

**RELIGIOUS OF THE SACRED HEARTS (SS.CC.) CONGREGATION
MARTYRS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY IN SPAIN**



Blessed Fr. Eladio



Blessed Fr. Teófilo



Blessed Fr. Gonzalo



Blessed Fr. Mario

**BEATIFICATION
October 13th 2013
in Tarragona**



Blessed Fr. Isidro



MÁRTIRES DEL SIGLO XX EN ESPAÑA



BEATIFICACIÓN
AÑO DE LA FE

TARRAGONA
2013

Victims of religious persecution in Spain (1934 - 1939)

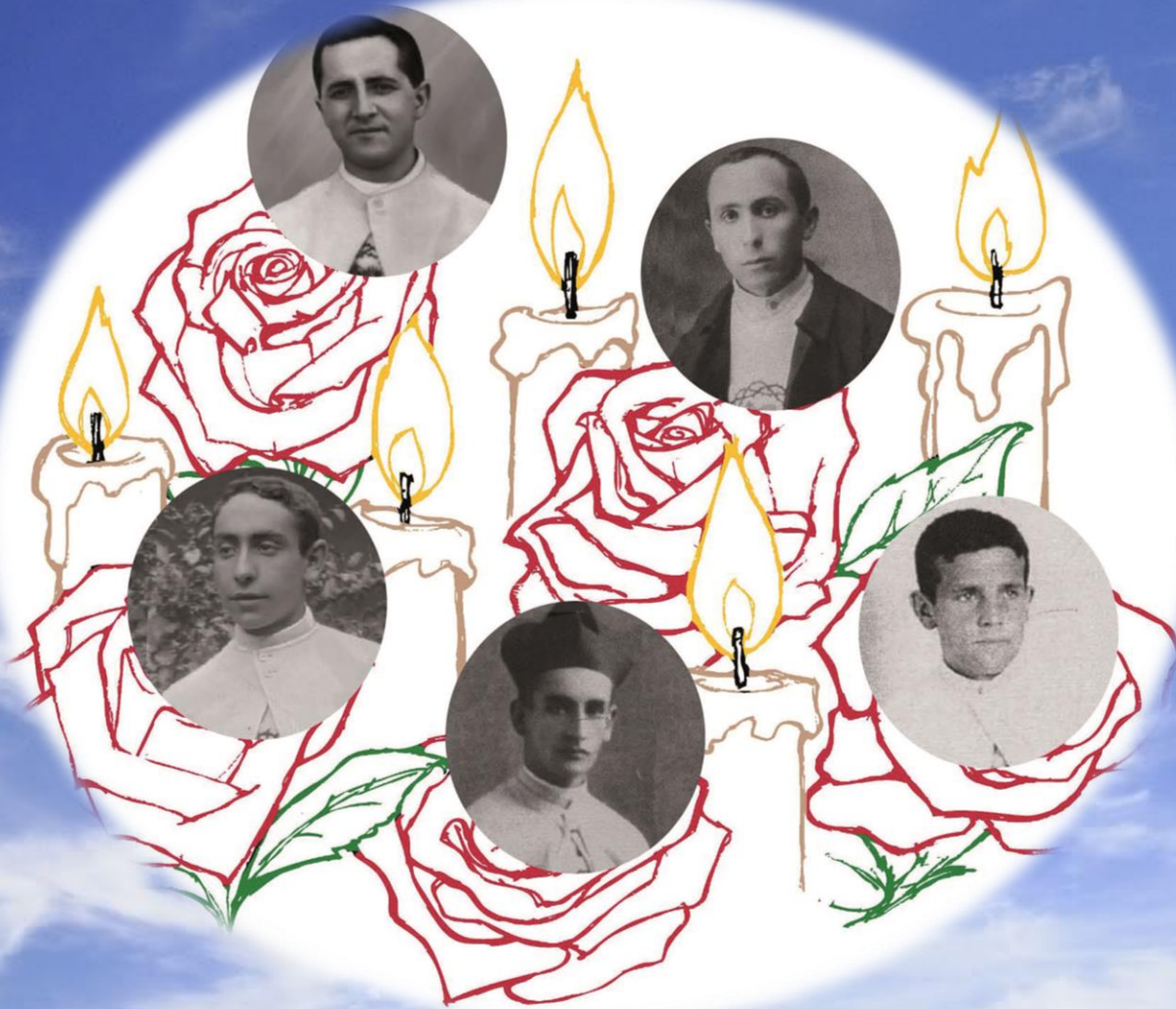
- ❖ 13 bishops**
- ❖ 4.184 priests**
- ❖ 2.365 professed religious**
- ❖ 283 nuns**
- ❖ 3000 lay (especially from Catholic Action)**

Until now have been beatified or canonized about 1000 of them.

