



Santa Croce



PONTIFICAL UNIVERSITY OF THE HOLY CROSS FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2003

saint Josemaría canonized

Pope John Paul II canonized Josemaría Escrivá, the founder of Opus Dei, on October 6 before a crowd overflowing St. Peter's Square. The following day, Bishop Javier Echevarría, the Prelate of Opus Dei, celebrated a Mass of thanksgiving in the same place. An outdoor audience with the Pope followed thereafter.

In his homily at the canonization Mass on October 6, the Pope said that the new saint was calling on Christians to "raise the world towards God and to transform it from within," and not to be swayed "by a materialistic culture, which threatens to dissolve the most genuine identity of the disciples of Christ."

Among the pilgrims at Saint Josemaría's canonization was the doctor whose inexplicable cure opened the doors for the Opus Dei founder to be declared a saint. Dr. Manuel Nevado Rey had chronic and incurable radiodermatitis-cancerous lesions of the hands—which disappeared after he sought Blessed Josemaría's intercession in 1992. At the canonization, the doctor said: "I am unimaginably happy. Four children and three grandchildren have come with me and my wife. I am overwhelmed when I think that at 70 years I am here, alive and kicking."

The Italian government estimated 300,000+ in attendance at the canonization. Among these

were forty-two cardinals and 470 bishops from around the world, general superiors of many orders and religious congregations, and representatives of various Catholic groups, including Carl Anderson, the Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, Kiko Argüello and Carmen Hernández, founders of the Neocatechumenal Way, Father Marcial Maciel, founder of the Legionaries of Christ and the Regnum Christi movement, and Andres Riccardi, founder of the Community of Sant'Egidio.

Hon. James Nicholson, the United States Ambassador to the Holy See, was in attendance. "I found it very moving and inspiring to see a humble priest proclaimed a saint in the presence of hundreds of thousands of people," said Mr. Nicholson. He added, "I think the message is clear: when people are living their lives in a manner where they are fulfilling their responsibilities, being good husbands, sons or daughters, they are doing something very important in God's eyes. You don't have to be a rock star or an athlete to live your life right."

St. Peter's Square was overflowing again on October 7 for the Mass of thanksgiving presided over by Bishop Javier Echevarría. He said in his homily, "When you return home, bring back with

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American Reception in Rome



Bill and Leigh Bowman enjoy the view from the roof of the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross during the American reception on October 7, 2002.

More than 50 friends and benefactors from the United States attended a reception at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross on October 7, after Saint Josemaría was canonized.

Enthusiasm was high, as earlier in the day these American pilgrims participated in the Mass of thanksgiving celebrated by Bishop Javier Echevarría, Prelate of Opus Dei.

Daryl Glick spoke on behalf of the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross Foundation in

New York, along with Msgr. Luis Clavell, Rector-Emeritus of the University and Rev. Professor Mariano Fazio, Rector of the University. Fr. Robert Gahl, Jr., Professor of Ethics (and a native of Milwaukee) commented on the University's stature in Rome and its early history.

The guests were treated to a tour of the University building, including the library. Afterwards they made their way to the roof with its panoramic view of Rome and Saint Peter's Square.




“There is no doubt our world needs the generous and faith-filled support of well-educated priests. When I visited the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross during my canonization visit to Rome, I was highly impressed with the intellectual depth and personal character of the staff. I find it easy to contribute to the PUHC Foundation since many people throughout the world benefit directly from the spiritual and intellectual formation offered by the University. The program is a jewel within the Church.”

Mr. Ed Noonan,
benefactor of
the foundation



**“An hour of study, for a modern apostle,
is an hour of prayer.”** **-saint Josemaría**



POPE JOHN PAUL II ON SAINT JOSEMARÍA ST. PETER'S SQUARE MASS OF THANKSGIVING OCTOBER 7, 2002

“We see that love for the will of God was an outstanding characteristic in the life of the Founder of Opus Dei. Here is a sure criterion of holiness: faithfulness to the fulfillment of the divine will, even down to the last consequences. For each one of us the Lord has a plan, to each one he entrusts a mission on earth. The saint cannot even conceive of himself outside God’s plan: he lives only to carry it out.

“Saint Josemaría was chosen by the Lord to proclaim the universal call to holiness and to indicate that everyday life, its customary activities, is a path towards holiness. It could be said that he was the saint of the ordinary. He was really convinced that, for whoever lives with the outlook of faith, everything offers an opportunity for a meeting with God, everything becomes a stimulus for prayer. Holiness is really placed on everyone’s doorstep.”

“Saint Josemaría was a saint of great humanity. All those who dealt with him, of whatever level of education or social condition, felt him to be a father, totally dedicated to the service of the others, because he was convinced that each soul is a mar-

velous treasure; in fact, each person is worth all the Blood of Christ. This attitude of service is plain to see in his dedication to priestly ministry and in the magnanimity with which he pushed ahead so many works of evangelization and of human development to help the poor and needy.

