

# Communicationes 314

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## CONTENTS

- Most Reverend Julio Xavier Labayen, ocd has gone Home to His Creator
- Death of Mons. Gonzalo López Maraño, ocd
- Death of the mother of our Father General. Note of thanksgiving
- New Web page



## Most Reverend Julio Xavier Labayen, ocd has gone Home to His Creator

Most Reverend Julio Xavier Labayen, OCD ([July 23, 1926 - April 27, 2016](#)) a Discalced Carmelite bishop, who is a servant-leader-pastor in the Prelature of Infanta (Philippines) for 40 years has gone Home to His Creator. He is known for being a compassionate pastor with a burning heart for the "Church of the Poor." "The Church of the poor is the Church with a mother's heart. Mothers will not think twice on whom to give their attention, care, love and time except to the child most in need," the Bishop once said.  
We pray for his Eternal Repose.

## Death of Mons. Gonzalo López Maraño, ocd

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, eve of the Ascension of the Lord, Mons. Gonzalo López Maraño (Fr. GONZALO OF THE IMMACULATE) died in the Bishop's house of the diocese of Luena - Lwena (Prov. Moxico. Angola). He had been taken there after his last missionary posting, because he was afflicted by various tropical ailments and it was there that he handed over his soul to the Creator, this Carmelite Bishop who always wanted to live and die on the missions.

Mons. Gonzalo López Maraño was born in Medina de Pomar (Burgos) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 1933, at that time the feast of Saint Therese. He made his profession on 13<sup>th</sup> of August 1950 in Burgo de Osma and was ordained to the priesthood on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1957 in Burgos. In 1970, he was appointed as Prefect Apostolic of the Carmelite mission of San Miguel de Sucumbíos (Ecuador), where he remained for forty years in missionary service until 2010. He was, first of all, Prefect Apostolic from 1970 to 1984, then Vicar Apostolic from 8<sup>th</sup> December 1984, when he was consecrated Bishop of this region of the equatorial Amazon.

When he finished his service in Ecuador in 2010, he continued living and serving in the missionary Church and sought a missionary post in Angola.



This grain of wheat was buried in African soil and we hope that the fruit of his commitment will be an increase of new missionary vocations.

May this good Pastor and sower of the Lord's seed rest in peace.



## Death of the mother of our Father General. Note of thanksgiving

Ada Leo, the mother of our Fr General died of a brain hemorrhage, at the age of 84 years, on the eve of the feast of the Ascension of Our Lord.

The funeral for the eternal repose of her soul was celebrated at Catanzaro on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> of May at three in the afternoon.

With all of you we share in the pain of Fr Saverio and all his family, and with sure hope commend his dear mother to the mercy of our heavenly Father, so rich in mercy.

These days I have received many messages from friars, nuns, members of the Secular Order, and friends, who have expressed feelings of empathy and condolence on the death of my mother. Since I am not able to respond to each one personally, I want to convey my heartfelt thanks in this brief message, in my name and also in my family's name. For all of us, it has been a gift from God to experience the affection of so many brothers and sisters and to be upheld by your prayers. Thank you for having accompanied our mother in her Passover and for having included our small family in the embrace of the great family of Carmel.

With affection and acknowledgment, Fr. Saverio Cannistrà, ocd.

## New Web Page

In a few days we will launch our new website, at this same electronic address: <http://www.discalcedcarmel.com/>. Sorry for the inconvenience.

See you soon!

