Conventual Franciscan Friars
Province of Our Lady of Consolation
103 St. Francis Boulevard
Mount St. Francis, IN 47146-9000
812-923-5250 • www.franciscansusa.org

Special Novena of Masses honoring St. Anthony

Let us pray for you as we seek the intercession of the Saint of Miracles

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*"Like the almond tree blooms before all others,
so must helping the poor take precedence
over all other acts of a follower of Christ."*

– St. Anthony

Dear Friend,

Catholics have been asking for – and receiving – the comfort of St. Anthony's intercession since his death more than 700 years ago.

His intercession today is just as relevant, and as powerful, as it was then. And in our troubled times we all need the benefits of prayer and intercession more than ever.

St. Anthony was legendary for his incredible knowledge of scripture, combined with a life of piety and devotion to the poor. A Franciscan and follower of our patron, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua was named a Doctor of the Church. He is one of only 32 people in Church history so honored with this title due to their eminent learning and outstanding holiness.

On Christmas day, December 25th, we will begin a Holy Novena of Masses in honor of St. Anthony - our spiritual ally who guides our devotion and intercedes with the Lord on our behalf. Please join us in these special celebrations of Masses by sharing your own personal intentions.

Simply write your prayer requests on the back of the reply slip and return it to me in the envelope enclosed. Your needs will be remembered as we ask for St. Anthony's help to bring us the solace we seek before Our Father in heaven.

Like St. Anthony, we Conventual Franciscan Friars are dedicated to improving the physical and spiritual conditions of the men, women and children we serve.

Our ministry has helped so many people in desperate distress. In keeping with his teachings, we seek to respond consistently with love and compassion to those who depend on us to meet their most basic needs. Inspired by his example, the Conventual Franciscans have also responded to the call to spread the love of Christ to the ends of the earth.

Won't you help us answer the Lord's call to serve His people by sending a generous gift in support of our Franciscan Ministries?

Through your donation to the Conventual Franciscan Friars, you become a partner in our far-reaching ministry, present wherever there is urgent need, here in the United States, in Africa, Central America, and around the world.

Over, please

In many of the areas we serve, we are an important source of food, education, and emergency care.

In Zambia for instance, we truly exist to be the heart and hands of Jesus in the spirit of the Gospel, and of our patron, St. Francis. We provide basic human needs such as food, medicine, education and assistance to alleviate the suffering of the poor – especially the children.

Every day we work tirelessly to bring relief and a better life to people in this poverty-stricken land. We offer material and spiritual help, running a school for orphans and disadvantaged children, running retreats, working with and for AIDS patients, the old, the mentally and physically handicapped.

Here in America we offer nourishing hot meals and hold out an encouraging hand to destitute families who have no other way to satisfy their hunger.

I ask you to open your heart and send a donation that will reach around the world, touching real people in desperate need. Your helping gift will be in the blessed tradition of St. Anthony himself, for as you strive to follow his example, God's greatest riches of peace, love, and joy will come flowing back to you.

Please send your donation today. No matter the size, your gift will make a difference to so many who are served by the love and compassion of the Conventual Franciscan Friars. We look forward to presenting your personal intentions to our beloved St. Anthony in our upcoming Novena of Masses.

God sent St. Anthony into the world as a witness to His great love for us all. We pray that Anthony's intercession will light a fire in our hearts, making us instruments of peace, love, and joy in the world.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. John

Fr. John Elmer, OFM Conv.
Spiritual Director

P.S. Your gift to the Conventual Franciscan Friars is truly Christ's love in action, serving the poorest of the poor among us. Please help – by mailing your donation as soon as possible. And don't forget! Our Novena to St. Anthony of Padua begins soon – send your prayer intentions today.

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Prayer for Healing

Dear St. Anthony,

You loved God so much when you lived upon the earth. You were known, even then, as a great Wonder-worker, so great did His power live in you. Now that you are in heaven, you share in God's glory and in His power in a more perfect way. Look on me with kindness as I come to you in my need. I pray for healing for myself and for those whom I love.

"Anthony always puts Christ in the center of life and thought, of action and preaching."

– Pope Benedict XVI

St. Anthony,
Pray for Us.

St. Anthony Novena of Masses

Yes, Father John, please pray for my intentions during your special Novena of Masses to St. Anthony.

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Enclosed is my offering of: ❑ $XX ❑ $XX ❑ $XX ❑ $_____ to support the life-saving ministry of the Conventual Franciscan Friars of the Province of Our Lady of Consolation.

Please charge my gift to ( ) VISA ( ) MasterCard ( ) AmEx Exp. Date: mm/yy_____

Acct. Number: _____ Signature: _____

Mr John D Sample
PO Box 123
123 Main Street
Any City US 12345-6789

❑ Please tell me how a **charitable gift annuity** to the **Province of Our Lady of Consolation** can yield tax benefits and provide income.

❑ I would like to name the **Province of Our Lady of Consolation** in my Will. Please send me more information about **Wills and Bequests**.

Please make your tax-deductible gift payable to the **Province of Our Lady of Consolation** and mail it in the special envelope provided.

BTXXXXXXX

My St. Anthony Prayer requests

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