Spain: Beatification of Lay Martyr Mariano Mullerat i Soldevila

I especially call you to pray this Prayer for Europe on or around the feast of Saint Catherine of Siena on 29 April.
FRATRES ORDINIS PRAEDICATORUM
Curia Generalitiae

Rome, 26 March 2019

Prot. 50/19/211 Varia Europe

Dear brothers and sisters of the Dominican Family in Europe,

During my recent meetings with you, you have sometimes expressed your concern for the current development within the European society. In the places where Christ sends you to preach, in the stories entrusted to you by those you meet, through the news you receive in the media, you are witnesses to situations that appear to you to be contrary to the message of the Gospel and the social doctrine of the Church. This context worries and questions you. The colloquium on the Order’s preaching, which took place in Cologne last October, was entitled Holy Preaching: Our Challenge in a Fragile Europe. Our dear brothers in Ukraine are living today in a context of serious conflict. All this leads you to worry about peace and justice on the European continent.

Our Dominican tradition is rich in personalities who in various ways have carried the evangelical message of peace and justice in their apostolate. It suffices to mention here the names of Bartolomé de las Casas, Jean-Joseph Lataste, Giorgio La Pira, Vincent McNabb, Louis-Joseph Lebret, Patrik Kužela, Aurelius Arkenau, Mikuláš Lexmann, Dominique Pire, Michał Czartoryski, Hijacint Bošković, Anna Abrikosova and many others. During her short life, Catherine of Siena also tried to bring a message of peace, both within the Church and in society. It is therefore no surprise that she was chosen as one of the co-patrons of Europe, a continent whose history is marked by so many tears and conflicts between peoples.

In response to these concerns and to the Order’s commitment to justice and peace, and at this time in history when Europe appears to suffer divisions, Dominican brothers and sisters have taken two initiatives that I want to support by this letter. On the one hand, European promoters of Justice and Peace have published a text to raise our awareness to the challenges for society in Europe. On the other hand, a group of brothers and sisters prepared a prayer for Europe, entrusting the inhabitants of our continent to God through the intercession of Saint Catherine of Siena. You will find these two documents attached to this message as well as on www.op.org. I invite you to spread them, if needed by translating them into your local language, and to use them as widely as possible, among the communities of the Dominican family, among all those who attend our churches, chaplaincies, schools and among those you encounter in your activities. I also invite you to publish them on your respective websites.

I especially call you to pray this Prayer for Europe on or around the feast of Saint Catherine of Siena on 29 April.

Allow me to repeat here the heart’s call which our brother Ludwik Wisniewski made during his tribute to Pawel Adamowicz, mayor of Gdansk, murdered on January 14th 2019: We must stop with hate speech, contempt, unfounded accusations. We will no longer be indifferent to the poison of hatred that is rampant in the streets, in the media, on the internet, in schools, in Parliament, but also in the churches. Those who speak the language of hatred and make a career out of lies cannot exercise high responsibilities. These words call each of us to conversion and to responsibility so that individually and as a Dominican family, we may be worthy messengers of the Prince of Peace.

In union of prayer, I wish you a joyful journey towards Easter,

Your brother in Saint Dominic,

Bruno Cadoré OP
Master of the Order of Preachers
New Vice Provincial of Ibn-e-Mariam, Pakistan

Fr. Younas Shahzad as the new Vice Provincial

The Master of the Order, fr. Bruno Cadorè has confirmed last March 1, 2019 the election of fr. Younas Shahzad as the new Vice Provincial of Ibn-e-Mariam, Vice Province, Pakistan.

Fr. Younas was born on March 3, 1967 in Yousafwala, Pakistan. He entered the Dominican Order on February 1, 1991, made Solemn Profession on January 7, 1994, and was ordained to the priesthood on September 27, 1996. He obtained his Licentiate Degree in Systematic Theology from the Gregorian University in Rome last 2002. He taught Christology at the National Catholic Institute of Theology in Karachi from 2002 to 2015, and was Master of Students at the Dominican House of Studies in Karachi for 13 years. From 2015 till his election, fr. Younas served as Parish Priest of Holy Rosary Parish in Warispura of the Diocese of Faisalabad. He also served as promoter of permanent formation and economic administrator of the Vice Province for the same period. As an author, he has published five books in the Urdu language.

