

PRELATURE OF OPUS DEI



April 23 - May 5, 2025

Background Materials

OPUS DEI



ORDINARY GENERAL CONGRESS OF THE PRELATURE OF OPUS DEI

April 23 - May 5, 2025

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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1. Introduction

The 10th Ordinary General Congress of Opus Dei will take place from April 23 to May 5, bringing together 279 participants: 127 women (45.5%) and 152 men (54.5%). Among them are 95 priests, who represent 34% of the total. The congress members come from Oceania, Asia, Europe, Africa, and North and South America. The youngest participant is 37 years old, and the oldest is 91.

Ordinary General Congresses are celebrated every eight years to take stock and to provide guidelines for the evangelizing activity of the Prelature's faithful, both priests and laity (men and women, married and single). During the Congress, appointments are also renewed for the tasks on the General Council and the Central Advisory.

The Prelate of Opus Dei, Msgr. Fernando Ocáriz, recently explained that two additional main themes of this Congress will be the study of the conclusions of the Regional Assemblies held throughout 2024 in each territorial circumscription of the Work, and "the proposal – definitive on our part – of the text of the Statutes, to be submitted for the Holy See's approval" (message, April 8), in accordance with what Pope Francis established in the *motu proprio Ad charisma tuendum*.

Everything related to the Statutes will be submitted to the Holy See for approval. At a later stage, the Holy See will communicate the final modifications to the Statutes, as approved by the Pope, who is the legislator in this matter.

The last Ordinary General Congress (the 9th) took place immediately after the elective General Congress of January 2017, during which Msgr. Fernando Ocáriz was elected and subsequently appointed Prelate of Opus Dei by Pope Francis. On February 14, 2017, Msgr. Ocáriz published a letter outlining the main conclusions of that Congress.

"All the General Congresses," Msgr. Ocáriz said of the previous Congress, "are very special moments of unity among the entire Work, and of the Work with the Holy Father and with the whole Church. During these weeks, we want our Father's aspiration to be especially present: *Omnes cum Petro ad Iesum per Mariam* (All with Peter to Jesus through Mary)."

This dossier includes questions and answers about the Congress, the Statutes of Opus Dei, and the recent Regional Assemblies, as well as press materials on current developments in the Prelature. It also contains links to helpful text, photo, and video resources.

Opus Dei fosters an encounter with Christ in one's work, family life, and everyday activities. There are currently 94,450 members of Opus Dei. Many others (cooperators and friends) also take part in its activities for Christian formation.

2. Opus Dei: charism and data

2.1 Identity and mission

Opus Dei is a pastoral institution of the Catholic Church, founded in Madrid on October 2, 1928 by St. Josemaría Escrivá. In 1983, St. John Paul II erected the Prelature of the Holy Cross and Opus Dei, which is also called the Prelature of Opus Dei. The Latin phrase means "Work of God."

Its aim is to help the Church's mission of evangelization, fostering among all kinds of people (men, women, single, married, lay, priests, etc.) the aim of a life lived in conformity with their faith, and in their ordinary circumstances, especially through the sanctification of their daily work. To sanctify work means to carry it out according to the spirit of Jesus Christ, striving to fulfil one's duties in the best way possible, so as to give glory to God and to serve others. In this way, work becomes a place to meet God, and an opportunity for personal growth and contribution to society.

Opus Dei's main activity is providing Christian formation, offering spiritual support to its members and to anyone else who wishes it, so that each person in their respective place in society and in the Church, can promote the ideal of the universal call to holiness. The people of the Prelature, at a personal level and when working with other citizens, strive to help resolve the problems of all sectors of the society they live in, doing so with a Christian spirit.

Videos

- What is Opus Dei? [English](#) | [Italian](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Spanish](#)
- [The Heart of Work: St. Josemaría's Vision](#)
- Activities of Opus Dei [English](#) | [Italian](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Spanish](#)

2.2 Historical overview

1928. *October 2.* While on a spiritual retreat in Madrid, on 2 October, Josemaría Escrivá founds Opus Dei.

1930. *February 14.* The apostolic work with women begins.

1933. The first apostolic initiative of Opus Dei opens in Madrid: DYA Academy, mainly for university students.

1934. DYA becomes a residence for university students. From there, the founder and the first members of Opus Dei offer Christian formation and spread the message of Opus Dei among young people. Teaching catechism and looking after the poor and sick in the outlying neighbourhoods of Madrid form an important part of this work.

1936. Due to the Spanish Civil War and religious persecution, St. Josemaría and other faithful of Opus Dei are obliged to hide and, eventually, to escape from Madrid. Plans to extend Opus Dei's apostolic work are temporarily suspended.

1939. Josemaría Escrivá returns to Madrid and initiates Opus Dei's expansion to other cities in Spain. The Second World War prevents expansion to other countries.

1941. The bishop of Madrid, Bishop Eijo y Garay, grants the first diocesan approval of Opus Dei.

1943. *February 14.* At Mass, the Lord allows St. Josemaría to see the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross, the juridical solution that would enable priests to be ordained and formed in the spirit of Opus Dei.

1944. The bishop of Madrid ordains the first three members of Opus Dei to become priests: Álvaro del Portillo, José María Hernández Garnica, and José Luis Múzquiz.

1946. St. Josemaría moves to Rome. In the years that follow, he travels through Europe, meeting many diocesan bishops, to prepare the beginnings of Opus Dei in different countries.

1947. The Holy See grants the first pontifical approval of Opus Dei. The scope of this approval is universal.

1950. Pius XII grants Opus Dei definitive approval. From this moment on, married people can join Opus Dei and diocesan priests can be admitted to the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross.

1952. The General Study of Navarre begins in Pamplona (Spain). It will become the University of Navarre in 1960.

1965. Paul VI inaugurates the ELIS Centre, a vocational training centre for young people in the outskirts of Rome, together with a parish entrusted to priests of Opus Dei in the same neighbourhood.

1969. A special general congress of Opus Dei meets in Rome to study Opus Dei's change to a personal prelature, a juridical structure introduced by the Second Vatican Council.

1970-75. The founder of Opus Dei makes long trips through Latin America, Spain and Portugal, where he holds gatherings with many groups of people.

1975. Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer dies in Rome on June 26. At this time, Opus Dei works in 31 countries. On September 15, Blessed Álvaro del Portillo is elected to succeed him.

1982-83. St. John Paul II establishes Opus Dei as a personal prelature, appointing Msgr. Álvaro del Portillo its prelate. The formal execution of the pontifical document establishing Opus Dei as a personal prelature takes place on March 19, 1983. In 1991, the Pope ordains Msgr. Álvaro del Portillo a bishop.

