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# SERVANT OF GOD BISHOP ÁNGEL RIESCO CARBAJO

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Founder of the Secular Institute  
APOSTOLIC MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY  
**1902-1972**

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**INFORMATIVE BULLETIN**  
**FOR HIS CAUSE OF BEATIFICATION**

**Year XVII, No. 47**

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# EXCELLENT PARISH PRIEST AND EXEMPLARY PRIEST

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*We extract some paragraphs from the lecture by the Rev. Ramón Fita Revert, delegate for the Causes of Saints in Valencia)*

(...) The Rev. Ángel Riesco is considered as a priest: **truthful and complacent; patient and vigorous** at the same time. **He was unattached to material things and fervent worker for the cause of Christ.** This is the human, apostolic and priestly picture of the recently preconized as auxiliary bishop of Oviedo.

But, the Divine Providence had kept other affairs for the Servant of God. The Rev. Ángel Riesco constantly repeated this phrase: *“there are no events, no people, is the Lord”*. And, I believe that this expression summarizes the *“calvary”* of his Episcopal time. The S.D. set an example with his words and his deeds; but last but not least, the lesson he taught us from the chair of the suffering and the silence.

How many virtuous and saintly people set an example of suffering!

For this people suffering is not a theological of philosophical theory, but the ripe fruit of a personal path, that they cover with the Faith support in the Crucified Lord.

Because, as Pope Benedict XVI says, *“the suffering of the Crucified God is not just one form of suffering alongside others.... In sacrificing himself for us all, Christ gave a **new meaning** to suffering, opening up a **new dimension**, a new order: **the order of love...** The passion of Christ on the Cross gave a radically new meaning to suffering, **transforming it from within...** It is this suffering which burns and consumes evil with the flame of love.... Evil is present in the world partly so as to awaken our love, our self-gift in generous and disinterested service to those visited by suffering.... Christ has redeemed the world: “By his wounds we are healed” (Is 53, 5)”*.

And maybe, in this clear vision of the Holy Father, we find the key to explain **the apparent human failure** in the Episcopal life of the Servant of God Ángel Riesco Carbajo.

In addition of the Episcopal dignity and human qualities the Rev Ángel Riesco had striven for hitherto, when he arrived in Oviedo he contributed with a pastoral ability and a capacity for government highlighted in the Diocese of Astorga. These qualities were inseparable from the S.D. Under similar circumstances these qualities achieved amazing results. A parish priest asserts how the Rev. Ángel Riesco carried out the Holy Pastoral Visit: the S.D. adapted himself to the faithful level ideas and gave them *“useful masterly catechetical lessons for the ordinary people and the parish priests”*.

Mons Ángel Riesco Carbajo is **reputed to be** a saint. The reputation for sanctity is just a common opinion about the purity and integrity in life and virtues, above the common way of acting in other people, performed by the S.D. in his lifetime. And if that fame of reputation was reflected **at the time of his death** and after **his decease**.

But also, the reputation of sanctity comprises to show the grace or the miracles made by God Our Lord in response to the intercession of the S.D.

It is very important the faithful to continue invoking the Servant of God Rev Ángel Riesco.

And this reputation has to be spontaneous, that is, no provoked or contrived. It must increase day by day and has to be disseminated among the faithful.

Hence comes the importance of the informative bulletin for the Cause. In every bulletin there is a section in which the people talk about the grace they obtain by the intercession of Rev Ángel Riesco. This section is called *“fama signorum”*. That is, the proclaimed conviction of the grace and favours obtained by the intercession of the Servant of God.

So, it is necessary keep the sacred fire!

We have to promote devotion and announce the figure of Rev Ángel Riesco! And, for God's sake, please, do not get tired! Do not become weak!

Let's finish this talk with words by the Servant of God Ángel Riesco himself: *“The Divine Providence always arrives in time to give everyone his due”*.

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# FRIENDS ASSOCIATION OF REV. ANGEL IN FATIMA

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I felt so nervous the night before so I only slept a few hours. I thought it would be a long and tiring journey but it wasn't. It turned out pleasant, enriching and enjoyable.

We remembered the Rev Angel Riesco on the outward journey, while we were seeing a film about his life and asking him for a positive and safe trip to Fatima.

