

BOOKLET TO PRINT

Saint Peter Regalado

Life, prayer and novena

Feast day: March 30

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IN BRIEF

Saint Peter Regalado

Castilian Franciscan, leader of the reform of his order, patron saint of Valladolid.

Feast day	March 30, May 13 (Valladolid)
Born	1390, Valladolid, Spain
Died	March 30, 1456, La Aguilera, near Aranda de Duero, Spain
Canonized	June 29, 1746, by Pope Benedict XIV
Era	15th century
Patron saint of	Valladolid, bullfighters (in Spain)

In this booklet

Life

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Novena to Saint Peter Regalado

Credits and sources

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LIFE

Saint Peter Regalado

Saint Peter Regalado (in Spanish *San Pedro Regalado*) was a 15th-century Castilian Franciscan, born in Valladolid in 1390 and died at La Aguilera, near Aranda de Duero, on March 30, 1456. A disciple of Pedro de Villacreces, he was one of the leaders of the reform of the Franciscan order in Spain. Canonized in 1746, he is the patron saint of Valladolid. The Roman Martyrology commemorates him on March 30; Valladolid celebrates him on May 13.

Who was Saint Peter Regalado?

Peter Regalado is a much-loved saint in Castile, and above all in his hometown of Valladolid, which chose him as its patron. An austere religious, a man of prayer and silence, he devoted his life to returning to the original poverty of Saint Francis, in small, isolated friaries where the brothers lived almost like hermits.

He was also an attentive servant of the poor. During his life and after his death, many miracles were attributed to him, along with episodes of bilocation, which fed a lively popular devotion.



Saint Peter Regalado, anonymous 17th-century painting, Prado Museum.

Key dates in the life of Saint Peter Regalado

- **1390**: Born in Valladolid, on the Calle de la Platería, into a family of converts from Judaism; he is baptized in the church of El Salvador.
- **Around 1403-1404**: Still a boy, he enters the Franciscan friary of Valladolid.
- **Around 1405**: He follows Brother Pedro de Villacreces, initiator of a strict reform, to the friary of La Salceda, then to La Aguilera.
- **Around 1412**: He is ordained a priest.
- **Around 1415**: With Villacreces, he helps found the friary of El Abrojo, near Valladolid.
- **After 1422**: After the death of Villacreces, he becomes the guide of the reformed friaries of La Aguilera and El Abrojo.
- **March 30, 1456**: Dies at the friary of La Aguilera, where he is buried.

- **Late 15th century**: According to tradition, Queen Isabella the Catholic comes to pray at his tomb.
- **June 29, 1746**: Canonized by Pope Benedict XIV; the same year he becomes patron of Valladolid.

A child of Valladolid

Peter was born in 1390 in Valladolid, then one of the leading cities of Castile. His parents, Pedro Regalado and María de la Costanilla, belonged to a family of *conversos*, Jews who had become Christians. His father died when he was still a child.

From a very young age he was strongly drawn to religious life, and around the age of thirteen his mother allowed him to enter the Franciscan friary, very close to the family home.

The reform of Villacreces

At the beginning of the 15th century, the Franciscan order in Spain, as elsewhere, was experiencing a movement of return to the poverty and simplicity of its origins. Brother Pedro de Villacreces founded small, poor and remote friaries where the friars lived in silence, prayer and penance.

The young Peter followed him to La Salceda, near Tendilla, then to La Aguilera, in the province of Burgos, and helped him found the friary of El Abrojo, near Valladolid. Ordained a priest at around twenty-two, he was formed in the school of this demanding master.

When Villacreces died, Peter took charge of the reformed friaries. He governed his brothers with gentleness and firmness, insisting on prayer, silence, manual work and strict poverty. He spent long hours in prayer, slept very little and fasted often.

He was also full of kindness to the poor, giving them whatever the friary could spare. Nobles and ordinary people alike came to ask his advice.



The statue of Saint Peter Regalado, Plaza del Salvador, Valladolid.

Miracles and legends

Tradition attributes many wonders to Peter Regalado. The most famous tells that, wishing to celebrate in both the friaries of La Aguilera and El Abrojo, dozens of miles apart, he was carried from one to the other by angels. This scene is often represented in art.

