St. Anthony Mary Claret

PRAYERS TO OUR LADY, 1843–1870

Plegarias a Nuestra Señora

From the Spanish and Catalan of the original printings

English translation

Contributed to Mind of the Church by a friend of the library who wishes to remain anonymous

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About this translation

Translated from the original printings of 1843–1870 — *Camí dret*, *Camino recto*, the *Reglas de espíritu* and other works —. **A selection**: the supplications and consecrations of *Jacob's Ladder and the Gate of Heaven* are given in that work. Each prayer names the work it comes from.

The notes give the references to Claret's sources and the notes he printed himself; the modern editors' commentary and the translator's own remarks are not reproduced.

Prayers to Our Lady (1843–1870)

1. O Virgin and Mother of God! (Catalan original)

\[Source: Camí drét y segúr per arribar al cel, Vic 1843, p. 7.\][1]

Virgin and Mother of God, I offer myself as your child, and in honour and glory of your purity I offer you my eyes, my ears, my tongue, my hands, my whole body and my soul; and I ask you to obtain for me the grace never again to commit any sin. Amen, Jesus.

2. To the Mother of Divine Love (Catalan original)

\[Source: Camí drét y segúr, Vic 1843, p. 25.\][1]

Most holy Virgin, divine Mother, since you are the refuge of sinners and the Mother of divine love, obtain for me from your Son this grace: that, weeping now and abhorring my sins, not precisely for fear of punishment but because they are offences against a God of infinite goodness, I may now obtain his grace and friendship, and afterwards eternal glory. Amen.

3. Prayer Begging Mary's Intercession

\[Source: Reglas de espíritu, Vic 1844, p. 12.\][1]

O Mary, Mother of mercy, by the love and merits of Jesus Christ I beg you to intercede for the conversion of sinners, for the perseverance of the just, and for the eternal rest of the souls in purgatory.

4. O Virgin and Mother of God! (Castilian version)

\[Source: Camino recto, Barcelona 1846, p. 6.\][1]

Virgin and Mother of God, I give myself to you as your child, and in honour and glory of your purity I offer you my soul and body, my faculties and senses, and I beg you to obtain for me the grace never to commit any sin. Amen, Jesus.

5. To the Mother of Divine Love (Castilian version)

\[Source: Camino recto, p. 25.\][1]

Most holy Virgin, divine Mother, since you are the refuge of sinners and the Mother of divine love, obtain for me from your Son the grace that, weeping now and detesting my faults, not precisely for fear of punishment but because they are offences against a God of infinite goodness, I may obtain his grace and friendship, and afterwards eternal glory. Amen.

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[2] *Camí drét y segúr per arribar al cel*, Vich: Per Joseph Trullás, Plassa de las Garsas, 1843, p. 7.

[3] *Camí drét y segúr per arribar al cel* (Vich 1843), p. 25.

[4] Also published in EC \[*Epistolario Claretiano*\], III, 577.

[5] Pla, calle de Cotoners, 1846, p. 6: *The Christian's exercise, in the morning*.

[1] *Camino recto*, ed. cit., p. 25.

Prayers for Communion and Mass

10. Prayer before Communion

\[*Source: Camino recto, Barcelona 1848, pp. 38–39.*\][1]

Most holy Virgin, since, moved with compassion for the bridal couple at Cana of Galilee, you rescued them from their difficulty by obtaining from Jesus that miraculous change of water into choice wine,[2] ask him also to work a like wonder in my favour, granting me the graces I need to receive him worthily. He never refused you; you are always heard; take my part, then; do for me all that you can. Oh, how much I need it!

11. Supplication during Mass

\[*Source: Camino recto, 1848, p. 109.*\][1]

My Saviour Jesus Christ, who, shedding your blood on the cross, commended your most holy Mother to John, your beloved disciple, and him to your Mother: I commend myself to you, imitating that closeness with which you commended the two to each other,[2] so that, in reward for so fitting a token, I may deserve to be united to you by love, and through the intercession of those two be preserved from all evil in dangers and adversities. Amen.

12. Prayer after Communion

\[*Source: Camino recto, 1848, p. 45.*\][1]

O most holy Virgin, you who knew how to respond so perfectly to the singular benefits God bestowed on you, grant that I too may know how to respond and give him due thanks; but, since this is impossible for me, give them to him for me.

