

Patron Saint: African-Americans, the Enslaved, and African Missions

St. Peter Claver, born in 1581 with the Spanish name Pedro Claver y Corberó, was a Jesuit missionary who dedicated his life to helping enslaved Africans in South America. He is most known for his title as the "Patron Saint of Slaves."

It was in the year 1602 when Peter Claver entered the Society of Jesus. By the year 1610, he was sent to Cartagena and was ordained there six years later. At the time, Cartagena had a reputation for being South America's chief slave market, and living in this town allowed Peter Claver to witness the reality of slavery in the country.

Seeing the miserable conditions of enslaved people aboard ships and in the pens of Cartagena, Peter Claver



decided to take action and help alleviate their suffering. Accompanied by interpreters, he often boarded every slave ship and visited pens to bring comfort

to the terrified

captives. He personally nursed the sick, brought food to the slaves, and taught them religion.

Despite opposition from powerful officials, Peter Claver carried on with his mission for 38 years and baptized an estimated 300,000 enslaved

individuals. Witnesses say he often visited the captives on the local plantations to encourage their faith and to plead their masters to treat them humanely. During these visits, Peter Claver refused the hospitality of the plantation owners and opted to stay in the slave quarters.

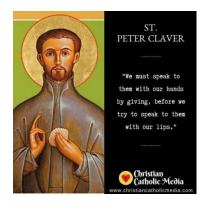
In 1896, Pope Leo XIII canonized Peter Claver and named him as patron of all Roman Catholic missions to African peoples. He was also named as the patron saint

of those in slavery and the Republic of Colombia. His feast day is celebrated September 9.

How to Pray the Chaplet of Saint Peter Claver

On the Medal Pray

Saint Peter Claver Pray for us that we will open our eyes to the many slaves in our midst today and offer them a helping hand, loving them in



deed and truth. Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is

now and ever shall be; World without end. Amen.



On the first bead of each set, Pray the Our Father

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us

this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

On the second bead of each set, Pray the Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with Thee. Blessed art Thou among women and blessed is the fruit of Thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

On the third bead of each set, Pray the Glory Be

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; World without end. Amen

On the Crucifix Pray

Lord, for love of you Saint Peter Claver became the faithful servant of slaves and strengthened him with wonderful charity and patience as he came to their help. Through his prayer help us to see the true dignity of the human family, all children of one Father and to spend ourselves for their salvation. We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

https://www.blessedbeadsrosaries.com/saint-peter-claver