

You can rely on our prayers so that your ministry may be fruitful and the eucharistic fire may spread to the four corners of the world.

EMMAUS CENTRE – PROVINCIAL CURIA
Bel Horizonte



Vocational House welcomes new candidates

I am **Yerson Alexander Cabrera Ramirez**, 26 years old. I come from the municipality of Victoria Valle of Cauca, with two older brothers at present living abroad. I was a soldier in the Airforce in the city of Cali. Having finished my technical diploma in hospitality and tourism, I was employed in cattle raising and construction.

I began my vocational path in the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, which I found through the vocation ministry page, and I started my vocational process with Father Alexander Espitia, the vocation promoter. We were in contact for six months, working through the points regarding vocation, carrying out this process without haste, but without pause, as the father guided me in discerning while accompanying me.

At present, I am in the house of formation in Bogotá and following studies with the CRC, while being formed within the Congregation, very encouraged and helped by the Lord and his grace to follow my vocation. Thanks and many blessings.

My name is **Fidel Zúñiga Muñoz**, 33 years old, from the department of Huila, municipality of Isnos, from a village called Belén, which is 45 minutes from the urban area. I belong to the parish of San José. In 2015 I finished high school, and I worked in agriculture, growing coffee and other work in the fields and on some occasions being a driver in public transport.

After some experiences, I began my discernment at the Conciliar Seminary of Garzón Huila, where I was accepted and in which I entered in 2019 when I began the preparatory year, and in 2020 I started the first semester of philosophy. At the beginning of the second semester, the rector of the seminary told me that I could no longer continue with my studies. It was then that a friend spoke to me about the community of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, where I am

discerning my vocation. Thank God I have entered the community, where I am now.

VOCATIONAL COMMUNITY, BOGOTÁ
NOTIBIP 67 - March 2021



Entering into the year of Saint Joseph with Saint Peter-Julian Eymard

1. Introduction

On the occasion of 150th anniversary of Saint Joseph proclaimed the Patron of the Universal Church, Pope Francis issued the Apostolic Letter *Patris corde* ('With a father's heart'), in which he decreed a **Special Year in honour of Saint Joseph from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021**.

So our contribution consists, on the one hand, in showing some similarities between the vocation of Saint Joseph and that of Saint Pierre-Julian Eymard, and, on the other hand, in drawing from this the benefits for Christian life.



2. Similarity between the vocations of Joseph and Peter-Julian Eymard

Between the two vocations there are some strong points of similarity

Joseph, a father by adoption and Peter-Julian Eymard a Blessed Sacrament father

Joseph was committed to the service of the mystery of the Redemption and of the Holy Family. He entirely dedicated himself personally, heart, intelligence and work for the benefit of the Holy Family.

Likewise, Saint Peter-Julian Eymard: father of sacramental Jesus. For, every priest, by the rite of consecration, makes Jesus truly present in the Eucharistic celebration. Saint Alphonsus de Liguori stated: "They (priests) are the active cause of the person of Jesus Christ really existing in the consecrated Host". Indeed, Joseph is: "... a father of Jesus, legal father, father by adoption, foster father. And I as a priest, I am father of the sacramental Jesus...". (Alphonsus de Liguori, *Selva*, 1, 1: 3-5. Cf. Peter-Julian Eymard, *The Retreat of Rome*, NR 44,112)

A Christian, a father of Jesus through the common priesthood

A Christian is invited to show Jesus Christ's presence both through his baptism and through the Eucharistic celebration. There he receives the strength to make real the proclamation of Salvation, to struggle against sin, to open himself to unity, and to sharing with the poor. He thus participates in the divine fatherhood: 'In a way, we are all like Joseph: a shadow of the heavenly Father, who "makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust" (Mt 5:45). And a shadow that follows his Son.' (Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*, 7)

Joseph, protector of the Holy Family, Peter-Julian Eymard, protector of the Society of the Blessed Sacrament

Saint Joseph is the protector of the divine family. He knew how to defend it, trusting and convinced that

nothing is impossible to God. He attentively looked after the Child Jesus, whose fragile condition could be overpowered at any time by the wicked. He spared Mary from being condemned by the rigour of the law regarding her alleged adultery, so as not to hinder God's design.

As regards Saint Peter-Julian Eymard, he desired to be the protector and guide of his brothers in the Society of the Sacramental Jesus. He considered it as a Mother, a servant, the family of Jesus. So he committed himself might and main to defend it and promote its dynamism and expansion.

In the same way, all Christians, called to holiness, are oriented to defending Jesus and Mary and the poor. Every Christian is invited to offer the gift of self, to creativity and to trust in God for the wellbeing of all and above all of those in need.

3. Conclusion

Many other aspects regarding the similarity between the two vocations could be indicated. Nevertheless, those presented above could offer a fine introduction to the year of Saint Joseph.

8 March 2021

FATHER THADDÉE MUPAPA, SSS
Superior



Anniversaries of Profession and Ordination in April 2021

09.04.1961	Fr. José Maria LASIERRA BERNAD	Madrid-S.de Baranda, Spain	Ordination 60
14.04.1996	Fr. Antoine MAKELA	La Mure, France	Ordination 25
27.04.1996	Fr. José Arnel MARTINEZ	Quezon-Provincialate, Philippines	Ordination 25