1992. Josemaría Escrivá is beatified by St. John Paul II.

1994-95. Blessed Álvaro del Portillo dies in Rome on March 23. On April 20, St. John Paul II — following the elective congress — names Msgr. Javier Echevarría Prelate of Opus Dei. On January 6, 1995, he ordains him a bishop.

2002. *October 6.* Josemaría Escrivá is canonised.

2014. *September 27.* [Álvaro del Portillo](#) is beatified in Madrid.

2016. *December 12.* Msgr. Javier Echevarría, St. Josemaría's second successor, dies in Rome.

2017. *January 23.* After the Prelature's third elective congress, Pope Francis names Msgr. Fernando Ocáriz Prelate of Opus Dei.

2019. *May 18.* The first lay person of Opus Dei to be declared Blessed, [Guadalupe Ortiz de Landázuri](#), is beatified.

2.3 Members and countries

Currently, around 94,450 people form part of the Prelature, of whom 2,122 are priests incardinated in the Prelature, and 1830 belong to the [Priestly Society of the Holy Cross](#), incardinated in dioceses around the world.

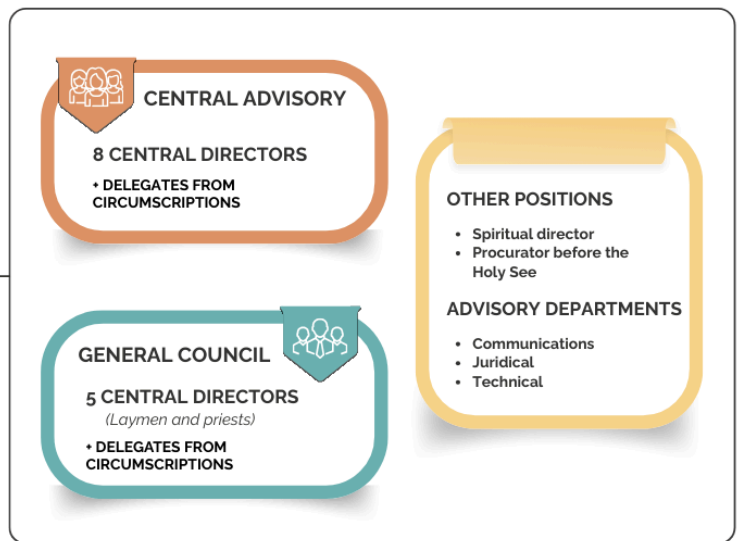
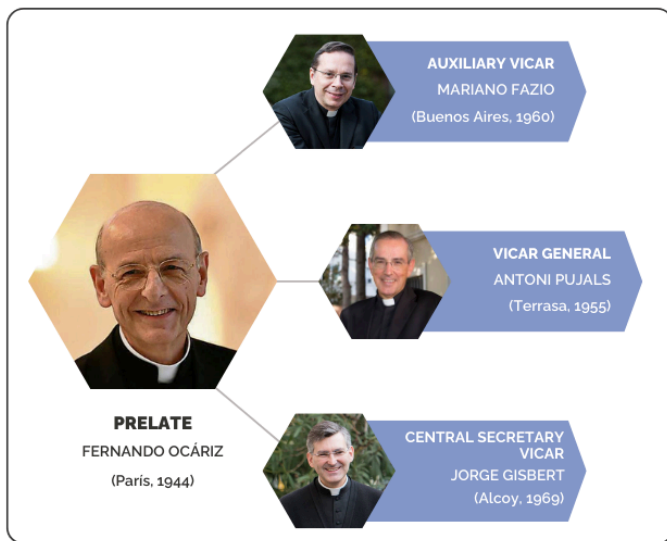
Approximately 60% of the total are women and 40% are men. The distribution by continent is as follows: 4% Africa, 4% Asia, 55% Europe, 36% North and South America, and 1% Oceania.

Dates on which Opus Dei began its work in different countries

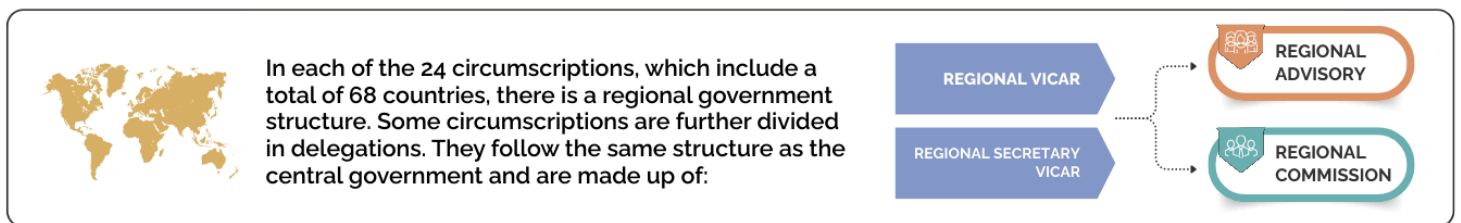


HOW IS OPUS DEI GOVERNED?

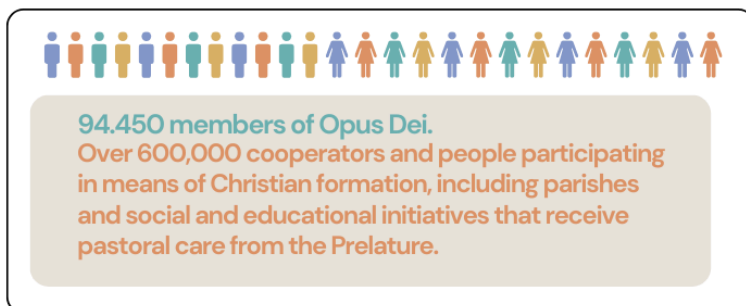
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT



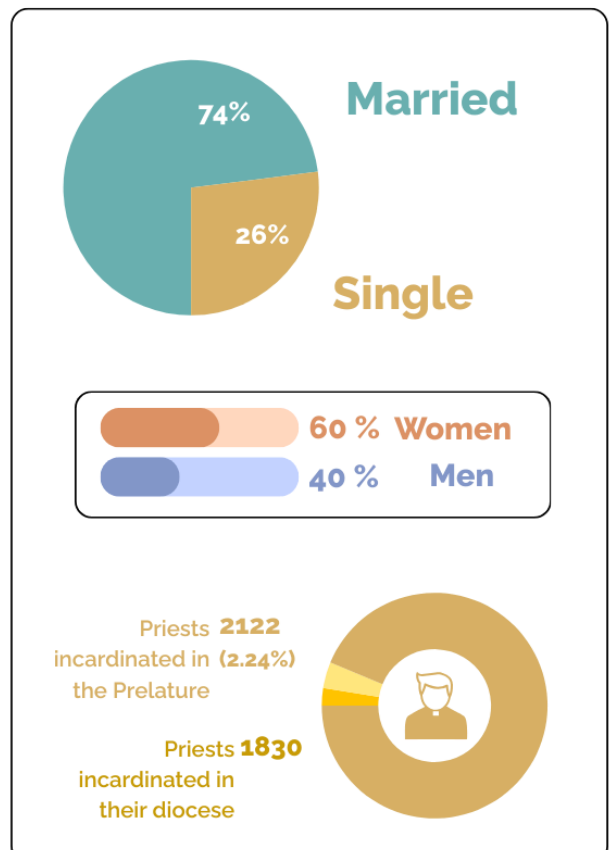
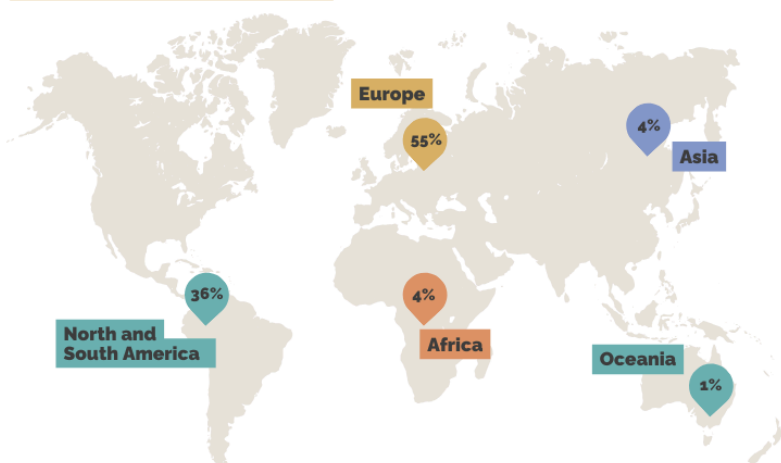
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT



SOME DATA



Distribution by continent



2.5. Recent events in the adaptation of the Statutes

November 28, 1982: St. John Paul II establishes Opus Dei as a Personal Prelature with the Apostolic Constitution *Ut sit*.

March 19, 2022: Pope Francis reforms the organisation of the Roman Curia with the Apostolic Constitution *Praedicate Evangelium*. Article 117 of the constitution changes the dependence of personal prelatures from the Dicastery for Bishops to the Dicastery for the Clergy.

July 14, 2022: The Holy See publishes Pope Francis's apostolic letter in the form of a motu proprio *Ad charisma tuendum*. The letter states, among other things, that "the proper Statutes of the Prelature of Opus Dei shall be suitably adapted upon the proposal of the Prelature itself, to be approved by the competent bodies of the Apostolic See" (article 3).

August 4, 2022: The motu proprio *Ad charisma tuendum* enters in force.

October 6, 2022: In a letter, Msgr. Fernando Ocáriz announces that he will convokes an Extraordinary General Congress of the Prelature "to carry out what the Pope asked of us regarding bringing the Statutes of the Work into line with the motu proprio *Ad charisma tuendum*" He asks for "contributions [from] those who wish to send specific suggestions" to prepare for the "this work of the men and women who will take part in this Congress."

April 12-16, 2023: Celebration of the Extraordinary General Congress in Rome, in which the proposal for redrafting the numbers of the Statutes deemed necessary in light of the request in *Ad charisma tuendum* was studied and voted on.

August 8, 2023: Publication of the apostolic letter issued motu proprio by Pope Francis, amending canons 295-296 regarding personal prelatures.

2024: During the year, two working groups were formed: one from the Dicastery for the Clergy and one from the Prelature of Opus Dei. After a series of study sessions and working meetings between both parties, it was agreed with the Dicastery that the next Ordinary General Congress would address the proposed revisions to the Statutes.

April 23-May 5, 2025: Celebration of the tenth Ordinary General Congress in Rome. Over the course of these days, among other matters, participants will study the conclusions of the Regional Assemblies in 2024 and the revision of the Statutes. After the Congress, the revised Statutes will be submitted once more to the Holy See. The Holy Father is likely to move forward with their approval after this.

2.6 Selection of social and educational initiatives

The educational, charitable, and cultural initiatives described below are all promoted by faithful of the Prelature and cooperators, along with other people, both Catholic and non-Catholic. Those who undertake and direct these activities – assuming full responsibility for their undertakings, including in its financial aspects – try to respond to the needs of their country or local community, without discriminating on the basis of race, religion or social status.

The Prelature of Opus Dei contributes to the development of these social initiatives, providing pastoral assistance and Christian guidance, always fully respecting freedom of conscience.

Among the works of apostolate directly promoted by Saint Josemaria are secondary schools, universities, medical dispensaries in underdeveloped areas, schools for farm workers, vocational training institutes, student residences, and cultural centres. His successors also promoted numerous initiatives of this type. Recent activities of this kind include the following examples:

- **Midtown-Metro** (midtown-metro.org), in Chicago, offers educational programs especially geared toward Hispanic and African American youth. It provides opportunities for personal growth outside of school, with a focus on academic excellence, character development, individual mentoring, and parental involvement. The programs are open to students regardless of their religious, racial, ethnic, or family background.

- **Iwollo Health Clinic** (nfh.org.ng) is an extension of Niger Foundation Hospital, Enugu (Nigeria), in Aguobu Iwollo, a rural area that faces serious health problems. It began its activity in 2003. It offers free medical care – including medium-sized surgical interventions – to the entire population of the area, with special attention to women and children. In its own headquarters, the clinic also organises talks on hygiene and illness prevention to locals.

- **El Centro Educativo Los Pinos** (lospinos.org.uy), active since 1997 in Casavalle, a marginal area of Montevideo (Uruguay), promotes the integral development of children, adolescents and youth through a variety of educational programs. The goal of Los Pinos is to help students grow academically, professionally, humanly and spiritually and thus strengthen their identity, skills, and abilities.

- **La Université des Lagunes** (ulagunes.com), in Abidjan (Ivory Coast), is an initiative of a local association of jurists. The faculty of legal, political and administrative sciences opened its doors in 2010, and in the years following, the institute has added economic and business sciences, as well as mathematics. The faculty of legal sciences offers, in addition to the bachelor's degree, some masters programs.

— **La Universidad del Istmo** (unis.edu.gt), began in Guatemala in 1997 as a development of an earlier initiative. At present it has six faculties: Economics and Business, Architecture and Design, Law, Communication, Education and Engineering. Examples of other universities that have agreements with the Prelature are the **Universidad de Piura** (Peru, udep.edu.pe), the **Universidad de La Sabana** (Colombia, unisabana.edu.co), **Strathmore University** (Kenya, strathmore.edu) and the **University of Asia and the Pacific** (Philippines, uap.edu.ph).

