

October 2, 2007

**Death Notice No. 25 (To all Unit Administrations):**



The Province of Zaragoza, recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **MATEO VIDAL RODRÍGUEZ VELANDIA**, priest, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on September 22, 2007 in Zaragoza, Spain in the 79<sup>th</sup> year of his age and the 58<sup>th</sup> year of his religious profession.

Mateo was born in Peñacerrada (Álava, Spain) on September 16, 1929. He was a student at the Marianist Colegio Santa María, in Vitoria.

He entered the novitiate in Elorrio (Vizcaya) during the school year 1948-49, and, following his first profession, he began his scholasticate at Carabanchel (Madrid). Mateo made his Perpetual Profession in Vitoria in 1954, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1961.

He worked at various schools and parishes: Colegio Nuestra Señora del Pilar, in Valencia, the parish and school in Barcelona, Colegio Santa María del Pilar in Zaragoza, the parishes of La Chanca and Almería, Colegio Nuestra Señora del Pilar in Logroño, Colegio Bajo Aragón and the parish of Santa Cruz, in Zaragoza, the parishes of Vélez Blanco and Cañadas, in Almería, and, finally, he was sent to the community of the Provincial Administration in Zaragoza, while continuing to help out at the parish of Santa Cruz.

Mateo was a good, humble man, and a diligent worker. He possessed an affable, optimistic, and joyful personality. He was very devoted to prayer and to the Blessed Virgin Mary. He knew how to enjoy the simple pleasures of life as well. During his last years, on account of his infirmities, he suffered from many difficulties with mobility. His strength of character and zest for life (along with a desire not to be a burden to others), helped him to remain somewhat independent and to resolve many of the little difficulties all by himself. His failing health did not impede his good spirit and character. He continued to enjoy the “little” things that he could still do. He always participated in whatever he could, be it giving a class or going on an excursion. He leaves us with the memory of one who was a pious, amiable and good man; one who was very much loved by all who knew him.

May he rest in Peace!