“The Lord made him understand deeply the gift of our divine filiation. Saint Josemaría taught us how to contemplate in God the tender face of a Father, who speaks to us through the most varied vicissitudes of life. A Father who loves us, who follows us step by step and protects us, understands us and waits for a response of love from each one of us. The consideration of this paternal presence, which accompanies him everywhere, gives the Christian an unshakable confidence; at every moment he should confide in the heavenly Father. He never feels alone, nor is he afraid. In the Cross, when it appears, he does not see a punishment but rather a mission entrusted by the Lord himself. The Christian is necessarily optimistic, because he knows that he is a son of God in Christ. Saint Josemaría was profoundly convinced that

Christian life entails a mission and an apostolate: we are in the world to save it with Christ. He loved the world passionately, with a “redemptive love” (cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 604). It is precisely for this reason that his teachings have helped so many ordinary members of the faithful discover the redemptive power of faith, its capacity to transform the earth.

“This is a message that has abundant and fruitful implications for the evangelizing mission of the Church. It fosters the Christianization of the world “from within,” showing that there can be no conflict between the divine law and the demands of genuine human progress. This saintly priest taught that Christ must be the apex of all human activity (cf. Jn 12:32). His message impels the Christian to act in places where the future of society is being shaped. From the laity’s active presence in all the professions and at the most advanced frontiers of development, there can only come a positive contribution to the strengthening of that harmony between faith and culture which is one of the great needs of our time.”

visit our new website

The Pontifical University of the Holy Cross Foundation has a new website. New features include recent news about the University, downloadable newsletters, and sections on planned giving and on-line donations.

www.universityholycross.org



holY father award to graduate of the pontifical university

Ms. Pia de Solenni, 30, of the United States, was awarded the 2001 Pontifical Academies Award for a thesis that underlines the equality of men and women based on the fact that both are made in the image and likeness of God and have the same vocation to sanctity.



Ms. de Solenni earned her doctorate from the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross.

The Holy Father said the award, which is given annually on the recommendation of the Pontifical Academies, is designed "to encourage the commitment of young scholars, artists and institutions dedicating their activity to the promotion of Christian humanism."

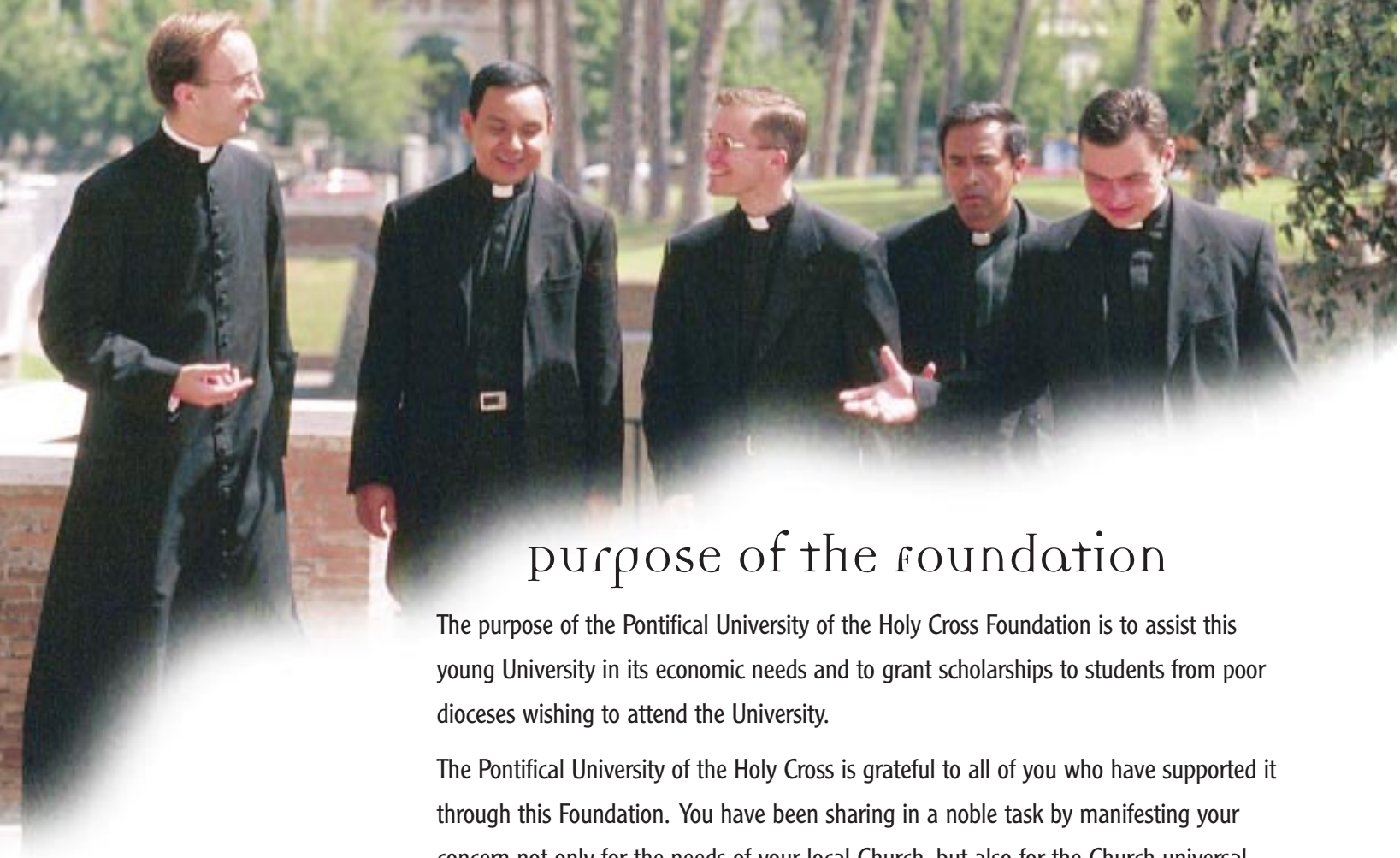
from Msgr. Luis
clavell, Rector-
emeritus of the
university



