



9 OCTOBER

SAINTS CYRIL, JAMES AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Martyrs
(1934)

Memoria

In 1934 Turón, a coal-mining town in the Asturias Province in Northwestern Spain, was the center of anti-government and anticlerical hostility in the years prior to the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War. The Brothers school was an irritant to the radicals in charge of the town because of the religious influence it exerted on the young. The Brothers were known to defy the ban on teaching religion and they openly escorted their students to Sunday Mass. On the First Friday of October, the authorities broke into the Brothers' house on the pretext that arms had been hidden there. Father Inocencio, a Passionist, who had come the night before, was preparing to say Mass for the Brothers. They and their chaplain were arrested, detained over the weekend without trial, and then in the middle of the night were marched out to the cemetery where they were summarily shot. It was October 9th. They were:

Br. Cirilo Bertrán (José Sanz Tejedor) the Director, 46 years old.

Br. Marciano José (Filomeno López López) the cook, was 34.

Br. Julián Alfredo (Wilfrido Fernández Zapico) was 31.

Br. Aniceto Adolfo (Manuel Seco Gutiérrez), the youngest, was 22 and still in triennial vows.

Br. Victoriano Pío (Claudio Bernabé Cano), was 29.

Br. Benjamín Julian (Vicente Alonso Andrés), was 26.

Br. Augusto Andrés (Román Martín Fernández), 24.

Br. Benito de Jesús (Héctor Valdivieso Sáez), was 24, born in Buenos Aires and is the 1st Argentinean saint.

Inocencio de la Inmaculada (Manuel Canoure Arnau) too was killed with them.

Br. Jaime Hilario (Manuel Barbal Cosan) was born on 2 January 1898 in Enviny, south of Spain. On 5 January 1937 he was given a summary trial. brought to the cemetery known as the Mount of Olives on 8 January to face execution.

Their beatification took place April 29th, 1990 by Pope John Paul II.

They were canonized November 21st, 1999 by Pope John Paul II.

MASS

Common of Martyrs: For many martyrs

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The blood of the holy Martyrs was poured out for Christ; and so they obtained rewards that last for ever.

OPENING PRAYER (COLLECT)

Lord God our Father,
who made the martyrs Saints Cyril, Jaime and Companions
witnesses to the faith in their education of children and young people,
even to the point of undergoing death;
grant by their merits and prayers
that there may greatly abound in us
dedication to the proclaiming of the Gospel
by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ.

FIRST READING

Sir 51: 1-12

I will give thanks to you, Lord and King, and praise you, God my savior, I give thanks to your name; for you have been protector and support to me, and redeemed my body from destruction, from the snare of the lying tongue, from lips that fabricate falsehood; and in the presence of those around me you have been my support, you have redeemed me, true to the greatness of your mercy and of your name, from the fangs of those who would devour me, from the hands of those seeking my life, from the many ordeals which I have endured, from the stifling heat which hemmed me in, from the heart of a fire which I had not kindled, from deep in the belly of Sheol, from the unclean tongue and the lying word the perjured tongue slandering me to the king. My soul has been close to death, my life had gone down to the brink of Sheol. They were surrounding me on every side, there was no one to support me; I looked for someone to help in vain. Then I remembered your mercy, Lord, and your deeds from earliest times, how you deliver those who wait for you patiently, and save them from the clutches of their enemies. And I sent up my plea from the earth, I begged to be delivered from death, I called on the Lord, the father of my Lord, 'Do not desert me in the days of ordeal, in the time of my helplessness against the proud. I will praise your name unceasingly, and gratefully sing its praises. And my plea was heard, for you saved me from destruction, you delivered me from that time of evil. And therefore I will thank you and praise you, and bless the name of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 31.15-16, 20, 22-25

R/. The Lord is near to those who seek refuge in him.

But I put my trust in you, Yahweh; I say, "You are my God."
My days are in your hands; rescue me
from the hands of my enemies and persecutors.

Yahweh, how great is your goodness,
reserved for those who fear you,
bestowed on those who take shelter in you,
for all mankind to see.

Blessed be Yahweh, who performs
marvels of love for me
(in a fortress-city)!
In my alarm I exclaimed,
"I have been snatched out of your sight."
Yet you heard my petition
when I called to you for help.

Love Yahweh, all you devout:
Yahweh, protector of the faithful,
will repay the arrogant with interest.
Be strong, let your heart be bold,
all you who hope in Yahweh!

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4:7-15

The one who raised the Lord Jesus to life, will raise us with Jesus in our turn.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

We are only the earthenware jars that hold this treasure, to make it clear that such an overwhelming power comes from God and not from us. We are in difficulties on all sides, but never cornered; we see no answer to our problems, but never despair; we have been persecuted, but never deserted; knocked down, but never killed; always, wherever we may be, we carry with us in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus, too, may always be seen in our body. Indeed, while we are still alive, we are consigned to our death every day, for the sake of Jesus, so that in our mortal flesh the life of Jesus, too, may be openly shown.

