

The Cause of Miguel Ángel Quiroga



The Diocese of Quibdó is eagerly awaiting the opening of the Cause of the young Marianist religious Miguel Ángel Quiroga (Michel), murdered by paramilitaries in Lloró (Colombia), in 1998, because he defended a group of catechists in the parish. We received this good news from Father Carlos Julio Barragán, S.M., following his visit last March 28 and 29 to the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Quibdó, Monsignor Mario Álvarez.

Fr. Carlos had an initial personal meeting with Monsignor Mario Alvarez on March 28. The following day, he met with Monsignor Alvarez and the theologian and historian consultants of the Diocese. At this meeting, the consultants asked Father Carlos to give an account of Michel's life and the importance of continuing the Cause of "offering of life in an act of heroic charity" of our brother for the Diocese, the Marianists and the entire Church. Carlos Julio detailed all the steps taken so far in the Cause, the contents of the Supplex Libellus delivered some time ago to the then Bishop Mons. Barreto and the steps to be taken from now on.

Although Monsignor Alvarez cannot open the Cause because he is the Apostolic Administrator, all those present at the March 29 meeting expressed the firm desire to inform the new Bishop, when he is appointed, of the importance of this Cause of Michel. All have expressed their strong desire to support the Cause and understand the great importance of bringing it to a successful conclusion. All participants left the meeting in high spirits. Now we must wait for the appointment of the new Bishop of Quibdó, who, we hope, will name the Diocesan Tribunal that will investigate the Cause.

Monsignor Mario Alvarez, both in the meeting with his consultants and in his homily at the March 29 Mass in the Cathedral of Quibdó, shared with everyone his firm conviction that it is worthwhile to continue supporting Michel's Cause and the testimony of his life offered for the good of others. In his homily, Monsignor gave a beautiful portrait of Michel's life and his violent death defending a group of catechists from paramilitaries in an act of heroic charity. At the end, there was a great applause from all the faithful that resounded throughout the Cathedral. So, dear brothers and sisters, we go forward with this Cause.