

Marianists Saints Project:

By Bro. David Betz

I would like to extend my gratitude to you for reading my reflections about our Marianist saints. It has been a pleasure looking at various themes and then looking at what our Marianists saints have said and believed concerning these themes. Granted, most of the reflections dealt with Blessed Chaminade and Blessed Adèle since we have more letters and other writings from them compared to other Marianist saints. But all of our saints are important because of the holiness and faithfulness that they have demonstrated throughout their lives. It is because of this holiness and faithfulness that the Church has formally recognized them as part of the Communion of Saints.

Let me remind you again that at this time there are 10 Marianists who have been beatified: Fr. William Joseph Chaminade (Founder), Mother Adèle de Batz de Trenquelléon (Founder), Fr. Jakob Gapp (Austrian Martyr), Bro. Carlos Eraña (Spanish Martyr), Bro. Jesús Hita (Spanish Martyr), Bro. Fidel Fuidio (Spanish Martyr), Fr. Miquel Liebar (Spanish Martyr), Bro. Florencio Arnáiz (Spanish Martyr), Bro. Joaquín Ochoa (Spanish Martyr), and Bro. Sabino Ayastuy (Spanish Martyr).

There are three Marianists who have been declared Venerable: Mother Marie Thérèse de Lamourous (Marinaist Lay Collaborator), Faustino Pérez-Manglano (Spanish Marianist Religious Aspirant), and Fr. Domino Lázaro (Spanish Educator)

We have two Marianists who have been declared Servants of God: Fr. Vincente López de Uralde (Spanish Spiritual Confessor) and Bro.Juan Vergareche (Spanish Martyr)

Finally, we have a Colombian Marianist, Bro. Miguel Quiroga, a young Marianist religious who was murdered protecting a group of workers. His cause has recently been opened.

As you see we have a number of Marianist witnesses who can be intercessors for us especially when we seek God's grace and loving embrace in our lives. As a Marianist

Family we are being called to seek ways to promote our Marianist Saints so that one day we may see these holy witnesses canonized.

I am attaching a <u>link to a letter</u> that I recently received from Fr. Eddie Alexandre, S.M. who is assisting Fr. Antonio Gascon, SM, who is the Postulator General. Fr. Antonnio is responsible for promoting the causes of our Marianist Saints worldwide and the units of the Society of Mary have promoters as well for which I am one of them. In this letter Fr. Alexandre is asking the units of the Society of Mary to share some initiatives that promote our Blesseds, Venerables and Servants of God. Therefore, I turn to you, the readers of my reflections, to assist me in developing possible activities or avenues to promote our Marianists Saints. I am calling on your creative endeavors to aid this project. Please send me your ideas at <u>dkbetzsm@yahoo.com</u> by August 1, 2021. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Peace, Bro. David Betz, SM