— **Braval** (braval.org) and **Terral** (terral.org) are centres that provide social and educational support in Raval, a neighbourhood of Barcelona (Spain) particularly affected by immigration. Through a personalised program run by volunteers, young people in the neighbourhood are encouraged to study and take an interest in their own professional development. Braval, which enjoys the support of a number of companies, also helps students find work and secure a job. A multi-ethnic sports program also facilitates the integration between the different cultures present in the neighbourhood.

— **Center for Industrial Technology and Enterprise** (cite.edu.ph), begun in 1990 in Cebu City (Philippines), is an institution committed to provide training in technical skills and entrepreneurship, values formation, health and social services to the less privileged youth, their families, the local community and the industrial sector of Visayas and Mindanao. CITE offers courses in mechanics, electricity and electronics. It has almost 3,000 graduates, holds international quality certifications and is recognised by the Philippine government as one of the best technical schools in the country.

— **Harambee Africa International** (harambee-africa.org) was founded in 2002 on the occasion of the canonization of Opus Dei's founder. It is a charitable organisation that supports initiatives run by African institutions, in collaboration with local development aid agencies. It has supported projects in Kenya, Madagascar, South Africa, Guinea Bissau, Uganda, Angola, Cameroon, Sao Tome, Mozambique, Congo, Nigeria, Benin, Ivory Coast, Togo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso and Sudan with different objectives, from nutritional and medical help for the population to the social reintegration of child soldiers.

— **El Centro de Cuidados Laguna** (lagunacuida.org), located in Madrid (Spain) provides palliative care. Its services cover the areas of neurology, geriatrics, rehabilitation, advanced paediatric diseases and family assistance, both at home and in the hospital. Thanks to the help of many individuals, as well as public and private institutions, Laguna is able to help people with few economic resources. It seeks to help the elderly and the sick feel cared for, attended to, understood and loved until the last moment of their lives.

— More information: [Educational and social initiatives which receive assistance from the Opus Dei Prelature](#)

3. The 2025 Ordinary General Congress

3.1 Messages from the Prelate

"This year also opens with the prospect of the ordinary General Congress of the Work, which will take place between the last days of April and the beginning of May. Besides examining in depth the proposal for changes to the Statutes, it will also be an opportunity to study the conclusions of the Regional Assemblies, which have taken place in all the territorial circumscriptions of the Work. It is encouraging to see the desires for fidelity and apostolate that these conclusions contain" ([Message, January 25, 2025](#)).

"The Ordinary General Congress of the Work is also very close. It will last several days, divided into two parts (one for each section) between the 23rd of this month and May 5th. As is foreseen, appointments will be made to the General Council and the Central Advisory, and ways to spur forward the apostolic work will be studied, also in light of the conclusions of the recent Regional Assemblies. This Congress will also consider the proposal – definitive on our part – of the text of the Statutes, to be submitted for the Holy See's approval. All of you should take part with your prayers" ([Message, April 8, 2025](#)).

3.2 Since the Ordinary Congress in 2017

The 2017 Ordinary General Congress approved a number of conclusions (outlined in [the Prelate's letter on February 14](#) that year) which set the course for the governance of Opus Dei over the following eight years. Without aiming to be exhaustive, this section highlights some of the initiatives carried out during that time, impacting all the circumscriptions.

Over the course of the years, in line with points 7–12 of the 2017 letter, the Prelate has written several pastoral letters offering deeper reflection on key aspects of the spirit of Opus Dei, enlightened by the teachings of Saint Josemaría. These seven letters have focused on [freedom](#), [friendship](#), [vocation](#), [fidelity](#), [fraternity](#), [obedience](#), and, most recently, [joy](#). The website of the Work has published [texts for prayer](#) and [for formation](#) as aids to personal reflection, including a series on the charism, still ongoing, entitled, "[Path to the Centenary](#)." The same themes have shaped the priorities of this period, with a renewed approach to formation, spiritual accompaniment, and the family and apostolic life of centres; one that highlights personal freedom and initiative in the response to their own vocation. The revision of practical guidelines for regional governments and for formational work in the centres has incorporated these topics, making it easier to reflect them in the tone and style of different activities.

Over the past eight years, the [Istituto Storico San Josemaría Escrivá](#) has made significant progress in publishing critical editions of several of Saint Josemaría's works: the first eight letters (previously unpublished), *Friends of God*, *Escritos varios* [Various Writings], and *In Dialogue with the Lord* (cf. Letter, February 14, 2017, no. 29). The series of monographs and source texts has grown by nine volumes, including noteworthy additions on the history of Opus Dei and of women in the Work. The website [escriva.org](#), which offers Saint Josemaría's writings in 28 languages, has also been updated.

A wide range of formation initiatives have been carried out in response to the challenges outlined by the Prelate (cf. Letter, February 14, 2017, no. 8). Below are some of the core themes that have been explored through theology classes, practical materials, expert-led sessions, and spiritual accompaniment:

- Deepening the life of prayer;
- Developing a contemplative outlook through human, cultural and artistic formation, and growth in virtues such as temperance, attentiveness, and reflection;
- A deeper understanding of the vocation to Opus Dei and the specific identity of each form of commitment;

- Providing formation that encompasses every dimension of the person, with particular emphasis on affective maturity and including the physical dimension;
- Cultivating a free and detached heart, capable of loving;
- Deepening the understanding of work as a place of encounter with God;
- Fostering a sense of social responsibility.

In this last area, special mention can be made of content [related to professional formation](#) and [the social doctrine of the Church](#). One noteworthy example is [BeDoCare](#), a forum for social initiatives from various countries, many inspired by the teachings of Saint Josemaría, launched in the context of preparations for the centenary of Opus Dei.

Regarding means of formation, work has been done to review the approach, language, and way of explaining and grounding different aspects of the spirit of Opus Dei across the various stages of formation (initial formation, centres of study, courses of study), as well as in materials for study circles, recollections, and spiritual retreats.

Below is a brief overview of several initiatives promoted by the Central Advisory and the General Council, aimed at improving the governance of the Prelature (cf. Letter, February 14, 2017, nos. 13 and 15):

Strengthening the [project for improved governance and spurring forward apostolic undertakings](#), launched in 2021 and developed in various ways. One major aspect has been the [territorial restructuring of the Prelature's circumscriptions](#), together with improved formation for those leading the advisory teams that assist the vicars in each circumscription. The work of these bodies has also been enhanced through a review of processes, in order to simplify them; digital transformation, with many now operating remotely with decentralized teams; and, finally, considerable effort to ensure compliance with the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Measures to improve vocational discernment and introduce more flexible timelines for incorporation into the Work, tailored to the great diversity of personal circumstances.