So death is at work in us, but life in you. But as we have the same spirit of faith that is mentioned in scripture - "I believed, therefore I spoke" - we too believe and therefore we too speak, knowing that the one who raised the Lord Jesus to life, will raise us with Jesus in our turn, and put us by his side and you with us. You see, all this is for your benefit, so that the more grace is multiplied among people, the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God. The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 12:24

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain, but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. **Alleluia.**

GOSPEL

John 12:24-26

Unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain, but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

A reading from the gospel according to John.

Jesus told his disciples: "Amen, amen, I say to you: Unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain, but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it, anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him."

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Brothers and sisters,
we implore the mercy of God through the intercession of Saints Cyril Jaime and his Companions, who testified to their own loyalty to Christ by exercising heroic charity:

R) Sanctify your people, Lord.

Intentions...

Heavenly Creator, watch over your Church which is the guardian of the gospel of your Son; may the Church always manifest the effects and the signs of holiness, in order to proclaim with the force of the Spirit the word that enlightens and saves.

Through Christ our Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Receive, o holy Father, the gifts we bring in commemoration of the martyrs St. Cyril and his companions, and grant that we, your servants, may be found steadfast in the confession of your name. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Romans 8:38-39

Neither death nor life, nor any other creature, will be able to separate us from the love of Christ.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having been fed, o Lord, by the precious Body and Blood of your only- begotten Son, we humbly pray, as we commemorate your blessed martyrs Cyril and his companions, that by persevering in love, we may remain with you, receive life from you, and be drawn to you. Through Christ our Lord.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Common of Martyrs: For many martyrs

OFFICE OF READINGS

SECOND READING

Christ must reign

From the «Homily on the Canonization by Pope John-Paul II

"Christ must reign", we heard St Paul say in the second reading. The reign of Christ is already being established on earth through service of neighbor, by fighting against evil, suffering and human misery until death is defeated. Faith in the risen Christ makes it possible for so many men and women to be dedicated and committed to transforming the world in order to restore it to the Father: so that "God will be everything to everyone".

This same commitment motivated Bro. Cirilo Bertrán and his eight companions, Brothers of the Christian Schools of Our Lady of Covadonga College. Born in Spain, and one of them in Argentina, their lives were crowned with martyrdom in Turón (Asturias) in 1934, together with the Passionist Father, Inocencio de la Inmaculada. Not afraid to shed their blood for Christ, they conquered death and now share in the glory of God's kingdom. This is why I have the joy of enrolling them among the saints today, holding them up to the universal Church as models of Christian life and our intercessors with God.

Joined with the group of martyrs of Turón is Bro. Jaime Hilario, of the same religious congregation, who was killed in Tarragona three years later. While forgiving his executioners, he said: "My friends, to die for Christ is to reign".

As witnesses recount, they all prepared for death as they had lived: with persevering prayer in a spirit of brotherhood, without hiding their religious state and with the firmness of those who know they are citizens of

heaven. They are not heroes of a human war in which they did not participate, but educators of youth. Because of their state as consecrated persons and teachers, they faced their tragic destiny as an authentic testimony of faith, giving the last lesson of their life by martyrdom.

May their example and intercession touch the entire De La Salle family and the whole Church!

RESPONSORY

Rom 8: 34-35.37

R/. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril or the sword? * In all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.

V/. Christ Jesus is at the right hand of God, interceding for us.

* In all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.

PRAYER

Lord God our Father, who made the martyrs Saints Cyril, Jaime and Companions witnesses to the faith in their education of children and young people, even to the point of undergoing death; grant by their merits and prayers that there may greatly abound in us dedication to the proclaiming of the Gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.

MORNING PRAYER

Ant. Ben. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. .(T.P.Aleluia)

CANTICLE OF ZACHARY

Lk 1: 68-79

The Messiah and his forerunner

INTERCESSIONS

Our Savior's faithfulness is mirrored in the fidelity of his witnesses who shed their blood for the word of God. Let us praise him in remembrance of them:

R) You redeemed us by your blood.

Intercessions...

Our Father.

PRAYER

Lord God our Father, who made the martyrs Saints Cyril, Jaime and Companions witnesses to the faith in their education of children and young people, even to the point of undergoing death; grant by their merits and prayers that there may greatly abound in us dedication to the proclaiming of the Gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.

EVENING PRAYER

Ant. Magn. The holy friends of Christ rejoice in heaven; they followed in his footsteps to the end. They

have shed their blood for love of him and will reign with him forever. **.(T.P.Aleluia)**

CANTICLE OF MARY

Lk 1: 46-55

Rejoicing in the spirit of the Lord

INTERCESSIONS

This is the hour when the King of martyrs offered his life in the upper room and laid it down on the cross. Let us thank him and say:

R) We praise you, O Lord

Intercessions...

Our Father

PRAYER

Lord God our Father, who made the martyrs Saints Cyril, Jaime and Companions witnesses to the faith in their education of children and young people, even to the point of undergoing death; grant by their merits and prayers that there may greatly abound in us dedication to the proclaiming of the Gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ.