

APRIL MESSAGE FROM FR. PAUL LANDOLFI

Did you know that...

- On April 5, 1930, **Blessed Jakob Gapp** was ordained a priest in Fribourg, Switzerland.
- On April 8, 1761, **Blessed William Joseph Chaminade** was born and baptized the same day.
- On April 11, 1986, **Venerable Faustino's** remains were transferred to the school chapel in Valencia, Spain.
- On April 16, 1910, **Blessed Joaquin Ochoa Salazar**, martyr, was born
- On April 17, 1900, **Blessed Jesus Hita** was born.
- On April 24, 1880, **Blessed Fidel Fuidio** was born and baptized.

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Blessed Carlos Erana, SM

One of our alumni at St. John's Home, **Carlos Claudio**, when he was about to leave the Home, came to say goodbye. I offered him the holy card of our three Spanish Martyrs from Ciudad Real. "Do you know that one of these is named Carlos and you can take him as your patron saint. His name was like your own. He was a martyr for Christ." Carlos accepted my simple gift as something precious and put it in his wallet. We said goodbye.

Carlos moved to Florida and for one or two years was doing very well for himself. One Sunday he went fishing with some friends. That night we received the unexpected news that he had died in a freak boating accident. A friend's line had broken loose and Carlos went into the water to retrieve it. He got it and turned around to return. Suddenly he sank. Did he have a sudden heart attack? We really don't know what happened, but Carlos died in this attempt. When they inventoried his belongings, they discovered his wallet and inside was the picture of Blessed Carlos, Jesus, and Fidel.

Reading the life of Blessed Carlos Erana, I saw many similarities with Carlos Claudio. At the Home Carlos, not the biggest or strongest, was a natural leader liked by fellow residents and staff, and even more respected by them. He was really good in sports and had a strong desire to win. But he always played fair. There was a clear sense of justice about him. He was street smart and had a lot of common sense. If you treated him with respect, he reciprocated. It was a joy to watch this young boy develop into a young mature adult.

Blessed Carlos was small and struggled with learning Spanish. He had always spoken Basque. Spanish was very difficult for him. He worked hard to master the Spanish language, received a certificate to teach Spanish and taught it in different schools. This was a great achievement for him. He was a good teacher because he understood those who had difficulty. He was reaching Spanish as a second language. For other Basques, he was able to teach them with explanations in their own language. He also was very good at sports and loved to play with the students. Though they tried to beat him, they couldn't. In the last days of his life he was going about openly and freely in the streets, encouraging and sustaining many of his fellow Marianists. He did not try to hide that he was a Marianist religious.

Our Marianist "saints" are ordinary people just like ourselves. They had the same joys and difficulties we often have. We should get to know them, talk with them, pray to them. Heaven means they are alive and still concerned about us. There are 14 whose cause is being considered. There are many, many more, who will never be acknowledged publicly but who really are with God enjoying the glory of the Resurrection. Happy Eastertide. Rejoice! The Lord is risen from the dead!

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April Update

Fr. Josemaria Salaveri corrected me that **Ven. Faustino** did not make vows the day before he died as I stated. Faustino really wanted to be a Marianist religious. He had sought permission for this. However, the permission arrived late, only after he had died. .

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Mr. Stéphane Charruau read *FamilyOnLine* about the article on **Ven. Faustino** and his influence on **Heloise**, a student at College Marianiste in Bordeaux. Stéphane is the father of Heloise. Heloise learned of Faustino at College Marianiste and joined Equipe Faustino. Faustino and his struggles with Hodgkins disease had a great influence on her own combat with illness. She is also being considered as a candidate for holiness. **Bro. Mike Galvin** translated Bulletin 28 on Faustino. It can be read in the March 14th issue of *FamilyOnLine*.

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These two intentions were sent to me and I have referred them to **Bro. Mike McAward**. Please send requests or thanks for prayers answered to Bro. Mike.

Please pray in thanksgiving that **Jack Wilson**, my brother in law, was able to get a placement in the West Babylon Rehab and Nursing Facility. It was so difficult for the

social workers to find a bed anywhere for him and then, after we prayed to the seven Spanish Marianist Martyrs and Fr. Chaminade, we not only found placement but in a facility that was also close to us so we are able to visit him. This location was beyond all our hope. Thank you. **Marie Wilson**, a member of the Siena Marianists, from New York

Please pray through the intercession of **Ven. Faustino** for **Zack Sochor** who will be going to Sloan Kettering for a new chemo treatment. If there is no positive result from this treatment the parents have decided to place him in the hospice program. Zach has been treated for cancer since he was three years old. His parents have struggled with this for 18 years. His mom Zoe, dad Steve and sister Sophia are in need of help in this situation. We are praying through the intercession of Ven. Faustino for God's mercy on this family. Submitted by **Dom** and **Helen Miranda**, Lay Marianists, and some Cape May friends

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If you wish to read more about **Blessed Carlos Erana** and the Martyrs of Ciudad Real, check out NACMS, Servant of God Series. *The Blessed Carlos, Jesus, Fidel, Marianists* by **Emilio Ortega**, SM, translated by **Fr. Thomas Thompson**

Blessed Carlos Erana, SM pray for us.