When we were in Fatima on Saturday, May 26th, I'd got the feeling that the Virgin Mary was waiting for all pilgrims, amid that huge prayer area, in full view of everyone and without visiting hours or long queues for greeting her.

The emotion was also great when the priest was officiating the Holy Mass and mentioned the groups of Spanish pilgrims, between which, those from La Bañeza.

The candlelight procession is very impressive, because the-



re are many lighted candles going with the Virgin during the procession. What is more, I don't find the words to explain what I was feeling when I was close to the Virgin. It makes you want to invite those who haven't been there yet, to come and discover the presence of the Virgin.

On Sunday 27th, we prayed the Way of the Cross at the place where the apparitions happened. It was really impressive. Everything worked in our favour in Portugal, since even the weather was so good.

We give thanks to Father Angel and his Friends Association for their contribution to this memorable trip.

*M<sup>a</sup> Ángeles Uña*



**166 student of Secondary Education Institutes of La Bañeza visited the Museum de don Ángel last june.**

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## WORKSHOP ABOUT THE REV. ANGEL

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As it was scheduled, on July 6, 7 and 8 we commemorated the 60th Anniversary of the departure to Heaven of our Founding Father and the 30th Anniversary of the Pontifical Approbation of the Secular Institute of the Apostolic Missionary Sisters of the Charity.

On July 5, in the evening, we received the visit of Monsignor Demetrio Fernandez Gonzalez, Bishop of Cordoba, with whom we could held an interesting exchange of views.

The very next day, Monsignor Fernandez performed its services by celebrating the Holy Mass with a homily devoted to Maria Goretti, the Saint of the Day. In the afternoon, at the Santa Maria parish church he gave a lecture on Rev. Angel untitled: "Through humiliation to Glory: Monsignor Angel Riesco."

Monsignor Fernandez started by saying the Canonization process is going ahead. Then he expressed his wish that we could very soon set Monsignor Riesco as an example in the Church. Afterwards, he made a detailed summary of Angel's life, by emphasizing four important phases:

The first one took place at La Bañeza for twenty-two years. It was the most fruitful and happiest stage of them all. In Monsignor Demetrio words: "Monsignor Riesco and La Bañeza made a perfect match. He gave himself to La Bañeza and the town embraced him." He used all the means at his disposal to bring God to every corner in the region. The second phase started in 1948 when he was appointed Vicar-general of Astorga and he implemented a number

of initiatives that re-energized the Diocese. The third phase took place in 1957 as he founded the Secular Institute of the Apostolic Missionary Sisters of the Charity. The last one started in 1958 when he was ordained to the Episcopacy and appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Oviedo. Since then, Monsignor Riesco entered into a period of progressive humiliation, in imitation of Jesus Christ, until his death. At this Episcopal stage it is quite remarkable the humility and humiliation that will lead him to Glory.

What happened to make him live this period of humiliation? One day, we will know it. How did Monsignor Riesco endure this challenge? Thanks to a heroic love that shined in his humility and happiness (a feeling he made a vow to) until the end of his life.

He made a beautiful comparison, between the humiliation of Christ who "does not want to make his divine prerogative an exclusive possession... and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross", and the Rev. Ángel's death. We also see in him this way of degradation and renounce all pride and vanity. God called him to the episcopacy to be stripped of everything. As the humiliation was great, his glory will be even greater.

Mons. Demetrio Gonzalez concluded his talk, hoping that the Lord grant us the opportunity of attending his glorification: "He already is an example of sanctity for us; let's hope he shortly turns an example for the Church."

Following the lecture he concelebrated the Holy Mass with several priests, with music by the Ordoño II Girls Chorus.

The second speech was held at the Infanta Cristina Cultural Center on Saturday, 7. This talk, untitled "Excellent Parish priest and exemplary priest", was delivered by the Most Honourable Rev. Ramón Fita Revert, Delegate for the Causes of the Saints of the Archdiocese of Valencia, who had arrived the day before.