Fr. Younas accepted his election on March 2, 2019

Nomination of Fr. Alain ARNOULD, O.P. as the new Vicar of the Master of the Order for Santa Sabina

The Master of the Order, fr. Bruno Cadorè O.P., appointed Fr. Alain ARNOULD, O.P. as Vicar for the convent of Santa Sabina in Rome. He succeeds Fr. Viliam Doči, O.P. The Master also thanked brother Viliam for his work in the community studied Marketing and Arts History in Ghent, London and Cambridge University. He joined the Dominicans during his doctoral studies (PhD). He was part of an audacious and extraordinary project in the Province of England, with a lay community of the Cambridge Priory. No less than 6 religious vocations were born from this project, including 5 for the Dominican family.

After giving lectures at the University of London for a year, Fr. Alain joined the Belgian entity of the Order. His years of formation were spent in the following cities: Strasbourg, Froidmont, Lille and London. He made his first profession in 1994 and was ordained a priest in 1999.

In 2001, he participated in the founding of the International Priory St. Dominic in Brussels. For sixteen years, he was the Chaplain of the Artists of Brussels, which gave him the opportunity to take initiatives in visual arts, music and theatre in order to build a bridge between the Church and the Arts. He was an expert in medieval manuscripts and, thanks to this ministry, he became a passionate advocate of contemporary artistic expressions. It is certainly based on this experience of Fr. Alain that the Master of the Order had entrusted him with the coordination of the Artistic Jubilee Exhibition "Auguri" which took place in Santa Sabina,
Rome, as part of the Order's Jubilee celebrations (winter 2016) The Master of the Order, Fr. Bruno Cadoré, had nominated Fr. Alain Arnould Socius for Northwest Europe and Canada in May 2017. On March 5, his nomination was read to the community of the convent of Santa Sabina.

**Dominican Youth Movements Assembly (DYMs)**

On July 16-24, 2016, the IDYM International Meeting and Assembly 2016 was held in Toulouse, France. More than 130 young Dominicans from Asia, Africa, America and Europe attended the said gathering as we joined the whole Dominican Family in celebrating our 8th Centenary of the confirmation of the foundation of the Order.

On the last days, the IDYM Assembly, composed of country representatives, discussed and decided upon important matters of the IDYM. One of the decisions made was the nomination of three (3) possible host countries for the next meeting and assembly in 2020. Series of meetings and evaluation processes have been conducted by the IDYM Commission in this endeavor.

With this, the IDYM Commission has already come up with the decision. We are pleased to announce that the IDYM.

International Meeting and Assembly 2020 will be held in KENYA on JULY 15-23, 2020.

Please wait for further announcements regarding the details of our meeting and assembly (registration, program schedule, requirements, etc.). If you have any queries for the moment, you may contact us through Email at idym@curia.op.org or communications.idym@gmail.com or through WhatsApp at +639179682369 or +34626933329.

Please share this information to all our Dominican Family brothers and sisters, and we look forward for your support, active participation and prayers as we gather again as IDYM.
Cadoré, and presented the work of the official friars of the General Curia.

This meeting was initiated with the presence of: Olivier DE SAINT MARTIN (Toulouse), Nicolas TIXIER (France), Rómulo Vásquez GAVIDIA (Peru), Diego Orlando SERNA SALAZAR (Colombia), Jean DOUTRE (Canada), Angelik Petro KITSULA (Taiwan).

NEW BATCH OF BRETHREN TO THE MISSION STATIONS

By Br. Jose Martin L. Sibug, OP

The brethren who were recently ordained more than a year ago are now doing ministry in Calayan and Camiguin mission stations. This is part of their permanent formation program which follows their one year of assignment in a priory or house of formation. The program for the newly ordained states that “At the conclusion of their post-ordination year program, all clerical brothers shall exercise their priestly ministry in the mission stations of the Province.” As defined by Statute 54 of our Province, a mission station is “a parish accepted by our Province in a place where a convent or house of our brothers cannot yet be established”. At present, these are the parishes of St. Bartholomew in Calayan, Cagayan and St. Vincent Ferrer in Camiguin Island, Cagayan.”

The program further explains that the primary goal of sending the brothers on their 2nd year of priestly ministry in these mission stations is “to assure that all the succeeding generation of brothers in the Province would have the privilege of doing ministry in these mission stations which, due to their distance and other circumstances, are often seen as “marginal” in the life of the Province; it is, literally, ministry ad limina, i.e., going to the limits or periphery. Establishing these mission stations as integral part of the ministerial experience of all newly ordained brothers is to transform what seems peripheral into a central experience of priestly ministry for the newly ordained.”