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[2] Pla, calle de Cotoners, 1848, pp. 38–39: prayer before communion.

[3] Cf. Jn 2:1–12.

[4] *Camino recto*, Barcelona 1848, p. 109: prayer at the *Omnis honor et gloria*.

[5] Cf. Jn 19:25–27.

[1] *Camino recto*, ed. cit., p. 45: prayer after communion. Also published in *El colegial instruido* (Barcelona: LR, 1860), vol. I, p. 317.

Prayers to Our Lady of Sorrows

13. Crown of the Seven Sorrows of Most Holy Mary

\[*Source: Camino recto, 1848, pp. 157–165.*\][1]

Preparation

Immaculate Virgin, Mother of pity, full of affliction and bitterness: with the surrender of my heart I beg you to enlighten my understanding and kindle my will, so that with a fervent and compassionate spirit I may contemplate the sorrows set forth in this holy Crown, and may obtain the graces and favours promised to those who occupy themselves in this holy exercise. Amen.

First Sorrow

I grieve with you, Lady, for the sorrow you suffered at the prophecy of Simeon, when he told you that your heart would be the target of your Son's passion.[2] Grant, my Mother, that I may feel within me the passion of your Son and your sorrows; and I pledge myself to you, in memory of this sorrow, with an Our Father, seven Hail Marys and a Glory Be.

Second Sorrow

I grieve with you, Lady, for the sorrow you suffered in the exile to Egypt, poor and in want on that long road.[3] Grant, Lady, that I may be free from the persecutions of my enemies; and I pledge myself to you, in memory of this sorrow, with an Our Father, seven Hail Marys and a Glory Be.

Third Sorrow

I grieve with you, Lady, for the sorrow you suffered in the loss of your Son in Jerusalem for three days.[4] Grant me tears of true sorrow to weep for my sins for the times I have lost my God, and that I may find him for ever; and I pledge myself to you, in memory of this sorrow, with an Our Father, seven Hail Marys and a Glory Be.

Fourth Sorrow

I grieve with you, Lady, for the sorrow you suffered at seeing your Son with the cross on his shoulders, walking to Calvary amid mockery, insults and falls.[5] Grant, Lady, that I may carry with patience the cross of mortification and hardships; and I pledge myself to you, in memory of this sorrow, with an Our Father, seven Hail Marys and a Glory Be.

Fifth Sorrow

I grieve with you, Lady, for the sorrow you suffered at seeing your Son die nailed to the cross between two thieves.[6] Grant, Lady, that I may live with my vices and passions crucified;[7] and I pledge myself to you, in memory of this sorrow, with an Our Father, seven Hail Marys and a Glory Be.

Sixth Sorrow

I grieve with you, Lady, for the sorrow you suffered at receiving into your arms that most holy body, lifeless and drained of blood, with so many wounds and injuries. Grant, Lady, that my heart may live wounded with divine love and dead to everything profane; and I pledge myself to you, in memory of this sorrow, with an Our Father, seven Hail Marys and a Glory Be.

Seventh Sorrow

I grieve with you, Lady, for the sorrow you suffered in your solitude, your Son now buried. Grant, Lady, that I may remain buried to all that is earthly, and live only for you; and I pledge myself to you, in memory of this sorrow, with an Our Father, seven Hail Marys and a Glory Be.

In memory and reverence of the tears your most pure eyes wept in the life, passion and death of your Son, I offer you three Hail Marys.

Prayer

Most pure Virgin Mary, pierced with sorrow by the sword that Simeon foretold; anxious and in want fleeing into Egypt; sad and troubled seeking your lost Son; full of bitterness and tears meeting him with the cross on his back; afflicted and anguished seeing him in agony and dying; distressed and tormented with your dead Son in your arms; alone and without consolation leaving him in the tomb: I humbly beg you to obtain for me from his divine Majesty the grace I ask of you, if it be for the greater glory of God and the good of my soul; and if not, that his most holy will be done in all things, and that I may never offend him. Together with this I

beg you to intercede for our Most Holy Father, for peace and concord among Christian princes, the exaltation of the holy Catholic faith, the destruction of heresies, the conversion of unbelievers and the confusion of the Turks; look with eyes of pity upon your devotees and grant them most special helps of grace, for the greater glory of God and your own. Amen.