Ongoing, specialised formation to improve spiritual accompaniment, the direction of apostolic initiatives, and care for people in a variety of situations (including the elderly and the sick, those facing psychological difficulties, support for families and parents, marital or family crises, etc.).

Updates to [universal guidelines](#) and local protocols to create environments of trust and to protect minors and vulnerable adults in activities of the Prelature. This includes the launch or updating of safeguarding policies in all apostolic initiatives, along with related training.

Renewed reflection and focus on accompaniment and the involvement of former members of the Work who wish to stay connected with formation or projects linked to the Prelature.

Creation of a [protocol for institutional complaints](#), implemented in all circumscriptions through [listening, healing and resolution offices](#) set up in several regions, to address concerns raised by individuals.

During this period, we gave thanks to God for the beatification of Guadalupe Ortiz de Landázuri (May 2019). Other causes for joy include the declaration of [Ernesto Cofiño](#) as venerable, and the completion of the diocesan processes for three other faithful of Opus Dei whose causes for beatification are now open: [Arturo Álvarez](#), a Mexican associate; [Marcelo Câmara](#), a Brazilian supernumerary; and [Adolfo Rodríguez Vidal](#), a numerary priest who died in Chile. In 2024, the Diocese of Salford (United Kingdom) opened the cause for [Pedro Ballester](#), a young numerary.

To present “attractive examples of Christian life” and help young people in their spiritual journey (cf. Letter, 14 Feb. 2017, n. 18), efforts have been made to develop content for the Prelature’s official website that makes Christian life more accessible and appealing. One significant project was the 2024 launch of [Youth](#), a digital platform created for young people, designed to address their questions, challenges, and dreams.

Over these eight years, there has been a strong push to renew formation programmes for family life, led especially by married members. These include congresses, digital content platforms, new case studies for discussion, international gatherings, and research projects. A key milestone was the 2022 working session in Barcelona, which was a time of listening and reflection on family life around the world. The concluding document, “Faith, Family, Formation, Future,” helped to define eight priority areas for ongoing work.

Many other lines of action outlined in the 2017 letter – such as those on apostolic challenges, professional environments, family life, youth, and social needs (cf. nos. 16–31) – have been carried forward at the regional or local level, or taken up by apostolic initiatives. At the heart of all these efforts is each person in the Work, called to “care for our union with God with the refinement of people in love, beginning with the contemplation of Jesus Christ, the face of the Father’s Mercy” (Letter, February 14, 2017, n. 30), to “feel the weight of the Work, the weight of souls, the responsibility of taking forward this small family that we are” (no. 1), and to “redeem and sanctify our time, to understand and share the concerns of our fellow men and women” (no. 1).

3.3 Brief description of the 2025 Ordinary Congress

The Congress has two sessions – one for men and one for women – with similar programmes, focused on the [two main themes announced by the](#)

Prelate: deepening the proposal for modifications to the Statutes requested by the Holy See, and studying how to give renewed impetus to apostolic initiatives, particularly in light of the conclusions of the [Regional Assemblies that have taken place over the past year](#) in all of the Prelature's territorial circumscriptions.

In the first part of the Congress, the Prelate will inform participants about the apostolic and formational activity since the last ordinary General Congress, and about the implementation of the priorities outlined in the letter of February 2017 (see no. 3.2).

Particular attention will be given to the current status of the work to revise the Statutes of Opus Dei, which will subsequently be submitted to the Holy See for approval.

In accordance with the current Statutes (no. 146, §3), the Prelate will present the proposed appointments for the new Central Advisory and the new General Council, including the vicars, to the Congress, and proceed with their nomination, taking the congress participants' input into account.

As outlined in the current Statutes (no. 146, § 3), the Prelate will present proposed appointments for the new Central Advisory and the new General Council to the Congress.

The second part of the Congress will be dedicated to studying the conclusions and proposals that emerged from the regional assemblies held throughout 2024 in all the Prelature's circumscriptions (see no. 3.3 b).

A concluding document will then be drafted and submitted to a vote by the male and female participants, respectively. This document will determine the main lines of work until the next General Congress.

Studying the conclusions of the Regional Assemblies

The Regional Assemblies held in 2024 across all circumscriptions, with the theme ["On the road to the centenary of the Work. Going more deeply into our charism and renewing our desire to serve God, the Church, and society,"](#) gathered contributions from more than 55,000 people. In each circumscription, these contributions were studied and synthesised into conclusions, which were then submitted to Rome for the Prelate's approval and will serve as a roadmap for local initiatives in the coming years.

In addition, among all the issues raised, the most relevant, recurrent, and widely-shared topic have been selected for study during the Congress, in order to establish priorities for formation and apostolate in the Work as a whole. The Prelate usually shares these conclusions in a letter to everyone in Opus Dei at the end of the Congress.

Some of the topics to be addressed focus on essential features of the vocation to the Work, such as professional work and secularity, as well as

the different vocational paths; formation; personal apostolate; family and youth; apostolic initiatives; and governance within the Work.

Statutes

The Holy See, through the Dicastery for the Clergy, considered it appropriate that, given that there was to be an Ordinary Congress during the ongoing review of the Statutes, the Congress should have an opportunity to examine the final draft of the revisions before submitting it to the Holy See for approval. In this, the Congress' role is primarily consultative.

4. Questions and answers

4.1 About the Ordinary General Congress

- What is an Ordinary General Congress? When have previous congresses taken place?
- What topics will be studied in the 2025 Ordinary General Congress?
- How will the Congress be structured?
- Who is summoned to the Congress?

4.2 About the Regional Assemblies

- One of the themes of the Congress mentions the regional assemblies. What are they?
- When did the regional assemblies begin?
- How does one participate in a regional assembly?
- Did the 2024 Regional Assemblies have a particular theme?
- How were the 2024 Regional Assemblies carried out?

4.3 About the Statutes of Opus Dei

- Why did the Holy See ask for the Statutes to be adapted?
- Who has the authority to modify the Statutes of Opus Dei?
- What is the Congress's role in relation to the Statutes?
- How has the process of adapting the Statutes unfolded? What are the next steps?
- Will any information about the Statutes be shared at the end of the Congress?
- How important is juridical structure in the life of an institution?
- Some observers interpreted the new regulations on personal prelatures as restricting their influence. Is there any truth to that interpretation?
- How might the eventual modifications to the Statutes affect members of the Work in their daily lives?

4.4 Other questions and answers

- About the *motu proprio Ad charisma tuendum*
- About the *motu proprio* regarding personal prelatures

4.1 About the Ordinary General Congress

What is an Ordinary General Congress? When have previous congresses taken place?