The brethren who were recently sent to the mission stations are Br. Carlo Rey Canto, OP, Br. Stephen Mari La Ja, OP, and Br. Christopher Garinganao, OP. Br. Canto who is assigned to the Priory of the Holy Rosary in Manaoag, Pangasinan, was accompanied by the Promoter of the Missions, Br. Jose Martin

Spain: Beatification of Lay Martyr Mariano Mullerat i Soldevila

‘Exemplary Husband and Father, Engaged in Social and Political Life’

“A believer who took his Baptism seriously,” was the tribute Cardinal Angelo Becciu paid Spanish lay martyr Mariano Mullerat i Soldevila (1897-1936), father of a family, whose Beatification took place in Tarragona, Spain on March 23, 2019. A Mayor and Doctor, this martyr understood this truth: love consists in giving of oneself.”

During the ceremony, the Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints affirmed that “the summit of holiness is
reached by following the path of love: there is no other path!
At a time characterized by “a strong wave of hatred” and persecution of Christianity during the Spanish Civil War, Mariano Mullerat i Soldevila “refused to flee and stayed at his post.” “He continued to carry out his mission as Doctor in favor of the needy, with an evangelical spirit . . . Thus he became a true apostle, who spread around him the perfume of Christ’s charity.”

The Cardinal paid tribute to the layman, “exemplary student, husband, and model father, involved in social and political life to spread courageously a Christian humanism . . . a believer who took his Baptism seriously.” From the first years of his life, Blessed Mariano “understood this truth: that love consists in giving oneself.”

In his activity as Doctor, Mayor and journalist, the Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints saw “a clear and coherent Christian life. Incessantly open to the needs of others.” Mariano Mullerat i Soldevila prepared the sick for the Sacraments, and also cared for the poorest for free.

“Given the situation of religious persecution, which exploded violently in the summer of 1936, Blessed Mariano was conscious that he was risking his life, because everyone knew him, given his identity as a believer and his fervent apostolate,” continued the Cardinal, who recalled his martyrdom. “Because of his openly evangelical lifestyle, he was regarded by the militia as a” public” person, “who acted in the name of the Catholic religion. He was captured and murdered by the enemies of Christ: he paid for his faith in Jesus through arrest, imprisonment and a violent death, at 39.

Cardinal Becciu stressed: “We are very touched by the intensity of love shown by the new Blessed, who reached the utmost point in his heroic gesture of forgiving his executioners and even bending down to cure the wound of one of the two of them. He responded to violence with forgiveness, to hatred with charity.”

The Beatification of Mariano Mullerat i Soldevila, concluded the Cardinal, “should not only arouse in us a simple sentiment of admiration.” He isn’t a simple hero or a personality of a distant

### Father Frederic Ntedika Mvumbi

Father Frederic Ntedika Mvumbi
Dominican Friar
Eternal rest grant to him God. RIP.

Burial Date: Friday 15th 2019
Venue: St. Martin De Porres Priory, Kisumu

Fred was born May 2 1964 in Congo. He made his profession, November 20, 1995. He was ordained, November 14, 2000. Until his death, Fred was a member of St. Catherine of Sienna Parish Community in Kitusuru. He was an administrator and professor at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa.

Fred was suddenly taken ill morning Thursday, February 7th 2019 while on his way to work at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA), and was rushed to Nairobi Hospital’s HDU and ICU with extremely high blood pressure, and where he remained for 3 weeks in comatose until the time of death.

Afridom flash 2016
Loreto: Pope signs Apostolic Exhortation to young people

Pope Francis signs his post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation to young people,

Loreto: Pope signs Apostolic Exhortation to young people
Pope Francis signs his post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation to young people, entitled “Christ lives”, during his pastoral visit to Loreto on Monday.

By John Waters
On the Feast of the Annunciation, Pope Francis signed his Apostolic Exhortation for the Synod on Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment.

“Christus vivit – Christ lives” is a letter to the world’s young people that represents the fruit of the October Synod. The Vatican will release the full text in the near future.

The Basilica of the Holy House in Loreto contains the walls of what tradition holds to be the house in which the Virgin Mary lived when the Angel Gabriel announced that she was to give birth to Jesus.