Talking at all times about Rev. Angel's life, he basically mentioned his virtues: "dynamic, tenacious, apostle, enterprising and generous, friendly, always known for his refined manner and spiritual refinement", being the most

outstanding virtue charity, as a figure on his episcopal shield and also of his stage as a Bishop, where stand its excellent pastoral work and the intense suffering, "Calvary" that this stage of his life represented for him: "he knew how to overcome these challenges, raising them to the spiritual order." He always obeyed the objectives of the Holy See: "first of all God and the Church." As Jesus Christ, who having suffered, gave the suffering a new meaning, the Rev. Angel gave us an important lesson from the path of his affliction. Suffering which burns and consumes evil with the fla-

me of love, as Pope Benedict XVI affirms.

The Cause of Beatification, introduced by Mons. Briva Mirabent, is in the Roman phase, following its slow and laborious course. The Rev. Angel is reputed to be a saint so, it is important to continue invoking him. We must keep alive the sacred fire, promote devotion and let people know the fame of the Servant of God Rev. Angel, and not to lose heart.

Rev Fita finished his lecture recalling the words spoken by the Rev. Angel: "Divine providence is always

on time to give everyone his due." On Sunday, 8 we ended the workshop with a show performed by the children of Saint Joseph nursery and the Carrion Folk group, held at the Municipal Theatre of La Bañeza. The show, a brilliant dancing performance which excited the many attendees, was the subject of greeting and ended to this workshop.

We give thanks to all who helped and accompanied us. Now we keep asking the Lord for the beatification of Father Angel, for the Glory of God and the good of the Church.



**Jornadas con don Ángel**

1972-1982-2012

con motivo de los 40 años de su tránsito y los 30 años de la aprobación Pontificia del Instituto Misioneras Apostólicas de la Caridad fundado por el Siervo de Dios, Ángel Riesco Carboja

**PROGRAMA**

- VIERNES 6**  
19 horas - Iglesia de Santa María  
Conferencia de Mons. Don Demetrio Fernández, Obispo de Córdoba  
"Por la humillación y la gloria: Mons. Ángel Riesco"  
Santa Misa a continuación.  
Acompaña el Coro de niñas "Ordoño III"
- SÁBADO 7**  
20,45 horas - Centro Cultural "Infanta Cristina"  
Conferencia del M. I. Sr. D. Ramón Fita Revert  
Delegado de las Causas de los Santos en la Archidiócesis de Valencia  
"Óptimo Pátrono y ejemplar Sacerdote"
- DOMINGO 8**  
12,30 - Teatro Municipal  
Concierto "CARRIÓN FOLK"  
Entusiasmo catalán  
embalsados en Guardería Misioneras (C/ Juan de Mandiá)  
y Gritos: Hino (Jedro. Hilo de la Plata)

LA CARIDAD DE LAS MISIONERAS APOSTÓLICAS DE LA CARIDAD

La Bañeza, julio 2012



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## TESTIMONIES

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My name is Marc Elton Frias, a layman from the city of Makati, the Philippines. I was able to read the life and works of its founder the Servant of God Ángel Riesco, through my research. I was moved by his spirituality as well as the devotion to his work in the community.

At this regard, I would like to ask you about some relics and prayer cards. Like this, I could share his life and devotion in our preaching among the young people.

I'm looking forward to your answer. Thanks a lot and God bless you in all your intentions.

Yours sincerely,

*Marc Elton Frias. Makati (The Philippines)*

I am writing to you to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the relic of the Servant of God Rev Ángel Riesco that I have received last Monday, March 12th. I pray for the prompt beatification of the S.D. Ángel and for you. At the same time, I would like to ask you if you can take out a subscription to the Bulletin of his Cause for me. I will be grateful to you with pleasure.

*Javier Linares Luis. Tenerife*

PAX CHRISTI!. My name is Mateo L. Espino. I am a legionnaire and active officer of youth and worship ministries in our church. We are devoted ourselves to promote devotion to the Holy Rosary and adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. We have read a part of the blissful and holy life of your founder, the Servant of God Ángel Riesco. We are really inspired by his virtues. In this regard, we would like to promote the devotion to the Servant of God Ángel Riesco. We see in him our model and paragon of sanctity and love for Jesus and as a prototype of ourselves, devoted to the needy. We want to spread his life and virtues, particularly his charity, faithfulness and integrity to our community's faithful, above all the youth, the servants and the needy. We humbly ask, for this mission of evangelism, if we could receive informative and devotional materials in English about the S.D., as well as some relics of his clothing, for private veneration by the faithful in our community. This will

enormously contribute to increase our faith and love to our God and the Holy Mother Church.