It is concluded with the Salve \[Hail, Holy Queen\].

14. Prayer to the Sorrowful Virgin

\[Source: Camino recto, 1848, p. 182 (Way of the Cross, fourth station).\]

O sovereign Lady, and Mother the saddest and most afflicted of women: by the cruel sword of sorrow that pierced your heart as you looked on Jesus, your Son, the light of his eyes darkened, his face disfigured, tormented by the heavy burden of the cross and made the reproach of men, obtain for me, most afflicted Mother, since my sins were the cause of so many pains and sorrows, that I may weep for them bitterly, so that, purified by confession and penance, I may be admitted into your company in glory. Amen.

15. To Mary at the Deposition of Jesus

\[Source: Camino recto, 1848, p. 194 (Way of the Cross, thirteenth station).\]

O sovereign Queen of the Angels and most sorrowful Mother: by that immensity of pain that flooded your heart when you received from the arms of the cross into your own your most holy Son, dead from the violence of so many torments, I beg you, most compassionate Mother, to deign to receive my soul into your arms when it leaves the body, and to present it to your most holy Son, so that, remembering what his Divine Majesty and you, Lady, suffered for it, he may judge it not as my sins deserve, but according to the infinite merits of his divine blood shed for love of me and those of your immense sufferings, so that I may afterwards accompany you in the joys of glory. Amen.

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[1] *Camino recto*, ed. cit., pp. 157–165.

[2] Cf. Lk 2:35.

[3] Cf. Mt 2:13–15.

[4] Cf. Lk 2:41–50.

[5] Cf. Lk 23:26–32; Jn 19:16–17.

[6] Cf. Mt 27:44; Mk 15:32; Lk 23:33, 39–43; Jn 19:18.

[7] Cf. Gal 5:24; 6:14; Rom 6:6.

Prayers of Praise and Petition

16. Prayer to the Queen of Heaven

\[Source: Las religiosas en sus casas, Barcelona 1850, pp. 133–134.\]

Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ and Lady of the world, who forsake no one and cast no one away: look on me, Lady, kindly with eyes of pity, and obtain for me from your Son pardon of all my sins, so that I, who now with devout affection celebrate your holy Conception, may afterwards receive the reward of beatitude, granted me by him to whom you gave birth (remaining a virgin), Jesus Christ our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns in perfect Trinity for ever and ever. Amen.

17. Visit to Most Holy Mary

\[Source: Camino recto, 33rd ed., Madrid 1859, pp. 185–188.\][1]

Hail Mary, Virgin and Mother of God! Though a miserable sinner, I come with the greatest confidence to cast myself at your most holy feet, well persuaded that it is you who by your powerful protection obtain for the human race all the graces of the Lord. You are most rich, and I a poor wretch; you are Mother, and I, though unworthy, am your child: show yourself my Mother. What mother would have the heart to let her child suffer if she could help him? And you, who are so powerful, will you not help me? Remember, O most compassionate Virgin Mary, that it has never been heard that anyone who fled to your protection and implored your help was left forsaken; and am I to be the first and only one to find closed this door that has always opened for all? But even if this should happen, I will not lose heart; rather I will cry out louder, and I will not give up until you grant me what I ask of you.[2] Yes, my Mother and Lady, hear my plea; obtain for me perseverance in holy service; and if I have the misfortune to fall into sin, which God forbid, grant that I find no rest until I make a good confession and obtain pardon for my sin.

I also ask you for the perseverance of the just and the conversion of sinners. What do you wish me to do for them? I offer myself gladly to be the instrument of their conversion.[3] Likewise I beg you for the blessed souls in purgatory; for my parents, friends, benefactors and all who have commended themselves to my prayers; for the Pope and for our Prelate, for the Cardinals, Archbishops, Bishops, parish priests and the rest of the secular clergy; for religious of both sexes, that they may all be saints and so sanctify others. At the same time I implore your favour for the spread of the holy Catholic faith, the uprooting of heresies, schisms and vices; for the Monarch and the rulers of the nation, provinces, cities and towns, that they may have all the prudence, knowledge and good judgement of Solomon, and that like him they may seek and achieve the wealth, peace and happiness of the realm;[4] and finally, I pray to you for all my neighbours, especially the sick, prisoners, exiles, travellers and seafarers, that you may grant them all the graces they need.

