



“PURIFY MY SOUL WITH YOUR SIGHT, FOR IN YOUR PRESENCE ONLY LOVE REMAIN”

Graces and Favors

I desire to notify you two great favors that Mother Maria del Carmen has conceded me. Almost four months ago, while visiting the church of her convent in Madrid, I met the newsletter and knew about her existence. I prayed immediately for my daughter who was expecting her fourth child: she had started leaking and the doctor diagnosed prior placenta. She had had an abortion previously for the same reason. The doctor immobilized her at bed and I began to pray daily the newsletter prayer. Three months after she was fully recovered and her pregnancy continued completely all righth.

And the other favor is material: My middle son moved to Madrid with his family. He wanted to purchase a flat and gave a deposit for it, leaving him two months to obtain the credit and sign of the deed. Our surprise was total when he went to the bank to ask for the mortgage loan and they denied it as his work is temporary. I came up to Mother M^a Carmen intercession for her to help us obtain the credit to buy the house and not lose the significant deposit given. Only 10 days before the deadline my son got two credits in good conditions that allowed him not only to pay for the house, but also the rehabilitation of it.

Thank you Mother Maria del Carmen Hidalgo Caviedes!!

Juan Álvarez de Toledo (Madrid).

Newsletter



Prayer

O God, Almighty Father, you bestowed on your daughter Maria del Carmen a deep insight into the mystery of Christ Priest, so, moved by the Holy Spirit, she gave up her life in prayer and offering for the sanctification of the priests and the Church. We pray through her intercession You grant us with the grace we humbly plead, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory

(For private devotion. With ecclesiastical license)

In accordance with the decrees of Urban VIII in no way it's intended to prevent the judgment of the Church.

This prayer does not have any purpose of public worship.

To report received graces or to deliver donations:

HH. Oblatas de Cristo Sacerdote
General Aranaz, 22 - 28027 Madrid
www.oblatasdecristosacerdote.com



Servant of God

Mother María del Carmen
Hidalgo de Caviedes
y Gómez

Founder of the
Oblate Sisters of Christ Priest

2014
N.º 9





On September 14th 2013, in the cloister of Santa María de la Almudena monastery in Madrid, took place the opening of the canonization process of Mother Maria Carmen Hidalgo de Caviedes y Gomez. Cardinal Antonio Maria Rouco Varela, Archbishop of Madrid, presided over the ceremony.

Among the many attendees there were several relatives of the Servant of God. At the presidential table, besides the Cardinal, the places were occupied by Rvd. Mr. Ricardo Quintana, chief of the Causes of Saints in Madrid; Rvd. Mr. Juan José Infantes, Promoter of Justice; Rvd. Mr. Alberto Andrés Dominguez, Chancellor of the Diocesan Curia; the two actuarial notaries, Madre Maria del Mar Gomez Mañas and H. Asuncion Hernandez Hinojosa, IMO; the Postulator of the Cause, Ms. Maria de los Angeles de Santiago, and Mother Maria Pilar Adámez Diaz, General Superior of the Oblate Sisters of Christ Priest. Bishop César Franco, auxiliary of Madrid, was also present at the session.

After the oath of the court members and the signature of the minutes, Rev. Cardinal addressed to the whole assembly some words, which framed the figure of Mother Maria del Carmen in the historical context of her time and stressed the importance of her Charisma for the sanctification of priests. He finished by expressing his hope that this case comes to fruition, for the good of the whole Church. The assembly endorsed these desires with a loud applause. The event finished with the blessing of Rev. Cardinal and –it couldn't be otherwise– singing the Hymn of the Virgin of Almudena, patron of Madrid and entitle of this monastery where the Servant of God spent most of her lifetime.



A SINCERE FRIENDSHIP

"Trust, full of affection", "fruit of goodness and closeness that we have always found in you during our foundational steps" is the definition given by Madre Maria del Carmen of her friendship with Don Alvaro del Portillo. On the juncture the Opus Dei Prelate beatification, we point out their personal and epistolary relationship.



In the fifties, when some doors of the *"complicated mesh of papal Curia"* was closed for the Oblate Sisters of Christ Priest approval, the Founders found in D. Alvaro a loyal friend who helped them selflessly. Mother M^a del Carmen wrote him: *"I know you understand this anxiety. You have lived the principles of that work of God, and it's an experience you know"*. Indeed, based on his own experience, he tried to assist new ecclesial realities, and said: *"The fact that new lights kindle fills us with joy"*. The Servant of God kept always a lively gratitude to Alvaro Del Portillo who, years later, after the death of Bishop Garcia Lahiguera, offered himself to write a testimonial about the Founder of the Oblates. Bishop G^a. Lahiguera had declared in the canonization process of José-maria Escrivá de Balaguer, so Mother Maria del Carmen states that *"the knowledge of the person and his Work was reciprocal; and also together they are intercessors of their sons and daughters, while we, for filial and sacred duty, cooperate from down here for the arrival of their exaltation time"*.



One of the great efforts of Mother Maria del Carmen was the Feast of Christ the Eternal High Priest establishment in Liturgical calendar of the universal Church, and for this purpose, she sought again the cooperation of Rev. Del Portillo. On the occasion of the 1990 Bishops Synod, in which D. Alvaro was involved, she expressed through an intense exchange of letters, *"a compelling call to achieve this grace, in faith that it will be for the glory of God and the good of priests and of the whole Church"*. And then, he assures her that he really takes that desire into his heart.

Knowing the elevation of D. Alvaro to the episcopate, M. Maria del Carmen writes: *"Fullness of the Priesthood! I'm glad with all my heart. The link of the holy Priesthood that knotted the lives of our beloved and revered Founding Fathers has to be for us –each one in the place that the Church assigns us– a legacy that commit us to mutual aid to follow the footsteps of holiness that they left us."*

Now that the Church has recognized in Alvaro del Portillo the culmination of that holiness path, we expect that the same cordial collaboration with Mother Maria del Carmen continue in Heaven in the way of intercession,



MEMORIES OF THE SISTERS

Our Mother had a great heart. Some people cheated her, abusing her inclination to feel compassion before the needs she saw. I remember the case of a lady who came to the parlor and told a story that touched her. Our Mother gave some money to that woman; and so she did in successive occasions, when the lady returned for help. But certain information made her suspect of the woman. At the end, she told her: *"I give you this money as if you were Christ himself, but I think that you are cheating me"*. The woman never came back.

On journeys to the foundations she went on third class, in those rickety postwar trains. During one those trips by train, she bought a number to a man who raffled off a toy monkey, because she felt pity, and happened that she won the price; but as soon as she heard the number, she quickly gave her ballot to a child that was there. In another of those trips, she had to go along with a farmer, who was sitting on top of a loaf of bread. At lunchtime, the man took the bread, cut a few slices and offered them to our Mother. She, even being very scrupulous, ate it as sign of consideration to that man who had such courtesy with her.

By 1995, during spiritual exercises, her back went definitely twisted. Seeing her so inclined, I said: *"Mother, lean against something; don't take all the weight in vain."* She said, *"I do not take it in vain: I offer."*