We hope and pray. Together with this letter go our prayers for you and your community. The risen Lord blesses you. Thank you very much!

*Matthew L. Espino Malabon City, the Philippines*

I met the Father Ángel through my daughter Tere who lives in Puente de Domingo Flórez. My daughter was introduced to the Father Ángel by the Father Gonzalo some years ago. I give thanks to God for this blessing. The donation is to the Father Ángel's beatification and also to my needs and the needs of our family; to the Lord help us in what suits us the best; also to the Father Ángel to intercede for children, elderly people and for all those who are suffering; for the priests and for the vocations.

I would beg you to send me the informative Bulletin for the Cause of Beatification. Thank you very much.

*Julia and María Teresa.*

*Bilbao and Puente de Domingo Flórez*

I am a missionary of the Sacred Heart (...) The Rev. Jesús Nalda was very devout of Mons. Ángel Riesco and he fervently promoted his beatification. During many years he suffered from a recurrent strange illness, since he easily lost his balance and fell. I keep promoting the beatification of Mons. Ángel Riesco. I believe he is a great saint.

*Demetrio Pérez (Logroño)*

May God deign that our Father Ángel Riesco be beatified as soon as possible. I wish that with all my heart, and I strongly beg the Lord for it in my daily prayers.

*Rosa Lescano (Rosario – Argentina)*

For the Cause of Rev Ángel Riesco in appreciation of a favour received. I wish to do that anonymously. I don't need any receipt. I pray that Mons Ángel Riesco may soon be numbered among the blessed and the saints.

*(Anonymous donation)*

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Hello. My name is Cid and I am a Catholic Apostolic Roman seminarian in Brazil. If possible I would like to receive some relic ex-indumentis from Mons Ángel Riesco Carbajo, for praying for his intercession. Thank you very much. God bless you.

*Cid (Cuiaba-MT-Brazil)*

Greetings of peace and love!

Please, send me some relic prayer cards from your founder, the Servant of God Bishop Ángel Riesco. I pray that he may soon be numbered among the blessed and the saints.

*Fernando Paul Linamon (The Philippines)*

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## FAVOURS

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Once more, the Rev Ángel Riesco has interceded with God for granting us a special grace, as well as many other spiritual and material ones.

My niece Mari Carmen sat a competitive examination at the Technical University. There were a lot of candidates. All the family started praying to the Servant of God with strong faith, for him to intercede with God on our niece's behalf. She succeeded. It was the second time she sat the competitive examination.

Everyday we see the force of prayer and the power of intercession to achieve from the Lord the grace we beg him in the hope that He would grant us.

Thanks, Father Ángel, for protecting us from heaven.

*María Rosa Cordero. La Bañeza*

I give thanks Father Ángel for his intercession, because my father recovered his eyesight in one of his eyes after a delicate surgery.

Thanks, Father Ángel! I hope for your early canonisation. I send a donation for his Cause.

*M<sup>a</sup> Socorro Carracedo G<sup>a</sup> (Mondoñedo-Lugo)*

One of my nieces, married and who has a 3 year old child, wanted to have at least one more baby, because she was disappointed with having only one. I gave them the prayer card of the Father Ángel and, me with the mum and dad, we started reciting the prayer with a very strong confidence in his help. The Lord listened to the intercession of the Servant of God and exactly nine months later, my niece gave birth to a lovely baby girl. She has been welcomed with joy and affection by all of us, above all by

her parents, who at last have extended their family.

Thanks, Father Ángel by your intercession! I praise God for those parents who appreciate and welcome the gift of life.

I beg God that the Church recognizes as soon as possible the saintliness of the Father Ángel.

*Elvira García (La Bañeza)*

I never forget the Rev Ángel Riesco and he never forgets me either, since, when I have a problem... I feel his influence!

The Rev Ángel Riesco deserves to be beatified...

*F. González (Oviedo)*

I'm so grateful to the Father. He is always helping me in everything I ask him. I make a donation to his Cause of Beatification and I wish he would be beatified as soon as possible.

*A. Pérez (León)*

I send this donation to give thanks to God for so many favours that I have been granted by the intercession of the Servant of God Ángel Riesco. My sister wants to express the same feeling.