To bind your Heart the more, I ask you for all these graces by the love you have always had for the Most Holy Trinity, by your love for the most august Sacrament, by the love you had and have for your parents, St. Joachim and St. Anne, for your spouse St. Joseph, for the apostle St. John and for your chief devotees St. Ildephonsus, St. Dominic, St. Bonaventure, St. Bernard, St. Ignatius and St. Liguori; and if this is still not enough, I set as mediators and advocates the nine choirs of Angels, the Patriarchs and Prophets, the Apostles and Evangelists, the Martyrs, Pontiffs and Confessors, the Virgins and Widows, all the Saints of heaven and the just on earth. Yes, most holy Virgin and Mother of the Eternal Word, with such powerful backing you cannot fail to hear my pleas and to obtain for me what I ask of you. Amen, Jesus.

Three Our Fathers, Hail Marys and Glory Bes to the most blessed Trinity in thanksgiving for the graces it granted to Most Holy Mary.

18. Adoration of the Sacred Heart of Mary

\[Source: Camino recto, 1859, pp. 189–190.\][1]

I adore, O Virgin and Mother of God, your sacred Heart, together with the choir of the Principalities, and I ask you to obtain for me from your Son Jesus the grace to be always meek and humble of heart. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary.

I adore, O Virgin and Mother of God, your sacred Heart, together with the choir of the Archangels, and I beg you to obtain for me from your Son Jesus purity of body and soul and cleanness of heart. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary.

I adore, O Virgin and Mother of God, your sacred Heart, together with the choir of the Angels, and I beg you to obtain for me from your Son Jesus the grace to know how, and to be able, to practise charity, zeal and the other works of mercy towards my neighbours. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary.

19. Homage and Offerings to Most Holy Mary

\[*Source: Camino recto, 1859, p. 192.*\][1]

1. I know very well, most holy Virgin, that to be your true devotee I must abstain from all sin, imitate your virtues, frequent the holy Sacraments, present you with some acts of homage, and perform well, willingly and perseveringly, the devotions and other things of your service; and in all this I will exercise myself with your help, to please you and give you joy, my Mother.

2. Every hour I will pray a Hail Mary. Every day I will pray one part of the rosary. Every Saturday of the week I will fast, or mortify myself in something. Every first Sunday I will receive the holy Sacraments and pray the three parts of the rosary.

3. For love of you and in homage to you I will practise, as far as I am able, the fourteen works of mercy.

20. To Our Lady of Sorrows

\[*Source: Camino recto, 1859, p. 577.*\][1]

O Mary! O Mother of sorrows! Commend me to that Son of yours whom you hold dead in your arms. See his torn flesh, see his divine blood shed for me, and infer from this how pleasing it must be to him that you commend my salvation to him. My salvation consists in loving him, and you must obtain this love for me. Obtain it for me, my Mother, but a great love, an eternal love. So be it.

21. Supplication before Communion

\[*Source: Ejercicios espirituales de San Ignacio explicados, Madrid 1859, p. 426.*\]

O Virgin Mary! When you heard from the archangel that you were the one destined for the great dignity of Mother of God, you were troubled.[1] How will my soul feel on hearing and knowing that Jesus Christ, Son of the Eternal Father and Son of your virginal womb, who is in the Most Holy Sacrament, wishes to come into my poor heart? Obtain for me, my Mother, a heart meek and humble like yours,[2] so that I may be able to welcome Jesus, who so loves to dwell in hearts so disposed. Help me, assist me and accompany me, my Mother.

22. Supplication to Most Holy Mary before Communion

\[*Source: Ejercicios espirituales explicados, 1859, p. 430.*\][1]

O my Mother! Obtain for me the wine of divine love that I lack; tell your Son, who is in the Most Holy Sacrament: My Son, this poor little one has no wine;[2] and I am sure that I shall obtain it. Obtain for me also the faith of St. Peter, the love of St. John, the zeal of St. James, and the devotion of the other apostles. Adorn me, my Mother, with those virtues that you know I need in order to approach the Most Holy Sacrament in the best possible way.

