

SSCC PICPUS CHRONICLE

Beatification of 5 SSCC Martyrs in Tarragona - Spain

The Beatification Mass of 522 martyrs of the twentieth century in Spain was held on the esplanade of Tarragona Educational Complex on Sunday, 13 October 2013. Among the new Blessed are the Fr. Legaria Teofilo Fernandez de Goñi and his fellow SSCC martyrs. The ceremony was presided by Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints and Papal representative. 25,000 people have made pilgrimages to Tarragona, a city with a long tradition of martyrdom, to come to this proclamation.

25,000 pilgrims came to Tarragona, a city with long tradition of martyrdom.

Brothers and sisters of the Congregation from the Iberian Peninsula, as well as from other provinces of Europe and Latin America primarily, participated in it. Present in the event were Superiors General, Emperatriz Arrobo and Javier Alvarez-Ossorio, and also Bishop Pat Lynch ssc. As for the Provincials who came were: Nuria Arias and Enrique Losada of the Iberian Province, Jeanne Cadiou of France, and Heinz-Josef Catrein of Germany. Also present were teachers and students from schools of the Congregation in Torrelavega and Barcelona.

The solemn Mass began at 12 noon with a video projection on giant screens of Pope Francisco's address to attendees. He spoke of the martyrs as "Christians won by Christ, who have loved till the end."

He said that Christ is our "primerea" in Love. After the beatification, a prayer was said by

approaching along were the postulators of such causes, including Alfred Bell ssc.



Jaume Pujol, while the Archbishop of Tarragona, Cardinal Amato, proceeded to read out the Apostolic Letter. At 12:25, he pronounced in Latin: "Teofilo Fernandez de Legaria Goñi and 4 companions, of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary and of the Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament." After the reading, the whole assembly rose and burst into an applause, staring at the giant-graphic with the image of all the new blessed. He sang "Christus vincit" to respond the applause.

Following that, accompanied by clapping, the deacons carried the urn containing the relics of the newly beatified the presbytery. Then, the archbishop of Tarragona and the other bishops in whose dioceses were introduced 33 Causes of beatification, approached Cardinal Amato, who handed them a copy of the Apostolic Letter. Also

After the proclamation of the Word of God, Archbishop Amato emphasized the "extraordinary event of jubilant grace to the Christian community," putting the stress on them as "prophets of peace on earth."

At the end of the ceremony that lasted for over two hours, the group of brothers and sisters had lunch together and left to go back to their points of origin. The largest group, consisting of two buses, started from Madrid, concluded the day in the chapel of Saint Damien and the Martyrs, where blessed Theophilus, Isidro, Gonzalo, Mario and Eladio lay in repose. There the vice-postulator, Osvaldo Aparicio, led the prayers where the medallions of the Blessed Eustaquio and five blessed martyrs were placed. 

Fernando Cordero ssc