During his visit to Loreto, Pope Francis spoke about the Exhortation and explained that there are 3 sections to the document, which mirror 3 phases of the Synod process. To explain this further, he outlined this process whilst referencing the story of the Annunciation.

“The first moment, that of listening, is manifested by the words of the angel: ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.’ It is always God who takes the initiative in calling people to follow Him”, said the Pope.

He went on to explain that young people need to find moments of quiet and stillness to listen to God’s call and that God’s voice will not be heard amongst noise and agitation.

Instead, quiet and stillness will help young people discover that “His plan for our personal and social life is not perceived by remaining on the surface, but by descending to a deeper level, where moral and spiritual forces act. It is there that Mary invites young people to come down and tune in to God’s action.”

Discernment

Then comes the phase of discernment, which is “expressed in Mary’s words: ‘How will this happen?’ Mary does not doubt; her question is not a lack of faith; on the contrary, she expresses her own desire to discover God’s ‘surprises’. In her there is attention to grasping all the demands of God’s plan for her life, to knowing it in its facets, to make one’s collaboration more responsible and complete.”

Pope Francis said this is the proper attitude with which to follow God’s call in our lives, since this attitude allows people to discover not only what God’s plan is for their lives, but also how God’s grace will help them to develop the skills and abilities needed to live out his call for them.

Decision

“Decision is the third step that characterizes every Christian vocation, and it is made explicit by Mary’s response to the angel: ‘Let it be done to me according to your word.’ Her ‘yes’ to God’s plan of salvation, implemented by means of the Incarnation, is the handing over to Him of her whole life. It is the ‘yes’ of full trust and total openness to God’s will,” said the Pope.

He highlighted the Virgin Mary as the model Christian disciple and suggested that today’s young people try to imitate her example as they search for God’s plan for their lives. The Pope pointed out that Mary had lived a multitude of family relationships.

She was a daughter, a fiancée, a bride and a mother, so all young people, no matter what their role in life and calling from God, can find an example and inspiration in here

The Dominican Charism Initiative or DCI

The Dominican Charism Initiative or DCI was launched in the context of a Charism Dialogue, February 21-23, at the Motherhouse of the Houston Dominican Sisters. This is an evolution of the project, Futuring Dominican Charism for Mission, Sisters and Lay Partners Together, funded by the GHR Foundation.

Twenty-eight Dominican sisters and lay partners engaged in energetic dialogue and creative planning over the 3 days. The participants included educators, theologians, formators, charism animators, associate directors, the Dominican Association of Secondary Schools (DASS), the Dominican Youth Movement (DYM) and 3 Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart from Zimbabwe, Zambia and Kenya and their Congregational Prioress from England. Link to Document

Andrea Wirgau, Ed.D.
Member of DCI US Planning Team
Executive Director, Dominican Association of Secondary Schools (DASS)
executivedirector@dominicanschools.org
dominicanschools.org
instagram.com/dasschools
DASS Facebook page

Completing Creation

Fr Timothy Radcliffe helps us to see the goodness of creation in our fellow ‘earthlings’

The healing of the man born blind begins in an unusual silence. The man does not ask to be healed and nor does Jesus ask him if he wants to be. The man is not yet ready to speak or to be spoken to. At that time, a blind person was seen an unfinished work of God. Jesus moulds clay, which in Hebrew is ‘adamah’, from which ‘Adam’ comes. ‘Human’ comes from humus. Jesus is completing the work of creating this ‘earthling’ and so it is appropriate that it is done on the Sabbath, when God rested after completing creation.

He is unfinished work not just because he is blind, but because he is passive and voiceless. He just sits there. When his eyes are opened, he also slowly acquires a voice. The Pharisees talk about him as if he was not really human; he is an object of conversation but not a subject. His parents refuse to consent to this annihilation of his humanity. He can speak for himself. He is of age. His first words are ‘I am’, implicitly the divine name revealed to Moses when he must lead his people into freedom. Think of all the people in our society who struggle to be heard and seen. The ‘yellow vest’ protests, whatever you think of their rightness of their cause, express that desire to be: high visibility jackets!

Once the blind man gets going it is impossible to stop him. He even teaches the Pharisees, much to their fury. So he is transformed from an inert beggar into a bold interlocutor with the religious authorities who refuses to be silenced.