23. Praises of Most Holy Mary

\[*Source: Devocionario de los párvulos, Barcelona 1860, p. 295.*\]

1. Blessed and praised be you, most holy Mary, Mother of God and our Mother.

2. Blessed and praised be you, Mary, for having been conceived in grace and without stain of original sin.

3. Blessed and praised be you, Mary, for being the most happy among all women and chosen as Mother of God.[1]

4. Blessed and praised be you, Mary, for being at once virgin and Mother of God.

5. Blessed and praised be you, Mary, for being Queen of heaven and earth and dispenser of all graces.[2]

6. All creatures, give thanks to God, for he has given us most holy Mary as our Mother, Mediatrix and Advocate, our refuge and our hope.[3]

24. Prayers to Most Holy Mary

\[*Source: Devocionario de los párvulos, 1860, pp. 297–298.*\][1]

1. O Virgin Mary, by your immaculate Conception preserve me from all evil and grant that I may never lose baptismal grace. Amen.

2. O Virgin Mary, who at three years of age were already presented in the temple and in a particular way gave yourself to the service of God, I beg you to obtain for me the grace to love and serve God from my most tender years and to persevere in this holy service. Amen.

3. O Virgin Mary, you always grew in virtue and grace; grant, I beg you, that I too may do the same, that I may always advance in perfection, and that as I grow in stature and age I may grow also in virtue and holiness. Amen.[2]

4. O Mary, you are my dear and cherished Mother; do not leave me, never abandon me; as you cared for the child Jesus, care also for me; you know well how much I need your help; I trust that you will do so, like the good mother you are. Amen.

5. O Mary, in union with the nine choirs of Angels I will pray you nine Hail Marys. Grant me, I beg you, to live like the Angels in purity and holiness; to praise you as they praise you; to serve you as they serve you; and afterwards with them, there in heaven, to love and praise you for all eternity. Amen.

25. Prayer to the Mother of God

\[*Source: Tesoro del cristiano, Madrid 1865, p. 6.*\]

Most serene Queen of the angels, Mother of God and of sinners! I, as the greatest of them, cast myself at your feet and take refuge under your sovereign protection and help on this day and on all the days of my life. Do not cast me off, my Mother; intercede for me with your most loving Son, so that, healing my soul of the many wounds my sins have opened in it, he may likewise preserve my body from all the ills to which my frailty and weakness make it liable. This I hope from you, Lady. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

26. Prayer to the Virgin

\[*Source: Semanario Católico Vasco-Navarro, 8 December 1866.*\][1]

Hail Mary, Virgin and Mother of God! Though a miserable sinner, I come with the greatest confidence to cast myself at your most holy feet, well persuaded that it is you who by your powerful protection obtain for the human race all the graces of the Lord. I ask you, Lady, for the perseverance of the just and the conversion of sinners. What do you wish me to do for them? I offer myself gladly to be the instrument of their conversion.[2] Anthony Mary, Archbishop of Trajanopolis.

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[3] *Camino recto y seguro para llegar al cielo*, 33rd edition, Madrid, Imprenta de D. E. Aguado, Pontejos 8, 1 March 1859, pp. 185–188.

[4] Cf. *Aut.*, n. 159.

[5] Cf. *Aut.*, n. 156.

[6] Cf. 1 Kgs 3.

[7] *Camino recto*, ed. cit., pp. 189–190.

[8] *Camino recto*, ed. cit., p. 192.

[9] *Camino recto*, ed. cit., p. 577: last words and death of Jesus.

[10] Cf. Lk 1:29.

[11] Cf. Mt 11:29.

[12] *Ejercicios espirituales de San Ignacio explicados* (Madrid: Aguado, 1859), p. 430: Meditation XXXIV, On the Most Holy Sacrament.

[13] Cf. Jn 2:3.

[14] Cf. Lk 1:42–45.

[15] Cf. St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori, *The Glories of Mary*, part II, disc. 5: *Obras ascéticas*, BAC (Madrid 1952), vol. I, pp. 798–799.