Another popular tradition reports that he calmed, by his word alone, a bull that had escaped into the streets of Valladolid. This is why in Spain he is considered the patron of bullfighters. These stories, legendary in tone, express the conviction of his contemporaries that he was a man of God.

He died on March 30, 1456, at La Aguilera. His tomb became a place of pilgrimage, visited, according to tradition, by Queen Isabella the Catholic. Pope Benedict XIV canonized him in 1746, and Valladolid at once proclaimed him patron of the city and diocese.

Why is Saint Peter Regalado the patron saint of Valladolid?

He was born and baptized there, entered religious life there, and helped found the nearby friary of El Abrojo. After his canonization in 1746, the city proclaimed him its patron. Valladolid celebrates him on May 13, in memory of the translation of his remains, while the universal Church remembers him on March 30.

Peter Regalado shows the strength of a simple, hidden life. He wrote no books and did not seek fame, yet his faithfulness to prayer and poverty renewed the Franciscan order in Castile. He also reminds us that charity toward the poor cannot be separated from contemplative life. Catholics pray to him for Valladolid, for Franciscans, for the poor, and for all who work in dangerous jobs.

Symbols and how to recognize Saint Peter Regalado in art

He is shown in the brown Franciscan habit with the cord. Artists often depict him carried through the air by angels, recalling the tradition of his journeys between La Aguilera and El Abrojo.

Where to pray to Saint Peter Regalado

- **La Aguilera** (province of Burgos, Spain): the Franciscan shrine where he died and where he rests.
- **Valladolid**: the church of El Salvador, where he was baptized, with his chapel and altarpiece.
- **Valladolid**: the Plaza del Salvador, with his bronze statue unveiled in 2004.

- **Barcelona**: the basilica of Santa Maria del Pi, which has a statue of the saint.

To pray with him, use the prayer to Saint Peter Regalado or the novena to Saint Peter Regalado, which ends on his feast day.

PRAYER

Prayer to Saint Peter Regalado, Patron of Valladolid

Saint Peter Regalado, a Castilian Franciscan who died in 1456 at La Aguilera, is the patron saint of Valladolid. A man of prayer, poverty and charity toward the poor, he is also invoked in Spain by bullfighters and by those who work in dangerous jobs. Since we know of no ancient prayer bearing his name with a well-established source, this page offers an original prayer by Saintspedia.



Saint Peter Regalado, church of El Salvador, Valladolid.

Prayer to Saint Peter Regalado

Saint Peter Regalado, child of Valladolid and son of Saint Francis, you chose very young to give everything to the Lord: help me not to put off my answer to his call.

You loved silence and prayer in the poor friaries of La Aguilera and El Abrojo: teach me to make silence within myself to listen to God, and to live simply, without clinging to the goods of this world.

You shared the bread of the poor: make my heart attentive to those who are hungry, lonely or despised. Protect those who face danger every day in their work.

Watch over your city of Valladolid, its families, its sick and its young people. I also entrust to you my intention: (name it in silence). Through your intercession, may I walk with joy on the path of the Gospel. Amen.

This prayer is an original text by Saintspedia, free to use for personal and community prayer.

Intentions to pray with Saint Peter Regalado

- For the city and diocese of Valladolid.
- For Franciscans and for those seeking a simpler life.
- For the poor and those who serve them.
- For those who work in dangerous jobs.
- For religious vocations among young people.

When to pray this prayer

The Roman Martyrology remembers Saint Peter Regalado on March 30, the day of his death in 1456. Valladolid celebrates his patronal feast on May 13, in memory of the translation of his remains. You can also pray to him before a risky task or when you feel the pull to simplify your life. For nine days of prayer, see the novena to Saint Peter Regalado, and read the life of Saint Peter Regalado.

NOVENA

Novena to Saint Peter Regalado

This novena is an original composition by Saintspedia, inspired by the life of Saint Peter Regalado, Franciscan reformer and patron saint of Valladolid. It is not an official liturgical text. To end on his feast day in the Roman Martyrology, begin on March 22: the ninth day then falls on March 30, the anniversary of his death in 1456. To end on the Valladolid feast, pray it from May 5 to May 13.

Why pray this novena?