*A. and A. Pérez (Barcelona)*

I'm very grateful to the Father Ángel for all the human and spiritual help he gave my cousin because of a sciatic nerve surgery she has had as a result of a previous surgery. I prayed a Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes by the intercession of the Father Ángel. She has got better. I give thanks to the Father Ángel and I send a donation.

*Bernardina Pérez (Salamanca)*

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# THANK FAVORS AND SEND DONATIONS

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**Asturias:** OVIEDO: Filomena González. Charo Calvete.

**Barcelona:** Adoración Caveno. M<sup>a</sup> Ángeles Pérez.

**Bilbao:** Tomasa Morán. Justina Romero.

**MARKINA:** Fam. Razquin Casquero

**Cáceres:** MADROÑERA: Juana Solís.

**Ciudad Real:** SOCUÉLLAMOS: Pilar López.

**Córdoba:** MONTILLA: Mercedes Chao. M<sup>a</sup> de la Paz. Rafael Morales.

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**León:** Mercedes Mejuto. Azucena Pérez. Angelita Pérez. Maruja Callejo. M<sup>a</sup> Piedad López.

ASTORGA: Sole Fernández. Irene Prieto. Ausencia Roales. Petra Pérez

CARBAJAL DE RUEDA: Ascensión Barrientos.

CASTROALBÓN: Manuela Alonso.

LA BAÑEZA: Devotos del SdD. Parroquia de Sta. María. Emilia Estévez. Pura Paraíso. Aurora Pastor. Lola Rodríguez. M<sup>a</sup> Arias. Leo Fadón. Elvira

García. Isabel Casquero. Remedios Herrejón. M<sup>a</sup> Teresa Alonso. Adela Frade. Loli Conde. Carmen Bellón. Sole Callejo. Asociación "Amigos de Don Ángel

RIBAS DE LA VALDUERNA: Elisa Martínez. M<sup>a</sup> Jesús Fernández.

SAN FÉLIX DE LA VEGA: Milagros Martínez.

SANTA MARINA DEL REY: Rosa Mayo.

SOTO DE LA VEGA: Fam. Guerra Ordóñez.

**Madrid:** Gloria Reig. Anónimo. Orencio Bellón.

**Orense:**

BARCO DE VALDEORRAS: Generosa Prada. Milagros Arias.

LA RUA: Laura Blanco. Gloria González.

LENTELLAIS: Asunción Fernández.

PUEBLA DE TRIVES: Luisa Núñez. Camila Rodríguez.

SANTA CRUZ DE LAS ERMITAS: Milagros Rodríguez.

TUJE: Josefa Blanco.

VIANA DEL BOLLO: Anónimo. Estrella Couso.

**Salamanca:** Bernardina Pérez y familia. Águeda Martín.

BÉJAR: Águeda Gil.

**Valencia:** Un devoto del Siervo de Dios

REAL DE GANDÍA: Nieves Moure.

**Valladolid:** Paca Martín.

**Zamora:** Mercedes Rodríguez. BENAVENTE: Petra Villar.

Jacinta Delgado. Maxi Llamas. Celia Viejo. Sinda, Simpatizante.

Guadalupe Sánchez

## PRAYER

Our Father, Lord of life and God of infinite mercy, in your loving providence, you chose your servant Angel Riesco to faithfully serve your Church as Bishop and Founder of the Apostolic Missionaries of Charity. We beseech you to grant us the fidelity of your Son's disciples, the unity He asked for them, and the fortitude we need to be committed witnesses of your loving presence among men and women in the world. We ask you for the humility and simplicity Jesus taught us and the charity that brought Him to the Cross.

With humble confidence, we beseech you to glorify your servant Bishop Angel and to grant us through his intercession the special favour we ask of you. We ask you this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory)*

WITH ECCLESIASTIC APPROVAL OF THE BISHOP OF ASTORGA

*We beg those who achieve some grace by the intercession of the Servant of God, to contact with: Cause of Canonisation of the Servant of God Rev. Angel Riesco. "Ciudad Misioneras". P.O. Box 57 – 24750 LA BAÑEZA, León, SPAIN. Donations for the Cause may be sent by bank transfer*

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VICEPOSTULANCY CAUSE OF THE SERVANT OF GOD BISHOP ANGEL RIESCO

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