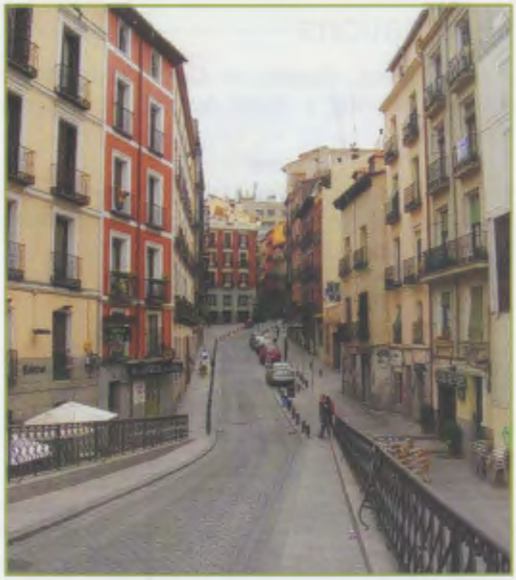
Bulletin of the Office for the Causes of Saints. Prelature of Opus Dei, Philippines. 2016. Informative Bulletin no. 11

# Care for the Needy

Guadalupe was a natural as far as teaching others to care for the needy. In Madrid, at Christmastime in 1959, she moved the hearts of friends she dealt with when she organized a big charity program so that many less-privileged people would feel the human warmth of the season. This is how she relates it in a letter to the Founder of Opus Dei, with some witty references to her heart ailment. *"For nochebuena we received donations of food bags complete with Christmas lunch and dinner (...) All the families living in the two districts where we have dispensaries (Belmonte and Valdebebas) received ham, sausages, turrones... food common to rich people. We delivered the food bags to each house. Father, I am sure you would have wanted to see how everyone collaborated (...): the truck drivers, the husbands, the boys of the district who carried the boxes full of food bags (...) We also brought some to the poor ones at the district of the Basilica of San Miguel. Those folks were increasingly amazed with each passing day. Most of the women there were almost octogenarians, many of them with heart ailments - which for me is somewhat of a guarantee that I would reach old age too. Many cried upon seeing with what affection the ladies brought them things."* (Letter to St. Josemaría, January 9, 1960).[1]



Her charity was not something momentary. The following passage illustrates her apostolic zeal to reach all sectors: *"Father, please pray a lot for the work with Cooperators. We are dealing with many people from high society, and there is so much to be done; we are also in the poorer districts where we have dispensaries and teach catechism, helping the simple folk. Today a group of girls went for a pilgrimage. They are workers between 18 and 20 years old. They usually meet on Sunday mornings for the circle in Valdebebas. One can see how they are getting closer to our Lord"* (Letter to St. Josemaría, May 25, 1959).[2]

[1] A neighborhood in the suburbs of Madrid where there was a Clinic attended to by women who frequent the Centers of the Work.

[2] Pamphlet *MC Guadalupe* written by Mercedes Eguibar, p. 57, Ed. Palabra, Madrid 2001.

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Biblioteca Virtual Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer y Opus Dei

In a few days, Guadalupe granted me three favors. First: a colleague at work got cured of a disabling back problem without need for an operation. Then, I was able to get in touch with a friend whom I have been trying to reach for a long time. Eventually, she and her family came closer to God. Finally, another friend conceived a child after many attempts. I keep on entrusting to Guadalupe the requests for prayers that others make to me, and I can't seem to get used to the effectiveness of her help.

***( L.S.A.)***

I would like to express my gratitude to Guadalupe for a favor that I received through her intercession. My daughter has been unemployed for some time and it was not easy for her to find a job since she is 50 years old and without a university degree. Now she works close to home. There were so many challenges she had to hurdle to land this job that I have begun a novena of gratitude to Guadalupe.

***( A.U., e-mail)***

When we started a university residence in Monterrey, we decided to ask the help of Guadalupe for the selection of students since she too began a similar initiative under difficult circumstances in Mexico City. Little by little we received inquiries and referrals from students with the desired background who were interested in what we had to offer. They have adjusted well and are happy being here. They have invited their friends to visit and to apply as residents.

***(M.S. Monterrey)***

I give all my grandchildren and great grandchildren a scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel so that it could be imposed on them when they are baptized. My granddaughter Monica is not married. Since she became pregnant, I have prayed to Guadalupe so that she has her child baptized. I received the favor when two months after birth, the boy was baptized and the scapular was imposed on him. I continue praying so that my granddaughter gets married.

***(B.G.I. Sevilla)***

## PRAYER

O God, you who desire that all men and women in the world be saved and reach the knowledge of the truth, grant me through the intercession of your servant Guadalupe that, like her I learn to carry out with love my ordinary work, that I be able to spread faith and joy to all the people around me so that more can know you and love you. Deign to glorify your servant Guadalupe, and through her intercession, grant me the favor I request (make your request). Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.

In conformity with the decree of Pope Urban VIII, we declare that there is no intention of anticipating in any way the judgment of the Church and that this prayer is not intended for public use.

Those who obtain favors through the intercession of Guadalupe Ortiz de Landazuri are requested to send an account of such to the Office for the Causes of Saints of the Prelature of Opus Dei, 20 Sampaguita St. cor Balete Drive, 1112 New Manila, Quezon City.
Email: ocs.ph@opusdei.org

## Publications

**M. Eguibar,** *Guadalupe Ortiz de Landázuri. Trabajo, Amistad y buen humor,* Ed. Palabra, Madrid, 2001.

*Guadalupe Ortiz de Landázuri.* Biographical documentary on DVD, *Producciones Formato*, Madrid, 2005.

### News of the Cause

The *Positio* about the life and virtues of the Servant of God has been submitted to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

Donations to help cover the expenses of the Office for the Causes of Saints of the Prelature of Opus Dei are welcome.

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