[16] Cf. ibid., pp. 536–559, 583–598, 648–672.

[17] *Devocionario de los párvulos*, in *Colección de opúsculos* (Barcelona: LR, 1860), vol. IV, pp. 297–298.

[18] Cf. Lk 2:52.

[1] Reproduced in EC, II, p. 1046, note.

[2] Cf. *Aut.*, n. 156.

Triduo and Last Prayers

27. Triduo to Most Holy Mary

\[Source: Triduo en obsequio a María Santísima, Barcelona 1869, pp. 5–10 and 16–23.\]

First Day

O eternal and almighty God, one in essence and three in distinct persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit! Here I am, prostrate in your divine presence with the deepest humility and due submission. Encouraged by a complete and unlimited confidence in your omnipotence and goodness, I ask you a grace in homage to most holy Mary, your Daughter, Spouse and Mother, my Mother and Lady. I ask you, my Lord and God, that most holy Mary may be known, loved, praised, served, honoured and imitated in her virtues by all Christians; that all generations may call her happy and blessed, as she herself prophesied;[1] and that she may never again be offended in word, deed or thought, whether in her most sacred person, in her most holy name, or in her venerable images. I ask this grace of you, Lord, by your sovereign power, by your infinite wisdom, by your immense goodness, and also by the superabundant merits of Jesus Christ, your divine Son, who, being God, lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Here the Our Father is prayed with all fervour.

Prayer in Honour of the Immaculate Conception of Most Holy Mary

O most blessed and most glorious Trinity! I most firmly believe all the truths you have deigned to reveal to your holy Catholic, Apostolic and Roman Church; I believe in particular that most holy Mary, your Daughter, Spouse and Mother, was conceived without stain of original sin. I rejoice, Lord, in that great and singular favour you did her and in the other graces with which you so lavishly deigned to adorn her. But, considering my inadequacy and poverty, I call upon all the choirs of Angels to help me give thanks to you, my God, for having so adorned and exalted so worthy, pure and humble a creature.

As for you, O my sweet and loving Mother, joining my unworthy voice to that of the heavenly choirs themselves, I congratulate you, I offer you the fullest felicitations for such extraordinary favours, for such singular prerogatives, especially that of your immaculate Conception, which so distinguishes and ennobles you. I also give you, Lady, the most heartfelt and affectionate thanks for all the favours you have bestowed on me and for those you never cease to pour out on all Spaniards. But alas! some of them, forgetting that with no other nation have you shown yourself so generous, have offended and ill-treated you with unheard-of ingratitude.[2] Oh, how we grieve at it! Had they been Moors or Jews, it would not surprise us; but that

Catholics and Spaniards should have done it seems impossible!

We trust in your clemency, O most compassionate Mother, in that clemency which you learned so well, as a diligent disciple, in the school of the divine Master, who by word and deed taught us all to forgive those who offend us.[3] Remember, most kind Lady, that your beloved Jesus, before expiring on the sacred wood, not only forgave those who crucified him but also, as advocate, said, interceding for them: *Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do*.[4] Forgive them you too, O Mary, our Mother and Advocate; forgive all who have offended and insulted you, and further ask God's pardon for them and for all Spaniards. Holy angels of the empyrean, praise, let us all praise the clemency, patience, pity and mercy of God! Praise too, let us all praise together the clemency, patience, pity and mercy of most holy Mary, our sweet Mother!

Second Day

Prayer in Honour of the Divine Motherhood of Most Holy Mary

O most blessed and most glorious Trinity! I most firmly believe and gladly confess that most holy Mary is the Virgin Mother of the divine Word made man, of the eternal Son of the eternal Father, of God made man in her immaculate womb, of our Lord and Redeemer. I delight, Lord, in giving you ceaseless thanks for that inestimable favour you granted your Daughter, Spouse and Mother; for that singular prerogative which cannot be shared with any other creature; for that infinite dignity whose rights the eternal Father did not disdain to share with her over the one and same person of the God-Man.