So there is a subtle interplay in the text between seeing and speaking. He speaks in his own voice, standing on his own feet rather than lying by the pool, because he sees. He sees who the Pharisees are, in all their tricky evasiveness and so challenges them. He sees Jesus, and speaks the words that are the climax of the story, ‘I believe’ and worships. The renewed human being is the one who is freed to worship.

Etty Hillesum, a Dutch Jewess who died in Auschwitz, wrote: ‘A desire to kneel down sometimes pulses through my body, or rather it is as if my body had been meant and made for the act of kneeling.’ Dorothy Day noted in her diary that ‘one day, I saw Mrs. Barrett at her prayers, kneeling by her bed at ten in the morning, in the bedroom off the kitchen, and suddenly the grandeur of that act of worship.’ (sic).

This task of acting as God’s agent and bring creation to completion is ours too. His first words to the disciples are, ‘We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is still day.’ We help each other to attain the fullness
of life. We help each other to stand on our feet and also to kneel in adoration. We help each other to find a voice and to say ‘I am.’ The English Province was blessed to have had a brother called Vincent Cooke who was born blind. He never saw a human face, though when he was young he could tell whether the lights were on or not. Yet he was able to teach us to see each other, to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the brethren, the latent gifts. When we can see another’s fragile humanity and hidden goodness, we can help them to find a voice and become strong and free and let others liberate us too.

The clay that we put on each other’s eyes are words that open each other eyes to the goodness of creation, and that release us from seeing others with contempt. St Paul writes to the Ephesians: ‘Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear.’ (4.29) Faced with each other’s incompletion, do we, like the Pharisees in this story, speak words that ridicule and undermine, or words that give life and strength?

1 Sam 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a | Eph 5:8-14 | John 9:1-41
Photograph by Fr Lawrence Lew OP of a painting of 'Christ Healing the Blind' by El Greco, c.1570, in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

https://www.english.op.org/torch/completing-creation

Agenda of the Master of the Order

- 6 March: Ash Wednesday. Pope Francis presides over the celebration of the Eucharist with the imposition of ashes in Santa Sabina.
- 10 - 19 March: Canonical visit to the Province of Fr. Bartolomé de las Casas in Brazil.
- 20 - 25 March: personal meetings with newly elected provincials participating in the workshop for new provincials.
- 26 - 28 March: Interventions at the workshop for new provincials in Rome
Letter to the Dominican Family in view of the European elections, May 2019

At a recent meeting of European Friars Promoters of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation, we discussed together the importance of the forthcoming elections to the European Parliament, as did other Justice and Peace Commissions of Europe. We decided to share our concern with all the JPIC Promoters of our region. For this, we have written a text that has been sent to all Promotors to collect opinions. The final result is this letter that brings together the challenges outlined for most of us.

Circumstances remind us of our Order’s responsibility to read the signs of times in order to give our contribution to the common good. We wish to suggest some fundamental topics that may serve as a starting point for reflection in our communities and apostolate. We will list them briefly, following this methodology: to see, to judge, to act, suggesting, in the end, a reference to some witnesses in the Dominican Family.

**Migration, xenophobia and racism**

Migration is a complex epochal phenomenon. It invites us first of all to become aware of its causes: injustice, violence, and economic exploitation in countries of origin. Voluntary, safe, regular and well-managed migration contributes to development and cultural enrichment.

Migration is a call to accept the Gospel message of hospitality, of responsibility towards the most vulnerable and of openness to encounter.

To be faithful to the Gospel requires a change of mentality and lifestyle as well as the rejection of xenophobia, hostility and those forms of racism that see migrants as scapegoats for the problems of our European societies.

We suggest to let ourselves be inspired by the witness of Dominique Pire.

**Social and economic inequalities and fair distribution of goods**

Even in our European societies, we see increasing social and economic inequality and exclusion. The dominance of neoliberal financial capitalism based on the idolatry of money (cf. Evangelii Gaudium 55) promotes a throwaway culture and creates precarious living conditions and lack of decent work. Women are victims of exploitation, discrimination and violence.

This situation invites us to welcome the preaching of the prophets contained in the Church’s social teaching on just relations and decent work for every person.

We are therefore invited to show solidarity with those who suffer, to propose alternative economic and labour models that protect social rights and to promote laws that recognise these rights.

We suggest to let ourselves be inspired by the witness of Giorgio La Pira.

**Family policies and protection of life**

We see that family policies are generally inadequate when it comes to promote higher birth rates, children’s education, care of the sick and the elderly, and supporting the reconciliation of work and family life.

