



# CAUSES MARIANISTES

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## OUR FAMILY “SAINTS” The Causes of the Saints of the Marianist Family



### Summary:

1. The shrine of our “Saints” in the chapel of the General Administration
2. Marianist Publications received
3. An Update on our Causes
4. Miscellaneous news
5. Canonizations and Beatifications of the year 2002
6. Final reflections: sanctity today

## 1. THE SHRINE OF OUR “SAINTS” IN THE CHAPEL OF THE G.A. IN ROME

The project of the renovation of the chapel in the General Administration in Rome, begun on the occasion of the Beatification of our Founder, also foresaw as a completion of the work a “Shrine of the Marianist Saints”. To do this, the General Council began a series of consultations, talking with both Marianist and outside experts. As a result, it chose the project of the architect Franco Zurlo of the *Domus Dei* in Rome which was begun by Fr. David J. Fleming in the middle of November with a meeting of the members of the World Council of the Marianist Family.

As the photo shows, it is a large rectangular area of almost eight feet with descriptive spaces alternating with decorative ones. A large bronze medallion shows the profile of the Founder and two other smaller medallions the faces of our blessed martyrs (a third medallion is available for future use).

The descriptive spaces contain the following texts in Italian: under the medallion of Fr. Chaminade: “Our work is great and marvelous. It is universal because we are missionaries of Mary to whom she repeats: ‘Do whatever He tells you’. Yes, we are all missionaries. To each of us the Blessed Virgin has confided the mission of working at the salvation of our brothers in the world.” (W. J. Chaminade)

In the lettering above to the left: “In Memory of some extraordinary examples of Marianist sanctity whose causes of beatification have been introduced:

Adele de Batz de Trenquellion (1789-1828), Foundress of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate

Marie-Therese-Charlotte de Lamourous (1754-1836), Foundress of the Sisters of the Misericorde of Bordeaux

Domingo Lazaro, S.M. (1877-1935), Educator, Provincial Superior of Spain

Faustino Perez-Manglano (1946-1963), student consecrated to Mary

In the lettering above to the right:

The Marianist Family, formed by Lay People, men and women Religious, was founded in Bordeaux after the French revolution by William Joseph Chaminade (1761-1850) to renew the faith and form missionaries of Mary for the modern world. In 1800 the Marian Sodality was established composed of groups of lay people from whom two religious families were born: The Daughters of Mary Immaculate (Marianist Sisters, Agen, 1816) and the Society of Mary (Marianist religious, Bordeaux, 1817). Today the Marianist Family is present in 35 countries of the world with its charism to “multiply Christians”, helping them to live the faith with all means possible and integrate it into the cultural and human development of society.”

## 2. MARIANIST PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED (Titles translated to English)

- Eduardo Benlloch The Origins of the Marianist Family 2001
- Juan Manuel Rueda C.: W.J. Chaminade and Modern Thought 2002
- Lorenzo Amigo: Forms of Christian Life from the Marianist Charism 2002
- Paolo Riso: Blessed W. J. Chaminade, Prophet of the Laity 2002]
- Diego Tolsada: Conferences for the Formation Course 2000/2001-2002
- AA. VV.: Mary, Mother in Mission. The Marianist Charism of Blessed Chaminade. 2002 . A special number of *Ephemerides Mariologicae*, July-September, 2001
- J. B. Armbruster: The Marian Doctrine of W. J. Chaminade 2001
- Enrique Torres: *Positio* on the Life, Virtues of Fame of Sanctity of the Servant of God Domingo Lazaro Castro, S.M. (1877-1935). 2002
- Enrique Torres: Domingo Lazaro, Informative Bulletin on the Process 2002
- M. J. Bec (trans.): I, Adele; Adele recounts her life. (supplement of P.M. 115) 2002
- J. M. Salaverri: translation into Polish of The Bread and Fishes of Faustino 2001
- J. M. Salaverri: Faustino, hero of the Rosary 2002
- J. M. Salaverri: Faustino, informative leaflet no. 18 2002
- J. M. Salaverri: Faustino, informative leaflet no. 19 2003
- Olivier Glaize: Giving Meaning to His Life, the Choice of Faustino 2002
- Ann Ball (trans.): Faustino, the Boy who Made the Decisive Goal 2002
- NACMS: Marianist Soundings, vol. 6, no. 2 Spring 2002
- J. Stefanelli: Marie Therese de Lamourous: firm of hand, loving of heart 2001
- Luigi Ruggin: Marianist Marian Bibliography vol. 4 (1990-2000) 2002
- Province of France: poster of the Marianist Family 2002

### 3. UPDATE ON THE MARIANIST CAUSES

**Chaminade:** a) waiting for a positive judgment on a presumed “miraculous” cure in Peru in favor of Julissa Shelton Ruiz during 2000-2001.

b) waiting for the definitive approval by the Sacred Congregation of Cult of the Collect of the liturgy of the memorial mass

c) publication and diffusion of holy pictures and posters (50x70 cm.) with a Marianist theme.

**Adele:** a) Sr. Paolo Brivio named Viceposulator after the General Chapter

b) publication and diffusion of informative materials

**Faustino:** a) see the periodical bulletin published by Fr. Salaverri

b) The Sacred Congregation has been urged that during 2003 (with the occasion of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death and the proclamation of the Year of the Rosary) the decree of the heroicity of his virtues be published in order to give him the title of Venerable.

c) We are working to get an English version of his life

**Domingo Lazaro:** a) The *Positio* has been presented, fruit of the indefatigable work of Fr. Enrique Torres.

b) see the periodical bulletin published by Fr. Torres.