October 13th, 2013

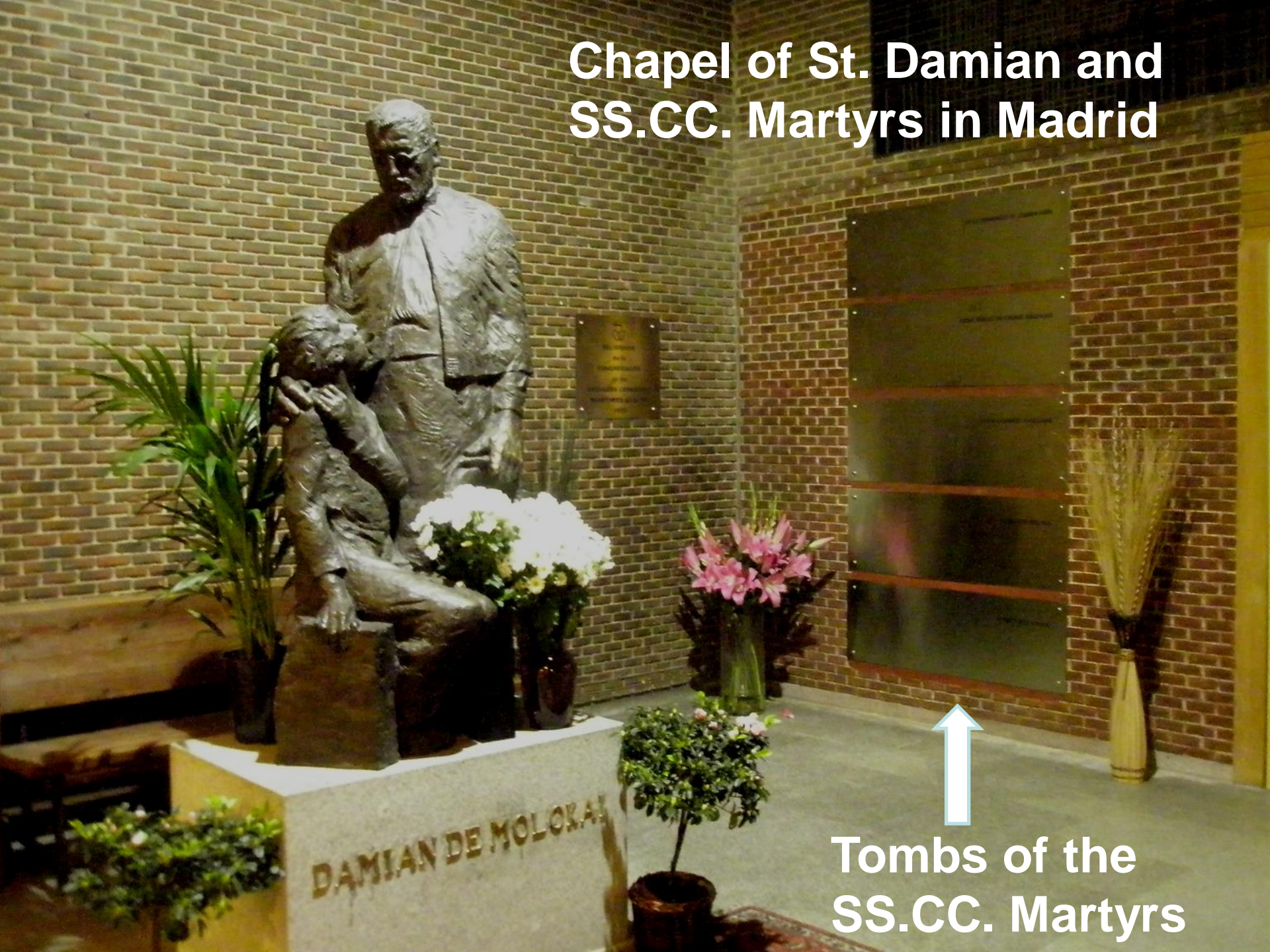
**Biggest ceremony of beatification in the
history of the Church**

**522 victims of the religious
persecution in Spain during
the 20th century will be
proclaimed Blessed**



**5 of them are religious of the
Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of
Jesus and Mary (SS.CC.)**

Chapel of St. Damian and SS.CC. Martyrs in Madrid



DAMIAN DE MOLOKAI



Tombs of the
SS.CC. Martyrs

Our SS.CC. Martyrs were killed in 1936, at the beginning of the Spanish Civil War