This situation reminds us of Jesus, who saw every person not as an object, but as a subject, and was able to welcome the others and offered his own life for our salvation.

It invites us to develop policies that promote care, the gift of oneself, solidarity and promotion of life in all its phases.

We suggest we let ourselves be inspired by the witnesses of many Dominican sisters across the world committed to the care of the weakest.

**The crisis of democracy and populisms**

We see a general crisis of constitutional democracy. Populisms promote forms of exclusionary nationalism and sometimes manipulate the Christian faith or the Human Rights while proposing simplistic solutions to complex problems.

This situation urges us to put Jesus’ call to universal brotherhood into practice.

It also invites us to address conflicts in truth, to seek ways of reconciliation, to live mercy, and to discover our identity not in opposition to the other.

We suggest we let ourselves be inspired by the witness of Blessed Pierre Claverie.

**Ecological crisis**

We are aware that we are experiencing an ecological crisis which threatens the future of our planet and future generations.
Environmental pollution, climate change and the excessive exploitation of natural resources have a profound impact on the health of populations and the integrity of Creation.

This situation invites us to welcome the Bible’s message on Creation and to gain better knowledge of the calls to action contained in the encyclical *Laudato si’,* particularly the call to ecological conversion and the protection of our common home.

It invites us to rethink our consumption patterns and take concrete action to achieve the goals outlined in the UN 2030 Agenda (17 Sustainable Development Goals).

We suggest to let ourselves be inspired by the witness of the Dominican Family Delegation to the UN in Geneva and New York and also that of our brothers and sisters in the Amazon region and other places in the world.

Our reflection should develop these points for the renewal of “a Europe capable of giving birth to a new humanism based on three capacities: the capacity to integrate, the capacity for dialogue and the capacity to generate”. (Pope Francis, Speech at the Conferral of the Charlemagne Prize, 6 May 2016).

Br. Xabier Gómez op, Regional Promoter of JPIC-Europe
Br. Alessandro Cortesi op, Promoter of JPIC, Province of St. Catherine of Siena (Italy)
Br. Ivan Attard op, Promoter of JPIC, Province of Malta

Madrid, 1 February 2019
Through the intercession of Saint Catherine of Siena and of our continent’s other patron saints, we lift up our prayer to the Lord our God.

O Father, the fount of justice, strengthen our will to build justice for all those whose paths we cross, in particular the poorest among the poor.

FOR THIS WE PRAY. LORD, HEAR US.

O Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, give us all peace of heart, and help us to work for peace in Europe and in the world today.

FOR THIS WE PRAY. LORD, HEAR US.

O Father who sent the Holy Spirit, may your divine wisdom be with those who have political, economic and cultural responsibilities in Europe. Bless all those implicated in international institutions. May they be channels of peace and of justice in the service of your Kingdom.

FOR THIS WE PRAY. LORD, HEAR US.

O Father of the Son who asks us to be one, as He was one with you, help us to build unity and concord in our families, our communities, our work-places, our cities, our countries and all over the world.

FOR THIS WE PRAY. LORD, HEAR US.

O Father, the Face of mercy and good will, render us capable, in a spirit of mutual respect, to discover the richness of diversity through imitating your love.

FOR THIS WE PRAY. LORD, HEAR US.

O Father, the fount of all love, infuse in us the courage to imitate in our daily tasks your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ who gave himself to the cross for our sake, that a culture of love might grow in our society.

FOR THIS WE PRAY. LORD, HEAR US.

From turning in on ourselves, deliver us, O Lord.
From fear of the diverse and the unknown, deliver us, O Lord.
From the spirit of division, deliver us, O Lord.
From lies and falsehood, deliver us, O Lord.
From disinterest in the common good, deliver us, O Lord.
From indifference, deliver us, O Lord.
From refusing dialogue, deliver us, O Lord.
From disdain for life, deliver us, O Lord.
From the lack of respect for Creation, deliver us, O Lord.
From the lack of hope, deliver us, O Lord.

With Saint Catherine of Siena, let us pray:

O Holy Spirit, come into my heart, by your power, O God, draw me to you and give me charity with right fear.
Protect me, Christ, from every evil thought, warm me, enflame me with your most sweet love, so that every burden will seem light to me.
My Holy Father and my sweet Lord, now help me with my acts of service.
Christ love! Amen.

“O Holy Trinity, in the light of faith, I gain wisdom in the wisdom of the Word, your Son; in the light of faith, I am strong, constant and persevering; in the light of faith, I have hope. It does not let me faint along the way....
This light shows you to me and in this light I know you, highest and infinite Good: Good above every good, joyous Good. Good beyond measure and understanding! Beauty above all beauty; Wisdom above all wisdom – indeed you are wisdom itself. You who are the angels’ food, are given to humans with burning love. You garment who cover all nakedness, pasture the starving with your sweetness, for you are sweet without bitterness.... Clothe me, clothe me with yourself, eternal Truth, so I may run the course of this mortal life in true obedience and in the light of most holy faith. With that light, I sense my soul once again becoming drunk”

Catherine of Siena, Dialogue, 167
Saint Catherine of Siena
Co-Patron Saint of Europe
1347-1380

Without a doubt, Saint Catherine came to work out a European vision of her mission, and we can say that she assimilated a European mentality in every detail in her small town of Siena. For us living in the twenty-first century, on whom the mentalities of exacerbated nationalism and of frontiers-become-barriers have been imprinted, it is hard to imagine a Europe where each person considered his or her neighbour a compatriot, a part of the same world in which one could pass freely from one country into another.

Her letters reveal a truly European action from which lessons can be drawn for civil government or for principles of a political doctrine. They contain a flavour of modernity that every sincerely democratic European could accept. Authority is but a temporary loan, and unique to the customs and mores of each country.

... For Saint Catherine, political government is a service to be rendered to a given community in brotherly love, in order to regulate one’s own disorderly passions such as egoism, vanity, greed, fear. It is a profoundly Christian doctrine, one that a mystic might dictate, but one that is also profoundly human and democratic, an anticipation of the ideal political person. Today’s Europe would recognize herself in this ensemble of constitutional principles destined to reconcile the governors with their subjects and the subjects with their governors, and to bring about the triumph of justice, the common good and peace.

MARIO CASTELLANO OP
S. Caterina da Siena e l’Europa
Gaudern Caterina 39 pp. 4. 131-14

This prayer is an initiative of Dominican brothers and sisters, 2019. Dominican General Curia, Piazza Pietro d’Illiria 1, 00153 Rome. www.op.org

IMAGE © St. Sara Benedict Pauliczek OP. The six patron saints of Europe: St. Benedict, St. Edith Stein, St. Methodius and Cyril, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Bridget of Sweden.

MUSIC: Th. David Nusz, OP

PRAYER FOR EUROPE
“Se sarete quello che dovete essere, metterete il fuoco dell’amore in tutto il mondo.”

“If you are what you ought to be, you will set the world alight with the fire of love”

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA. LETTER 269

Convento Santa Sabina (Aventino) – Piazza Pietro d’Illiria, 1 – 00153 ROMA E-mail: idi@curia.op.org. press@curia.op.org

Curia Generalizia – Fratres Ordinis Praedicatorum
La Preghiera

t.: S. Catarina da Siena
m.: D. Kusz OP
Así fue la ceremonia de beatificación del médico Mariano Mullerat i Soldevila

El médico y padre de familia, Marià Mullerat i Soldevila, asesinado en 1936 en Arbeca -Cataluña- ya es beato

El laico (dominico) y padre de familia, Marià Mullerat i Soldevila, asesinado en 1936 en Arbeca -Cataluña- por odio a la fe, ya es beato. Así lo ha declarado el cardenal Giovanni Angelo Becciu, prefecto de la Congregación para las Causas de los Santos y representante del Papa.

Un acto que ha tenido lugar este sábado, día 23 de marzo, en la Catedral de Tarragona. La misa ha sido concelebrada por el arzobispo de Tarragona, monseñor Jaume Pujol; el cardenal Lluís Martínez Sistach, arzobispo emérito de Barcelona e iniciador de la Causa diocesana para el proceso de beatificación; el cardenal Juan José Omella, arzobispo de Barcelona, la mayoría de los obispos de las diócesis con sede en Cataluña y los padres abad de Poblet y Montserrat.

También, se ha contado con la asistencia del obispo auxiliar de la archidiócesis de Madrid, Mons. Juan Antonio Martínez Camino; de representantes de la Nunciatura, los postuladores de Roma y Tarragona, miembros capitulares y numerosos sacerdotes.