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"We are grateful to all of you for the support the Foundation has given to our students. And for the articles about the University published in the press of your country, thanks to the work of the Foundation. We are looking forward to an increase in the financial aid from the Foundation for several projects of the University in the years ahead."



purpose of the foundation

The purpose of the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross Foundation is to assist this young University in its economic needs and to grant scholarships to students from poor dioceses wishing to attend the University.

The Pontifical University of the Holy Cross is grateful to all of you who have supported it through this Foundation. You have been sharing in a noble task by manifesting your concern not only for the needs of your local Church, but also for the Church universal.

Our Lord promises great reward to those who are generous with their means.

Holy scripture (Tobias, 12) teaches us further: “Almsgiving cleanses us from our sins and obtains for us God’s mercy and eternal life.”

pontifical university of the holy cross statistics

Academic year

2002-2003

Total number of students is
1,268 from 63 countries

Americas 202	Bosnia 1	South Korea 1	Rwanda 4
Argentina 25	Croatia 8	Japan 3	Tanzania 2
Bolivia 2	Estonia 1	Kazakhstan 1	Uganda 3
Brazil 18	Finland 1	Lebanon 1	Zambia 1
Canada 3	France 10	Myanmar 1	Australia 2
Chile 12	Germany 10	Philippines 33	Students By Faculties
Columbia 12	Great Britain 5	Sri Lanka 1	Theology 351
Costa Rica 1	Holland 1	Taiwan 1	Canon Law 170
Ecuador 12	Ireland 2	Vietnam 1	Philosophy 135
El Salvador 14	Italy 642	Africa 77	Institutional
Guatemala 7	Lithuania 2	Angola 6	Communications 68
Honduras 1	Poland 36	Cameroon 4	Institute of
Mexico 39	Portugal 7	Central Africa 1	Religious
Peru 9	Romania 5	Congo 1	Science 515
United States 34	Slovak Republic 3	DR Congo 14	Other 29
Uruguay 1	Spain 155	Ghana 4	
Venezuela 12	Switzerland 4	Guinea Republic 1	
Europe 900	Ukraine 1	Ivory Coast 6	
Austria 5	Asia 87	Kenya 13	
Belgium 1	China 1	Liberia 2	
	India 43	Nigeria 15	

Bishop Javier Echevarría on the canonization of St. Josemaría Escrivá

“ For me, this is a very moving moment that is hard to describe: a moment in which I try to be very united to the Holy Father, to my brothers in the Episcopate and to the whole Church. I have lived with St. Josemaría Escrivá for 25 years. I have seen his struggle to reach sanctity in thousands of details of prayer, of charity and of Christian cheerfulness that have all welled up today in my memory. I was moved as I saw the Holy Father proclaim him a saint, this most faithful son who gave himself generously, serving the Church and all souls, and diffusing love for the Church throughout the world.

“I think that we, the faithful of the Prelature, are conscious of



our personal inadequacy. We know that we have to change a little each day, with a spiritual and human conversion that leaves us in better condition to respond well to the grace of God and also to learn from those around us. The new Saint emphasized that Christians grow with the strength of grace and with the fraternity and the example of those with whom we work and live. That is why, knowing that we need the help of others, I will have recourse to the intercession of St. Josemaría, asking that we may all experience the joy of following Jesus Christ in our daily work. And I will pray that all Christians may know how to bring the light of Christ to this world of ours that is in so much need of hope.

for further information, please contact:

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you the teachings of the new Saint and try to put them into practice. Ask Saint Josemaría to teach you to *convert the prose of each day* - your most ordinary occupations - *into poetry, into heroic verse*: into desires and deeds of holiness and apostolate.”

Following the celebration of Mass, John Paul II arrived in the square for an audience. He drove up and down the aisles, stop-

ping occasionally to wave and kiss babies passed to him. The Pope then addressed the crowd, describing Saint Josemaría as “the saint of the ordinary.” As he spoke about the new saint, John Paul II looked out at all the people from scores of countries and said that they were “a sign of the apostolic zeal that burned in the soul of St. Josemaría.”