

Vinspiration

BLESSED CEFERINO JIMENEZ MELLA

Ceferino was born in 1861 in Benavent de Segria, in Lerida Province, Catalonia. He is best known as a Spanish Gypsy martyred during Spain's civil war.

Ceferino was a deeply religious man who tried to improve relations between Gypsies and non-Gypsies by mediating in conflicts. He tried to sow harmony and solidarity between the Gypsies.

Under the guidance of a priest Ceferino also began a career as a catechist which extended to his involvement in activities such as Eucharistic minister, rosary leader, choir director, visitor of the sick. He also became a member of the Society of St Vincent de Paul. After a profound conversion he devoted himself to the service of the poor by actively participating in a Conference of St Vincent de Paul.

At a time when the Republican militia were hunting down priests, Cerefino was arrested for harbouring a young priest. He was offered his freedom if he would refrain from openly professing his faith and getting rid of his rosary. Cerefino refused and was shot by a firing squad in August 1936 at the age of 75.

He was buried in an unmarked grave but was reinterred next to his wife after the war.



BEATIFICATION
May 4, 1997

MEMORIAL DAY
May 4

Let us pray...

O God, you filled Blessed Ceferino with the charity of Christ making him generous in the service of the poor and ready to give his life for you. Grant, that we may always be united to you, observing your commandment of love. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Romans 8: 35-39

"Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: 'for your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor ruler, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, or depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Mission and Challenge for Today's Society Member

Let's go to the poor — nothing without involvement
Friends for loving — nothing without sharing
Pray and meditate on the word of the Lord — nothing without praying
Go beyond justice — nothing without justice
Where needed, whenever needed — nothing without presence
Resources for action — nothing without money
Joy of love — nothing without love
Living a lasting charity — nothing without charity
(www.ozanet.org)

Something to think about ...

- How do I imitate Jesus in my daily life?
- In what areas am I not living by faith?
- Am I embarrassed to speak about God's presence in my life?
- Do I choose the people to whom I speak to about God?
- How do I discern what is God's will and what is my own?

BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI

Pier Giorgio was born on April 6, 1901, in Turin, northern Italy. His father was an agnostic, influential in Italian politics, served as a senator, Italy's ambassador to Germany, and founder and director of the newspaper *La Stampa*. The Frassati family was wealthy although his father was frugal. What Giorgio had by way of money, food, clothing, shoes, he gave away to the poor.

In 1918 Pier Giorgio joined the Society of St Vincent de Paul and dedicated much of his spare time to serving the sick and needy. In June 1925 Pier Giorgio was afflicted by an acute attack of poliomyelitis which doctors speculated he caught from the poor and sick whom he tended. His illness was too advanced for anyone to treat when doctors discovered how weak he was.

Pier Giorgio died on July 24, 1925, at the age of 24. His parents were surprised to find the streets of the city lined with thousands of mourners as the cortege passed. Those who mourned his death most were the poor and needy whom he had served so unselfishly for seven years; in turn many of these were surprised that they came from such an influential family.



BEATIFICATION
May 20 1990

MEMORIAL DAY
July 4

His words...

“The faith given to me in baptism suggests to me surely: by yourself you will do nothing, but if you have God as the center of all your action, then you will reach the goal.”

“One ought to go and go. It is not those who suffer violence that should fear, but those who practice it. When God is with us, we do not need to be afraid.”

“To live without faith, without a patrimony to defend, without a steady struggle for truth, that is not living, that is existing.”

“Love is a fire, no waters avail to quench, no floods to drown; for love, a man will give up all that he has in the world, and think nothing of his loss.”

Song of Songs 8:7

A Saint
for the Youth
of the
Third Millennium

Man of the
Eight Beatitudes

Patron of
Catholic
university students

Something to think about ...

What does service mean to me?

Where do I see the face of Jesus?

In my daily life do I speak the truth with gentleness and love?

How could I be more fully the hands, ears, heart, and voice of Jesus?

The Frassati Society of Young Adults is established as a community of young people who desire to live a life of holiness in imitation of Jesus Christ in the midst of the modern era.

Let us pray...

O God, through Pier Giorgio's lived example of faith and charity may we dedicate our lives to the constant service of our neighbour. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



Web Resources

www.famvin.org www.frassati.org
www.filles-de-la-charite.org
www.secretariadojmv.org



Prepared by:
FAMVIN World Youth Day Office
PO Box 1114 Ashfield 1800 NSW Australia
Ph: +61 2 9716 4166
Email: wyd@cmaustralia.org Web: www.vincentianswyd.org.au

