

Saint Anthony's Stamp



The devotion to the great Saint of Padua has today taken many different forms. One of these forms is to confide to Saint Anthony's care all objects that we value. We see the familiar S.A.G. (*Saint Anthony guard*) on all envelopes that reach us from the Saint's clients. Actually Saint Anthony's stamps are growing in favour and popularity. We find them everywhere. Letters and parcels are adorned with this sign of protection. It is given a place of prominence in the auto, in the carriage, and also in the sail-boat, in order to secure the protection of the great saint from all dangers in travelling. Merchants make an extensive use of it on their goods of which they wish to realize the sale, with the least possible loss and the best profits.

Every article thus marked with this stamp, means that the poor will partake of the profits. It is the work of Saint Anthony's Bread which is thus continued in a new form.

It is sometimes thought that this wonderful devotion is of recent date, yet it began many ages ago. It has simply received a fresh impetus in latter days.

A child of twenty months old, named Thomas, whose parents lived near the church of Saint Anthony in Padua, had been imprudently left alone, near a tub of water. On her return to the house, the mother found her boy had fallen head first into the water. She hastened to remove him but the body was already rigid in death. The cries and wailings of this heartbroken woman soon brought around her a number of anxious neighbours. A Franciscan Friar who was at work with some men repairing the church of the Saint, also ran to give whatever help he could