Peter Regalado's life was simple: a boy from Valladolid who gave himself to God early, a friar who loved silence and poverty, a superior who governed gently, a friend of the poor. Over nine days we follow him through these stages. This novena suits anyone who wants to simplify their life, to pray more, to serve the poor, or to entrust a dangerous task to God.

How to pray this novena

Each day, place your intention before God, read the meditation, say the prayer of the day, then pray an Our Father, a Hail Mary and a Glory Be. The suggested act carries the prayer into your day.

You may begin each day with this opening prayer: *Lord, you led Saint Peter Regalado along the path of poverty, prayer and charity. Through his intercession, simplify my heart and hear the prayer I bring you today. Amen.*

If you miss a day, simply continue where you left off.

In the spirit of the friars of La Aguilera, you might pray this novena in a quiet place, at the same time each day, and keep a moment of silence before and after the prayer. Simplicity is the heart of this saint.

Day 1: A family of converts

Peter was born in 1390 into a family of *conversos*, Jews who had become Christians. His faith had deep roots in the people of the Covenant.

Prayer: God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, thank you for the faith of Israel from which ours was born. Bless the Jewish people and all who seek you. Amen.

Today: Read a psalm slowly, as Jesus himself prayed it.

Day 2: A boy who chose God

Around thirteen, Peter entered the Franciscan friary of Valladolid. His mother, a widow, let him go. Young hearts can give themselves wholly.

Prayer: Lord, bless young people who are seeking their way. Through Saint Peter Regalado, give them courage to answer your call. Amen.

Today: Encourage a young person in their faith.

Day 3: Following a master

Peter followed Pedro de Villacreces to La Salceda and La Aguilera. He let himself be formed by a demanding guide.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for those who guide me toward you. Give me the humility to learn and to be corrected. Amen.

Today: Thank someone who has helped you grow spiritually.

Day 4: The poverty of Saint Francis

The reform of Villacreces sought a return to the poverty of Saint Francis, in small and humble friaries. Peter found freedom in having little.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you had nowhere to lay your head. Free me from the things that weigh me down, and make me rich in you. Amen.

Today: Give away something you do not need.

Day 5: The school of silence

At La Aguilera and El Abrojo, the friars lived in silence and long prayer. Peter slept little and prayed much.

Prayer: Lord, quiet the noise in me so that I can hear your voice. Teach me to pray as Saint Peter Regalado prayed. Amen.

Today: Spend fifteen minutes in silence, without your phone, before God.

Day 6: Gentle and firm

After the death of Villacreces, Peter led the reformed friaries with gentleness and firmness. He served his brothers by guiding them.

Prayer: Lord, bless all who lead communities, families and workplaces. Give them gentleness without weakness and firmness without harshness. Amen.

Today: Correct or encourage someone with kindness.

Day 7: The bread of the poor

Peter gave the poor whatever the friary could spare. Prayer and charity were, for him, one single love.

Prayer: Lord, open my eyes to those who are hungry, lonely or despised. Through Saint Peter Regalado, make me generous. Amen.

Today: Share a meal, or give to a food bank or soup kitchen.

Day 8: Protector in danger

Tradition tells that Peter calmed an escaped bull in the streets of Valladolid with a word. Spain invokes him for those who face danger.

Prayer: Lord, protect all who face danger in their work: firefighters, police officers, miners, drivers, and all who risk their lives. Through Saint Peter Regalado, keep them safe. Amen.

Today: Pray for someone whose job puts them at risk, and thank them if you can.

Day 9: A holy death

Peter died at La Aguilera on March 30, 1456. His tomb became a place of pilgrimage, and the city of Valladolid took him as its patron.

Prayer: Lord, through the intercession of Saint Peter Regalado, I bring you once more the intention of this novena. Grant it if it is your will, and grant me a peaceful and holy death. Amen.

Today: Pray for your city and its people.

Closing prayer

> *Saint Peter Regalado, son of Saint Francis and patron of Valladolid, you loved poverty, silence and the poor. Pray for us, that we may live simply, pray faithfully and serve generously. Protect those in danger, watch over your city and over all Franciscans, and lead us to the joy of the Gospel. Amen.*

This prayer is an original text by Saintspedia. Continue with the prayer to Saint Peter Regalado or read his life.

CREDITS

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