

Intercessions

Brothers, let us praise Christ on this day of prayer for Oblate vocations and, asking him to continue to send missionaries to our Congregation, we pray saying:

Lord, send laborers into your harvest.

Remember, Lord, your Church,

-preserve it from every evil and make it perfect in your love.

Guide our Holy Father, Pope Francis,

-protect and strengthen him with your Spirit.

Bless our Congregation,

-may we preach by word and deed "who Christ is".

Assist our Superior General,

-may he guide the Congregation in the spirit of Saint Eugene and be a sign of unity among all Oblates.

Sustain all missionaries of the Gospel,

-may they be faithful and courageous ministers of your Kingdom.

Be with our absent brothers,

-keep them always in your love.

Call others to share our life and work,

-send laborers into your harvest.

Reward those who make our life possible,

-grant eternal life to all who have done us good for your Name's sake.

With confidence and hope we pray to God: **Our Father...**

Father, generously accept the prayer that we humbly present to you and grant us missionary Oblates who are ready to give their lives totally for the salvation of the world. Through Christ our Lord.



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7 Courageous like them



Preface

More than 200 million Christians live in countries where our faith is persecuted and close to 50 million more suffer discrimination due to their religious beliefs. Because of this and, although our Pontifical Foundation lends a helping hand to the Catholic Church in 140 countries, we focus especially on 60 of them, where Christians suffer the most.

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has told us: "The risen Jesus is close to all Christians who are persecuted and discriminated against; close to each man and woman who suffers; close to all of us. Do you believe this?"

Like the ACN (Aid to the Church in Need), we believe it and experience it in the many countries we can visit. I ask that you join us in this beautiful work of sharing the faith, living the hope that is transmitted to us through the pain that is offered up and to enact charity so that many of our brethren may have worthy temples, priests and religious that support them and the means necessary for the message of Christ to reach the whole world.

Javier Menéndez Ros, Director of ACN



Prayer for Oblate Vocations

Jn 15,18-21

Jn. 15:18-21

If the world hates you, realize that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, the world would love its own; but because you do not belong to the world, and I have chosen you out of the world, the world hates you.

Remember the word I spoke to you, "No slave is greater than his master." If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.

And they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know the one who sent me.

**If they have persecuted me,
they will also persecute you**



Oblate Text for reflection

Witness about the Oblate martyrs of Pozuelo during their imprisonment.

"Regarding the life they led in jail, says a witness, I would like to indicate two aspects. One was the dedication that the religious had towards the other prisoners with regards to teaching and charity, within the limits of possibility. They tried to live a pious life, praying the Rosary.

"The second aspect was the treatment they received from their jailers. It was harsh, attempting to separate the younger ones, seeking to make them blaspheme and abandon their faith, saying among the others in the militia that if they could not succeed with the younger ones, it would be impossible with the older ones. The militiamen would say, 'There is no remedy for this'.

From the treatise "Martires Oblatos" pg. 43
Joaquín Martínez Vega, OMI

**In jail...the Oblate martyrs...
tried to lived a pious life...**