In accordance with the Statutes of Opus Dei, Ordinary General Congresses are celebrated every eight years to take stock and to provide guidelines for the evangelizing activity of the Prelature's faithful, both priests and laity (men and women, married and single). During the Congress, appointments are also renewed for the tasks on the General Council and the Central Advisory.

The last Ordinary General Congress (the 9th) took place immediately after the elective General Congress of January 2017, during which Msgr. Fernando Ocáriz was elected and subsequently appointed Prelate of Opus Dei by Pope Francis. On February 14, 2017, Msgr. Ocáriz published a letter outlining the [main conclusions of that Congress](#). The previous Congress (the 8th) was in April 2010.

What topics will be studied in the 2025 Ordinary General Congress?

The Prelate of Opus Dei has explained ([message, January 25, 2025](#)) that the two main themes will be: deepening the proposal for modifications to the Statutes requested by the Holy See, and studying the conclusions of the [Regional Assemblies](#) that have taken place over the past year in all of the Prelature's territorial circumscriptions.

How will the Congress be structured?

The Congress has two sessions – one for men and one for women – with similar programmes. In the first part of the Congress, the Prelate will inform participants about the apostolic and formational activity since the last ordinary General Congress, and about the implementation of the priorities outlined in the letter of February 2017. Particular attention will be given to the current status of the work to revise the Statutes of Opus Dei, which will subsequently be submitted to the Holy See for approval.

The second part of the Congress will be dedicated to studying the conclusions and proposals that emerged from the regional assemblies held throughout 2024 in all the Prelature's circumscriptions. A concluding document will then be drafted and submitted to a vote by the male and female participants, respectively.

Additionally, in each session, the members of the General Council and the Central Advisory of Opus Dei (respectively) are either newly appointed or their appointment is renewed, following the Prelate's proposal to the Congress. Once the Congress has concluded, the Prelate and his central governing bodies will review all appointments to regional government.

Who is summoned to the Congress?

All the members of the congress, men and women, appointed according to the Statutes (nos. 130, § 2 and 133, § 3) are summoned. To be a member of the congress, one must be at least 32 years of age and have been definitively incorporated into the Prelature for at least 9 years. They are appointed by the Prelate from among the faithful in the countries where the Work exercises its apostolate, with the deliberative vote of the central governing bodies (the Council for men and Advisory for women), taking the opinion of the person's circumscription of origin into account. All the members of the congress are numeraries, and a large majority of them have done or are currently doing government work in the Prelature in the various circumscriptions. This facilitates their knowledge of the apostolic challenges of the places where they live and work.

Other faithful of the Prelature may also be called by the Prelate to collaborate as experts, having a voice but no vote (no. 130, § 4).

There are 279 members of the congress, 127 women (45.5%) and 152 men (54.5%). They come from Africa (6.8%), Asia (5.7%), Europe (48.7%), North and South America (37.3%), and Oceania (1.4%). This proportion corresponds to the total number of faithful of Opus Dei living in the respective continents. 95 priests will attend, representing 34% of the members of the congress. Regarding the age range, the youngest member of the congress is 37 years old and the oldest is 91 years old.

4.2. About the Regional Assemblies

One of the themes of the Congress mentions the regional assemblies. What are they?

Regional assemblies, also known as work weeks, are a tool provided in the Statutes of Opus Dei (nos. 162-170) for studying the most relevant topics for the formation and apostolic mission of its members in each circumscription and taking stock of the time elapsed since the previous assembly (no. 162). These assemblies, convened every ten years, are called by the regional vicar by mandate of the Prelate (no. 164). They are a consultative instrument, allowing the collection of reflections and opinions from all the faithful of the Work in order to promote the apostolic work in each country and historical period.

The initial phase, fostering broad participation, involves the preparation of experiences, suggestions, proposals, etc. on the proposed theme, by the faithful of the Prelature, cooperators, and friends (no. 167).

After the initial phase, which should last at least two months, a phase of compilation and synthesis of all proposals, including those from the participants in the final phase, begins in order to create the working document for the concluding meeting (no. 168).

Then the concluding phase begins with the meeting of the individuals convoked (no. 166), presided over by the Prelate or his delegate (no. 165).

The conclusions of the assembly are sent to the Prelate (no. 169); upon his approval, they become material for the ordinary governance of the circumscription and are of great importance in preparing the ordinary general congresses, held every eight years to study the state of the Prelature and propose governance actions.

When did the regional assemblies begin?

The account of the beginnings is detailed in the article [“Work Weeks in the Foundational Years”](#) published in *Studia et Documenta* by the Historical Institute of St. Josemaría. The first assembly was convened by St. Josemaría in 1943 in Madrid (Spain), with the participation of 16 individuals; the first one for women took place in 1948. Since 1955, they have been held regularly in each circumscription.

How does one participate in a regional assembly?

From the beginning, St. Josemaría understood the importance of having everyone participate, as is expressed in point 167 of the Statutes. The mode and method for participation is established [in each region](#), and includes various formats: conversations, formational activities, group meetings, etc., ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to participate.

Did the 2024 Regional Assemblies have a particular theme?

The theme of the 2024 Regional Assemblies was, “On the Road to the Centenary of the Work.” The aim was to encourage people in Opus Dei, cooperators, and friends to reflect on evangelisation projects for the coming years, how to respond to the challenges of our time in light of the spirit of Opus Dei and how to celebrate the upcoming centenary of the Work locally (beginning in 2028). The document [“On the road to the centenary of the Work. Going more deeply into our charism and renewing our desire to serve God, the Church, and society”](#) provided a starting point for participants' contributions.

How were the 2024 Regional Assemblies carried out?

In total, nearly 55,000 people from 70 countries submitted their suggestions. Additionally, around 3,000 working groups were organized to discuss various topics related to living out the message of Opus Dei, as well as the challenges and ways to strengthen apostolic work. The three key themes that emerged most frequently in these discussions were family, work, and formation for the mission. Many other relevant topics were also considered, ranging from pressing social needs in different countries and the Church's main evangelization challenges to aspects of Opus Dei's message that could be further explored.

Among other conclusions, participants highlighted that the key contributions of Opus Dei's formation are: fostering an encounter with Christ in daily life, providing spiritual accompaniment, and offering theological and doctrinal formation on the Christian message, in order to transform the world from within. All the materials compiled during the final meetings of the assemblies will serve as the foundation for the Ordinary General Congress this year. More information [here](#).

4.3 About the Statutes of Opus Dei

Why did the Holy See ask for the Statutes to be adapted?