**The Spanish Martyrs:** we are awaiting the positive conclusion of the cause presented in

1996 which includes four of our martyrs (Fr. Miguel Leibar Garay, Florencio Arnaiz Cejudo, Sabino Ayastuy Errasti and Joaquín Ochoa Salazar), joined in the process of beatification of 38 Dominican martyrs, led by their ex-Master General Buenaventura Garcia Paredes (in charge of the cause). According to some indications from authorities in the Sacred Congregation, together with the Postulators concerned, the cause (which is being followed from Madrid by the ex-Postulator Fr. Enrique Torres) should conclude positively some time in 2004. Let us hope and pray.

### 4. CANONIZATIONS AND BEATIFICATIONS which took place during 2002

#### Canonizations

##### **May 16:**

Alfonso de Orozco, Spanish Augustinian (1500-1591)

Ignazio de Santhia: Italian Capuchin (1686-1770)

Umile de Bisignano: Italian Franciscan (1582-1637)

Paolina del Corazón Agonizante de Jesús, Brazilian (1865-1942)

Benedetta Cambiagio Frassinello, Italian (1791-1858)

##### **June 16:**

Pio de Pietrelcina, Italian Capuchin ((1887-1968)

##### **July 30:**

Pedro de San José de Betancurt, Franciscan layman (+1667)

##### **July 31:**

Juan Diego Cuautlatoatzin, Mexican layman (1474-1548)

##### **October 6:**

Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer, Spanish priest (1902-1975)

#### Beatifications

##### **April 14:**

Ludovico Pavoni, Italian priest, founder (1748-1849)

Gaetano Errico, Italian priest, founder (1791-1860)

Luis Variara, Columbian priest, founder (1875-1923)

María del Transito de Jesús Sacramentado, Argentinian (1821-1885)

Artemide Zatti, Salesian layman (1880-1951)

María Romero Meneses, Costa Rican Salesian religious (1902-1977)

##### **May 26:**

Kamen Vitchev, Bulgarian Assumptionist martyr (1893-1952)

Pavel Djidjov, Bulgarian Assumptionist martyr (1919-1952)

Josaphat Chichkov, Bulgarian Assumptionist martyr (1884-1952)

##### **August 1:**

Juan B. and Jacinto de los Angeles, Mexican lay martyrs (+1770)

##### **August 18:**

Zygmunt Szczesny Felinski, Polish bishop (1822-1895)

Jan Balicki, Ukranian priest (1869-1948)

Jan Beyzym, Ukranian missionary priest (1850-1912)

Sancja Szymkowiak, Polish religious (1910-1942)

#### **October 20:**

Andrea G. Longhin, Italian Capuchin bishop (1863-1936)

Marcantonio Durando, Italian missionary (1801-1880)

Liduina Meneguzzi, Italian missionary in Ethiopia (1901-1941)

Daudi Okelo, Ugandan catechist, martyr (1902c – 1918)

Jildo Irwa, Ugandan catechist, martyr (1906. – 1918)

Marie de la Passion, French foundress (1839-1945)

## **5. MISCELLANEOUS NEWS**

### Some ideas for spreading the knowledge and cult of our saints:

It is not always clear that in the various Units of the Marianist Family there is some special method for spreading the cult and knowledge of our “saints”. They should be among us and around us 1) known, 2) imitated and 3) invoked. I have asked the superiors of the Units to choose a person in charge of constantly keeping alive this interest and maintaining frequent contact with me by way of consultation, advice and asking for necessary propaganda materials. So far I have received only a few replies and am waiting for the others.

### About prayer intentions

a) The prayer intentions often sent to me and which I periodically make known to all the organisms of the Marianist Family are for obvious reasons mainly centered on the person of Blessed Chaminade. This doesn't prevent anyone in particular or a community from seeking the intercession of our other “saints”.

b) In practice this means reciting a prayer for canonization, repeated during one or more novenas.

c) God should be asked for each grace explicitly through the intercession of one “saint” only.

d) The repeated number of novenas depends on the zeal of each person, community or Unit.

The name of Fr. Chaminade. It should be noted that sometimes the name of our Founder is written completely, William, and is also abbreviated W.J. This is a tendency we must correct. Fr. Chaminade always wrote William abbreviated and Joseph completely, his confirmation name. On the feast of St. Joseph, his patron, he received the greetings of the communities. The same tradition remained with his successors. He was never called Fr. William. Officially, he was *Monsieur* Chaminade; to his disciples he was The Good Father. This title of affectionate respect has also continued in his successors.

## **6. FINAL REFLECTIONS: SANCTITY TODAY**

“Marianist Family, family of saints” is a motto which should already be familiar to us and which also explains the new title of the present bulletin. Not because we are all saints, but because we should all become saints. “If we are not saints, we are not Marianists”, Fr. Chaminade says.

Our brothers whom the Church raises to the altars are only the tip of the iceberg and form the foundations of daily Marianist sanctity on which we can build.

Spectacular and canonized sanctity, which we think of when we talk about it, is not that to which we are called, and this thinking often holds us back on the road to perfection. The example of the great saints which the Church canonizes reminds us that God also does marvelous things, above all through poor instruments like us when we put ourselves in his hands.

The sanctity of daily commitment, demanded by our Marianist religious profession, is that which is lived and proposed by our Founder of whom no spectacular happenings are recalled but which the Church has qualified as heroicity in daily life at the service of the mission received from God through Mary.

Let us also contemplate the most sublime example, that of Mary. In her most holy life there were no spectacular happenings, and yet she says, “God has done marvelous things in me and through me.”

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2003!

Fr. Antonio Solda, S.M.