

Christmastide 2020 Newsletter

Franciscan Sisters of Christ the King

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<https://sspx.org/franciscansisters>



O Come, Let Us Adore Him!
In gratitude for your spiritual and material help,
A Novena of Masses
will be said for all of you by a priest of the
Society of St. Pius X.

CONVENT NEWS AND VIEWS...

We just heard an incredible conversion story that we would like to share. It is the story of the great-great-uncle of one of our Sisters, told to us by her mother, who as a child met “Tio (Uncle) Jose” and heard the story from his wife. He nodded silently in agreement at all that was being described.

While Plutarco Calles was building up to bloody persecution of the Church in Mexico, Tio Jose, an able leader, was rising through the ranks of the Mexican Cavalry. He fell in love with his future wife, then 15, but the girl’s mother thought her daughter too young and the man not committed to his Faith. The concerned mother prepared to send her daughter away to prevent the marriage, but the girl slipped her beloved a note via a boy on the street. The cavalry officer galloped to her on his horse and swept her away.



Not long after their marriage, Tio Jose received orders to round up all priests. Supporters of Calles convinced the officer that priests were a threat to freedom in Mexico. While the future martyr Father Miguel Pro

donned his disguises to avoid capture, Tio Jose and others would enjoy finding priests and shooting at their feet to make them “dance”—first to the right, then to the left. Tio Jose became a high-ranking officer in the cavalry and a 33rd degree freemason, a requirement to achieve his high rank. His heart had hardened and he hated the Church.

“Meanwhile,” Sister’s mother writes, “Amelia was now realizing that her mother was right, and love isn’t everything we think, but she was strong-willed and did not want to give up on their marriage and prove them right.” God used her strong will and grace worked in her soul. Amelia turned to prayer. She prayed hard, in spite of her husband’s mocking comments about the “silliness” of prayer. She turned especially to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

One day, Amelia begged her now retired husband to go to Mexico City to visit the

miraculous picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Sister’s mother continues:

“He went half-heartedly to please her. When Amelia was ready to move, he was still in the same place—except now kneeling—and she thought she saw a tear in his eye? Could this be? He finally got up, and they left. He told her “Something” happened that day at the shrine of Our Lady. He repented, and soon went to confession. He NEVER EVER spoke of the details of what happened that day at the shrine—that was just between him and Our Lady. He took it to his grave. He left freemasonry for good and did say he would be killed if he ever spoke of the secrecy of freemasonry. He rose early to pray every day. I believe he went to daily Mass (as often as he physically could.) He often shed tears for his past while he prayed.”



They remained married until his death. They could have no children of their own, so they took in abandoned lice-ridden children from the streets, cared for them, and found them good homes. One of these children they adopted as their own. Amelia also cared for sick and dying relatives, including Sister’s grandmother.

Who would think it possible to bring a man back to God when he had so hardened his heart to the Faith? For Amelia alone pleading with her husband, it was impossible. For Our Lady to whom Amelia begged help, it was not only possible, but it happened. We can probably all think of difficult cases such as that of Tio Jose. We may know someone who has made a bad choice like Amelia did and must now live with the effects of the decision. But this true story shows us that, as our founder Fr. Heidt often said, “God writes straight with crooked lines.” We must ask for help unceasingly and have faith that our prayers are ALWAYS heard and will be answered in the best manner possible. Thank you, Our Lady of Guadalupe!