The revision of the Statutes of Opus Dei is part of a broader reform of the Roman Curia. In 2022, Pope Francis promulgated the Apostolic Constitution *Praedicate Evangelium*, which restructured the Roman Curia and emphasized its missionary service. As part of this reform, the responsibilities of various Dicasteries were reorganized; among other changes, the Dicastery for the Clergy assumed oversight of personal prelatures. A few months later, Pope Francis issued the [motu proprio *Ad charisma tuendum*](#), followed in 2023 by [another motu proprio](#) titled "On the modification of canons 295–296 concerning personal prelatures." The Statutes need to be aligned with the provisions of these two motu proprio. *Ad charisma tuendum* states that "the proper Statutes of the Prelature of Opus Dei shall be suitably adapted upon the proposal of the Prelature itself, to be approved by the competent bodies of the Apostolic See."

Who has the authority to modify the Statutes of Opus Dei?

The authority to modify the Statutes or to introduce new provisions rests with the Holy See, either at its own initiative or at the request of the General Congress of Opus Dei (cf. Statutes, no. 181). When the initiative for the change is the Prelature's, to guarantee the juridical certainty of the need for these changes, the Statutes stipulate that they be proposed and ratified in three General Congresses (no. 181, § 3). In this case, since it is the Holy See that has requested the proposed modifications, the procedure and timeline established in no. 181, §3 do not apply.

What is the Congress's role in relation to the Statutes?

The Holy See, through the Dicastery for the Clergy, considered it appropriate that, given that there was to be an Ordinary Congress during the ongoing review of the Statutes, the Congress should have an opportunity to examine the final draft of the revisions before submitting it to the Holy See for approval. Thus the Congress' role is primarily consultative.

How has the process of adapting the Statutes unfolded? What are the next steps?

The process has unfolded in two stages. The first, in 2023, involved a general consultation with all members of Opus Dei regarding possible

adjustments to the Statutes in light of *Ad charisma tuendum*. Based on the suggestions received, a draft was prepared and submitted to the Extraordinary Congress convened for this purpose by Msgr. Fernando Ocáriz in April 2023.

Following the publication of a second motu proprio in August 2023 ("On the modification of canons 295–296 concerning personal prelatures"), a second stage began. This phase involved the formation of two working groups of experts: one from the Dicastery for the Clergy and the other from the Prelature of Opus Dei. The approach was based on two guiding principles: first, filial obedience to the directives of ecclesiastical authority, and second, safeguarding the charism of Opus Dei, as Pope Francis urged in the introduction to *Ad charisma tuendum*.

After a series of study sessions and working meetings between both parties, the Prelature submitted a proposed version of the Statutes with the relevant modifications. Based on the Dicastery's observations, a final text will be prepared which, after the aforementioned Ordinary Congress, will be submitted once more to the Holy See. The Holy Father is likely to move forward with their approval after this.

Will any information about the Statutes be shared at the end of the Congress?

Once the Statutes have been approved by the Holy See, the updated text and ample explanatory material will be made available on the website. Understandably, however, the Prelature cannot share details before the Statutes are approved by the Pope, who is the competent legislator. Therefore, there are no plans for a public release of the final proposed modifications to the Statutes by Opus Dei; the matter will be entrusted entirely to the Holy See.

How important is juridical structure in the life of an institution?

Juridical structure is important for any institution within the Church. Opus Dei can be viewed both from a juridical and a charismatic perspective. One of the purposes of canon law is to safeguard the charism and to establish the most suitable conditions for it to bear fruit for the good of the whole Church, contributing to evangelisation in accordance with the particular characteristics of its charism.

Some observers interpreted the new regulations on personal prelatures as restricting their influence. Is there any truth to that interpretation?

Pope Francis was asked this very question in a book-length interview. He responded: "I do not agree. It is a typically worldly interpretation, alien to the religious dimension. For one thing, Opus Dei – which remains a prelature – is not the only one to have undergone a reorganisation during

my pontificate. I am thinking, for example, of Communion and Liberation, the Community of Sant'Egidio and the Focolare Movement. Opus Dei used to report to the Congregation for Bishops, but now it will report to the Congregation for the Clergy, as is the case for personal prelatures. This means that the report on its work will no longer be five-yearly, but annual. As for the fact that whoever is at the head will no longer be promoted to the episcopate, the decision – as the decree clearly states – is intended to reinforce a form of government based not so much on hierarchical authority, but above all on the charism which, in the case of Opus Dei, involves seeking sanctification through work and family and social commitments" (*El pastor*, Sergio Rubin and Francesca Ambrogetti, Ediciones B, March 2023, our translation).

How might the eventual modifications to the Statutes affect members of the Work in their daily lives?

We will only know the effects of the modifications after the Holy See issued the updated Statutes, but in members' daily lives, the aim is precisely to safeguard the essential elements of the charism.

The motu proprio requesting these modifications is a call to become more deeply aware of the potential of Opus Dei's charism in the Church's mission. As the Holy Father says, "In accordance with the gift of the Spirit received by Saint Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer, the Prelature of Opus Dei, with the guidance of its Prelate, carries out the task of spreading the call to holiness in the world, through the sanctification of work and family and social commitments."

Being reminded of this by the Pope himself will encourage the faithful of Opus Dei all the more to deepen their understanding of the charism and to discern, with the light of the Holy Spirit, how to incarnate it in new situations in our world.

4.4. Other questions and answers

- About the motu proprio *Ad charisma tuendum* ([here](#))
- About the motu proprio regarding personal prelatures ([here](#))

5. Recent interviews with Msgr. Fernando Ocáriz

We offer a selection of responses given by Msgr. Fernando Ocáriz in various recent media interviews. The ones included here have been chosen for their closer connection to the themes of this congress. A longer version is available [here](#).

Why is this lay identity so essential for Opus Dei as an institution and as a spiritual path?

It is essential because it is what Saint Josemaría Escrivá understood God was asking from him: explaining, showing, discovering, and reminding the universal call to holiness in the middle of the world and through ordinary realities, primarily family and work life. The founder started bringing the Work forward by accompanying students and professionals, as well as forming groups, praying, and asking others to pray for them. He also involved those young people in his visits to the poor and sick in Madrid, and organised spiritual retreats and classes of formation. They spread to many cultures and nations, with the same spirit, among people of all classes and backgrounds. What the Lord and the Church ask of us is to care for this charism and make it fruitful (...). So Opus Dei, as an institution, offers formation, accompaniment, and a concrete spirituality adapted to men and women with families to care for, who have demanding work schedules, undergo economic difficulties and relocations, etc. Some people, upon discovering this spirit, feel a vocational call to spread it through their lives. (Interview with [The Pillar](#), 18-XI-2024)

Pope Francis called for strengthening the essential charism of Opus Dei. How would you characterize that charism in a few words?

