## Prayers of the Faithful

Brothers, as we celebrate with joy the solemnity of our Father Saint Augustine let us invoke the Almighty Father, fountain of love and truth, that He may give inspiration to our prayer.

- That the Lord may strengthen the Church with the sound doctrine shared to us by Augustine: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That government officials may become persons of honor and value human dignity, equal justice and enveloping charity in order to foster peace in the world: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us.*
- That our Prior General and all the superiors of our Order may work untiringly for the Church and guide us towards renewal and revitalization: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us*
- That those who live in error or have become slaves of worldly ways may be struck by the grace of the Holy Spirit so that their minds and hearts may be opened to the truth: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us*
- That the Holy Spirit may continue to arouse authentic vocations, willing to serve God in the consecrated life and in spreading the Gospel: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us*
- That all our communities may be transformed into seats of wisdom burning in the love of God welcoming, accommodating especially those who are most in need: Let us pray to the Lord.  
*R. We pray to you, hear us*

God, our Father, through the merits and intercession of our Father Saint Augustine, make us learn to serve you, the only fount of ever joy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Prayer over the Gifts**

Celebrating the memorial of our salvation,  
we humbly beg your clemency, O Lord,  
that this Sacrament of love  
may be for us a sign of unity and a bond of charity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## **Preface**

**V. The Lord be with you.**

**R.** And with your spirit.

**V. Lift up your hearts.**

**R.** We lift them up to the Lord.

**V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**R.** It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

We offer you our praise  
on this feast of our holy Father, Saint Augustine,  
who in his love for truth fell captive to your word;  
his life became a constant quest to find you with increasing delight  
and in finding you, to seek you again with still greater desire.

He was a true good shepherd,  
who guided your faithful people  
with a firm and gentle hand as he sought constantly to renew  
the image and likeness of your Son in them.

He established communities of religious  
setting before them a perfect pattern of life  
of sharing all things in common  
and having one mind and heart intent upon God.

By preaching and writing, he proved himself tireless  
in proclaiming the good news of salvation.  
He increased the peaceful unity and fraternity of the Church.

And so we join with the heavenly powers  
in praising you as we proclaim to your Majesty without end:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

**Communion Antiphon**

1 Cor 10:17

Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

**Prayer after Communion**

With your holy gifts, O Lord, enrich your family  
that you have renewed with heavenly nourishment  
on the feast of our holy Father Saint Augustine;  
enlighten us with the light of knowledge from above  
and kindle the flame of eternal charity in our hearts.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Solemn Blessing**

P. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with your spirit.

*The Deacon, if present, otherwise the Presider says:* Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

P. May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

R. Amen.

P. May God keep your faith strong; may he fortify you with unfailing hope; and may he increase your charity so that you may persevere with all patience until death.

R. Amen.

P. That together with Saint Augustine and all the saints you may be able to possess the happiness of heaven where the Church rejoices to see her children joining with the saints in everlasting peace.

R. Amen.