El rito de la beatificación

El rito de la beatificación se ha iniciado con la petición de beatificación por parte del arzobispo de Tarragona, Mons. Jaume Pujol, y la presentación del siervo de Dios. El expostulador general de la Causa, el padre Vito P. Gómez, ha presentado a Marià Mullerat como "un fiel discípulo de Cristo desde su condición de padre de familia, profesional de la medicina, y servidor de la sociedad, el cual trabajó siempre a favor de la cultura y de la convivencia pacífica".

Además, se ha resaltado la gran estima que tenía hacia sus pacientes "a los que llevó en su corazón hasta momentos antes de su muerte. […] Contemplaba en todo el mundo el rostro de Cristo, incluso en sus perseguidores, a los que perdonó y tener la oportunidad de ayudar en las horas finales de su vida".

La memoria litúrgica del nuevo beato se celebrará el día 13 de agosto

Seguidamente, el cardenal Becciu, por mandato del Papa Francisco, ha procedido a la lectura de la Carta Apostólica, en la que el Santo Padre ha inscrito en el libro de los beatos al venerable siervo de Dios Mariano Mullerat y ha establecido que su memoria litúrgica sea cada día 13 de agosto. Esta declaración tiene lugar después de la aprobación del decreto del martirio por el papa Francisco el pasado día 7 de noviembre de 2018. Inmediatamente, con gran solemnidad, se ha descubierto la fotografía del nuevo beato, momento que ha recibido una gran ovación, y los familiares del beato, acompañados de palmas y unas pequeñas lámparas, han llevado las reliquias del mártir -un marco con la cruz que Marià Mullerat siempre llevaba en el bolsillo y tres tecas-, hasta el presbiterio.

Para el prefecto Angelo Becciu, el ejemplo de Mariano Mullerat es "un faro de luz, una insistente invitación a vivir el Evangelio de manera radical y con sencillez, ofreciendo un valiente testimonio público de la fe que
En la homilía ha destacado que, a pesar de las dificultades, tribulaciones y persecuciones con las que se encontró el beato, perseveró en el amor a Cristo y, por este motivo, la Iglesia reconoce su santidad de vida. "A la violencia respondió con el perdón y al odio, con la caridad. [...] Su martirio representa para todos un importante estímulo que impulsa a la comunidad cristiana a reavivar la misión eclesial y social, buscando siempre el bien común, la concordia y la paz", dijo. Monseñor Becciu ha finalizado sus palabras con el deseo de que «el ejemplo de santidad del nuevo beato dé abundantes frutos de vida cristiana: un amor que venza la tibieza, un entusiasmo que estimule la esperanza, un respeto que dé acogida de verdad y una generosidad que abra el corazón a las necesidades de los más pobres del mundo».

En la celebración también se ha tenido presente en la oración a los cinco hombres que murieron junto al doctor Mullerat: Josep Sans, Llorenç Segarra, Manuel Pont, Joan Gras y Llorenç Vidal.

Monseñor Jaume Pujol: "Un regalo del Señor en el final de mi pontificado"

Antes de finalizar la celebración, monseñor Jaume Pujol ha dirigido unas palabras de agradecimiento al Santo Padre Francisco, los postulador de la Causa, el padre Vito Gómez y el padre Gianni Fiesta, a la Asociación Amigos de Marià Mullerat "que tanto ha trabajado por esta Causa" y todos los que han hecho posible esta celebración. "Esta celebración quedará inscrita en la historia de esta Catedral metropolitana pero también en mi corazón. Llegando al final de mi pontificado sólo lo puedo recibir como un regalo del Señor para ti y para mí", expresó el prelado. Durante su parlamento ha dirigido una cariñosa y emotiva saludo a los familiares del beato, en especial a las tres hijas del beato que han asistido a la celebración; los hermanos arzobispos, obispos y abades, al presbiterio diocesano, a los religiosos y religiosas, a los laicos, a los fieles de Arbeka y Santa Coloma de Queralt y los médicos allí presentes, entre otros.

La solemne celebración, sostenida en los cantos por el Coro y Orquesta de los Amigos de la Catedral, ha finalizado con la oración del nuevo beato y el canto de los Gozos, con letra de Mn. Joan Roig y música de monseñor Valentí Miserachs. Por último, durante el domingo 24 de marzo, se celebró la misa de acción de gracias, presidida por el arzobispo de Tarragona, Mons. Jaume Pujol, en la iglesia parroquial de Sant Jaume Apòstol de Arbeka.