A background image of a bright blue sky filled with soft, white, wispy clouds. The clouds are scattered across the frame, with some appearing more dense and others more sparse. The overall tone is bright and airy.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

**Until 1931
Spain was a
catholic and
constitutional
kingdom**



**Alfonso XIII
King of Spain**



April 14th, 1931

**Proclamation of
the II Spanish
Republic and
exile of the king**

1931 – 1936

The republican regime is deteriorating from the beginning

- Public disorder**
- Anarchists Actions**
- Political violence**
- Burning of convents and churches**
- Laws against the Church**
- Expulsion of the Jesuits**
- October 1934: 34 priests are killed in the north of Spain**



1936

The marxist and radical political parties win the national elections by absolute majority.

Anarchy and violence spread throughout the country. In a few months:

- 160 churches are totally destroyed**
- Hundreds of churches and convents are attacked**
- Insecurity: fires, assaults, murders, ...**
- More than 340 workers strikes**



“We want to convert all churches around the universe in a huge sea of flames, we must destroy all religious sentiments and end the christian religion” (Largo Caballero, leader of the Socialist Party during the II Spanish Republic)





Symbolic execution of the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Cerro de los Ángeles (Madrid)

July, 18th 1936

- ❑ **Military revolt against the government of the Republic**
- ❑ **Outbreak of the Spanish Civil War**
- ❑ **The country is divided into two zones: one controlled by the Republic and another by the military rebels**





The city of Madrid was controlled by the Republic, There it developed a violent repression against the Catholic Church, accusing the Church of being enemy of the state. Thousands of defenseless priests, religious and lay are unjustly accused of supporting the rebels, and considered enemies of the republic. It's the RED TERROR.





PARACUELLOS DEL JARAMA (MADRID)

In this place more than 8000 people were executed by communist militiamen, hundreds of them were priests and religious.

THE UNCONTROLLED PERSECUTION

In the early days of the civil Spanish war, the republican militiamen detained and executed their victims without any proper court trial. Our Blessed Fr. Teófilo was executed in these conditions.



THE ORGANIZED PERSECUTION

The popular revolutionary courts installed over 200 prisons just in Madrid. There, they brought political prisoners, but also thousands of priests, religious and lay christians. Many of them were killed due to hatred of the catholic faith, although they didn't defend or hold any political ideology.



Our SS.CC. Martyrs were faithful to Jesus, the Gospel and the Church until the end. They gave their lives for the catholic faith and for the Kingdom of God, and they died proud to be sons of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.



Prayer to the Martyrs

**Oh God, you who are love,
we give you thanks for the martyrs Teófilo, Isidro,
Gonzalo, Eladio and Mario, religious priests of
the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus
and Mary and martyrs of the 20th Century in Spain.**

You filled them

**with burning zeal to proclaim your love,
manifested in the heart of your son Jesus
and in the heart of Mary,
his mother and our mother.**

**Thank you for giving them such great strength
that they were able to shed their blood
as witnesses of your love.**

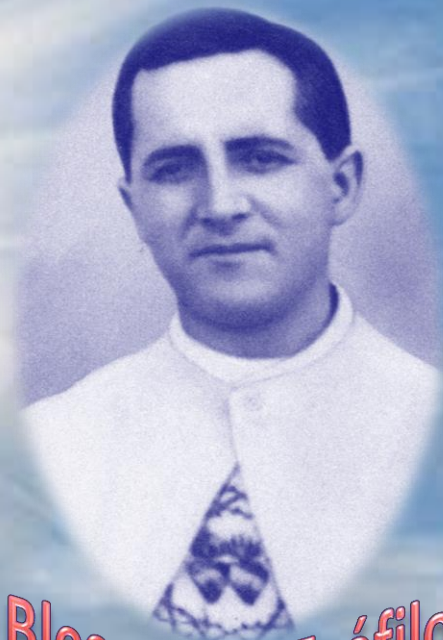
**We ask, through their intercession,
that you grant us the grace
to contemplate, live, proclaim
and be witnesses of your love.**

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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This powerpoint presentation has been translated and adapted from the original material developed by Rev. Fr. Osvaldo Aparicio ss.cc., Vicepostulator of the cause of Beatification of the Martyrs of the religious persecution in Spain and author of the book "*The religious of the Sacred Hearts Martyrs of the twentieth century in Spain*". Thank you !