As for you, O supremely exalted Lady, I offer you, I consecrate to you my warmest and most affectionate congratulations on that most lofty and almost infinite honour to which you were raised for evermore.[5] And to congratulate you better and more worthily, I join my voice to that of all the ancient Patriarchs and Prophets, your forebears, and I invoke the help of all the holy men and women of the Old Testament, especially that of your happy parents Joachim and Anne and of your fortunate spouse Joseph, to present you heartfelt felicitations worthy of your most high dignity.

And since by it you are so rich and powerful, so compassionate and tender, I humbly beg you, Lady, to have pity on me and on all Spain, your inheritance. Forgive all those in it who have outraged you and persecuted the Church.[6] Have pity on her and on the Supreme Pontiff, Vicar of your divine Son. Obtain for us from God peace, happiness, Catholic unity, and the increase throughout the world of the Catholic, Apostolic and Roman religion. Obtain for us also from his divine Majesty that we may all and always live in perfect harmony, that we may all love one another as good brothers, since we all have the happiness of being children of one same father, who is God, and of one same mother, who is you. Do so, O good and loving Mother, for the greater glory of God, your honour and the profit of our souls. Amen.

Third Day

Prayer in Honour of the Exaltation and Coronation of Most Holy Mary

O most blessed and most glorious Trinity! I most firmly believe and confess with the greatest delight that most holy Mary is exalted in body and soul above all the choirs of Angels and that you crowned her Queen and Lady of heaven and earth. I delight, O triune God, in giving you repeated and fervent thanks for having so extraordinarily and singularly exalted and glorified your worthy Daughter, your beloved Spouse, your immaculate Mother; for having raised her so high that, as Solomon did Bathsheba,[7] you make her a sharer in the glories of your throne, and in some way share with her the sceptre of your dominion over all creation.

As for you, O heavenly Princess and worthy Queen of the whole universe, I present and render you my most heartfelt congratulations on that wealth of ineffable graces with which it pleased God to enrich you in this world, but above all in the empyrean. Oh, I take the greatest delight, my dear Mother, in contemplating you amid such happiness, glory and power. And to congratulate you better and more worthily I join my voice to

that of all the apostles, martyrs, pontiffs, doctors, confessors, virgins and widows, and I invoke the help of all the Saints of the New Testament who have been and will be until the end of the world, so that my felicitations may be more acceptable in your presence.

And since in majesty, glory and power you are inferior only to the most blessed Trinity, and since you are Queen of all the Angels and Saints, place yourself today, I beg you, at the head of them all, to win from the Most High a look of compassion upon our poor and afflicted Spain. Overlook, Lady, forgive, forget for ever the affronts and outrages you have received in her. Intercede for the Supreme Pontiff and for the whole Church. Obtain for her peace, freedom and a complete and speedy triumph over all her enemies, through their conversion to truth and justice for their eternal salvation. Pray, finally, for all of us, that we may all live cordially united, as brothers, as good and true children of yours and of the Church, in this valley of tears and miseries, and afterwards be able to sing eternally in your company the mercies of the Lord. Amen.

28. Glory to God and to Mary

\[*Source: Las dos banderas, Barcelona 1870, p. 49.*\][1]

I give you thanks, eternal Father, for the victory you give us through your Son Jesus Christ,[2] for yours must be the victory and the glory of it. I will not doubt or distrust that I shall be able to attain it.

Glory to the Father, glory to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit. Glory to most holy Mary, conceived without sin and crowned with glory in the happiness of heaven. Amen.

29. Last Aspiration

\[*Source: Las dos banderas, 1870, p. 61.*\][1]

We desire that most holy Mary, Virgin and Mother of God and of men, be known, loved, served and praised by all the creatures of heaven and earth for all eternity. Amen.

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[2] Cf. Lk 1:48.

[3] Cf. Ps 147:20: *He has not dealt thus with any other nation*.

[4] Lk 6:37: *Forgive and you will be forgiven*.

[5] Lk 23:34.

[6] Cf. St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae* I, q. 25, a. 6 ad 4.

[7] Cf. note 146.

[8] Cf. 1 Kgs 2:13–25.

[9] D. A. M. C., Librería Religiosa, Barcelona, Imprenta de Manuel Miró y D. Marsá, calle Condesa de Sobradiel 10, 1870, p. 49.

[10] 1 Cor 15:57 (Claret's note).

[1] *Las dos banderas*, ed. cit., p. 61.