Summing it up in a few words, I would describe it as the search for God, the encounter with God – arms open to all – and helping many others to have this same encounter in ordinary life, at work, in the family, and on the street. In Pope Francis' words, it is about "spreading the call to holiness in the world, through the sanctification of work and family and social commitments." (Interview with [El Mercurio de Chile](#), 28-VII-2024)

In a recent interview with the Italian newspaper Avvenire, you said, "There is still much to be done to rediscover the role of the laity." What has yet to be done? And, before that, what is or should be the role of the laity in the Church?

As the Second Vatican Council emphasized, laypeople are entrusted by their very vocation with the task of bringing Christian vitality to temporal matters: work, family, business, culture, and so on. They live in the world, engaging in every field and profession, from the sports field to the scientific lab; from cinema and entertainment to politics, agriculture, education, economics... Their role is to contribute to sanctifying the world by reflecting a bit of Christ's love in every place and circumstance; and here, much

remains to be done. I'm thinking, for instance, about the formation of laypeople in bioethics and social justice, their awareness of being protagonists in evangelization, their ethical responsibility at work, in peacebuilding, education, and finance... It is baptized men and women who are out there and who should bring forth the holiness of God, which ultimately leads to humanizing the world. The mission of the laity is not limited to "filling roles" in Church structures. (Interview with [Semana](#), 17-VIII-2024)

Opus Dei is also heading towards the centenary of its foundation in 2028. What steps are planned and what is expected from this long preparation?

In the years leading up to the centenary, we want to consider the needs and challenges facing the Church and the world. We want to deepen our understanding of our identity and study how the Work can contribute to the sanctification of ordinary life through its charism. During this time, therefore, we will look outward (toward the Church and the world) and inward (toward Opus Dei itself), in the hope that these perspectives will converge in a moment of grace. (Interview with [Avvenire](#), 30-VI-2024)

Opus Dei seems to face a number of ongoing challenges, including the reform of the statutes, the situation of Torreciudad, various articles, books, and documentaries, and a judicial investigation in Argentina.

(...) In this context, the "ongoing challenges" you mention are also calls to thoroughly examine how well we have reflected the beauty of this charism and, at the same time, in which areas a lack of adaptability might have prevailed, to change non-essential matters, which – as the founder himself said – is part of the life of any living organism. As I mentioned earlier, the work on the statutes is progressing well, and we also sincerely hope to reach an appropriate solution regarding the different opinions on Torreciudad, which is in the hands of the Holy See.

Every book, article, or documentary you mention weighs on us since it expresses someone's pain or frustration. As you might understand, we work so that there are no reasons for it, because we wish that living the vocation to the Work is a reason for joy, as it is, thanks to God, for many thousands of people. But we will always make mistakes because we are an institution made up of human beings. Naturally, we wish to detect them in a timely way and remedy them as much as possible.

At the same time, criticism – even when it does not correspond to reality – might be an aid to discovering aspects in which we can improve. Although they may not be pleasant or always fair, sometimes they can become opportunities for examination and, occasionally, for interior maturation. It is always important to face whatever needs to be improved or corrected with serenity and trust.

Regarding the claims you mention in Argentina, a listening commission was conducted there. With the experience gained, the first office of healing and resolution was established to solve every individual conflict. It was a cause for great joy for us to reach agreements with many people, which also helped us to offer a personal and concrete request for forgiveness. The broad listening helped to relieve the pain of those who belonged to the institution for a while, or looked in it for help and accompaniment but could not find it. After this job, which is beginning a process of healing, we are creating similar procedures in other countries. (Interview with [The Pillar](#), 18-XI-2024)

What is Opus Dei's relationship with former members?

We love from the bottom of our hearts all the people who have belonged to the Work and, for whatever reason, left it, and we sincerely appreciate the good they did while they were in the Work and that they continue to do now. We respect each of them greatly because there was a desire to give their lives to God in that decision of becoming members of Opus Dei. On numerous occasions, I've had the opportunity to ask for forgiveness from those that still bear a wound from a lack of charity, of justice, or any other reason. On many other occasions, I have witnessed their gratitude for the time spent in the Work and for the accompaniment received, which leads them to continue participating in spiritual and formative activities. In the last year, we have received almost daily a request of admission in Opus Dei from people who have previously belonged to the Work: life shows that reality has more nuance than what we may suppose according to an excessively dichotomous or polarised narrative. (Interview with [The Pillar](#), 18-XI-2024)

In your opinion, what have been the lights and shadows over these nearly one hundred years of history?

Opus Dei has been, and continues to be, a gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church, as Pope Francis reminds us in *Ad charisma tuendum*. I see the Work as a light that inspires many people to discover Jesus Christ in the ordinary tasks of daily life: work, family, social relationships. I would say these are the main lights, with God as the protagonist, intervening in history.

Among these lights, I would like to remember so many members of the Work who have walked this earth striving to do good, with their virtues and shortcomings. Today, around a thousand members of Opus Dei pass away each year. In most cases, they are simple, ordinary, anonymous people who have tried to sow peace and joy around them, sometimes in difficult situations. At other times, these individuals have been publicly recognized as examples for the faithful, like Guadalupe Ortiz de Landázuri, the first lay faithful of Opus Dei to be beatified, a chemist who carried out a broad apostolate of friendship in Spain, Mexico, and Italy. Or, more recently, the Guatemalan pediatrician Ernesto Cofiño, a doctor and father of a family who was declared venerable by the Church in December 2023. (...) At the same

time, the history of Opus Dei also includes shadows and mistakes, because it is made up of fallible human beings. Good intentions do not save us from mistakes, and we need to accept the possibility of error with humility. In particular, it pains us to know of people who have been in contact with the prelature and have been hurt by a lack of charity or justice: situations of insufficient emotional support, mistakes in the process of incorporation, neglect in accompanying people who left Opus Dei, and so on. We must learn from these errors and continue improving, with God's help. (Interview with [El 9 Nou](#), 24-IX-2024)

What has remained constant, and what has changed within Opus Dei over time?

Within Opus Dei, there is a fundamental spirit, a meaningful message about holiness in the midst of the world, that has not changed. It is the unchanging core that gives it purpose, because, as is the case with institutions, Opus Dei exists to preserve and share a specific message over time. At the same time, from the beginning, the founder, St. Josemaría, was clear about the need to keep this spirit intact, while also recognizing that forms can – and should – change over time. In the last hundred years, both society and the Church have evolved significantly, and Opus Dei has evolved as well, as part of both the Church and society. Transformations brought about by phenomena like globalization, the advance of women in the public sphere, new family dynamics, and so on, are reflected within Opus Dei as an institution and in the real lives of its members. Knowing how to adapt, and shaping any change around the essentials, is necessary in order to remain faithful to our mission.

For various reasons, changes have occurred over these years in the legal framework, in certain apostolic methods, and in many other perhaps less visible but important aspects. For example, there has been a clear emphasis on the separation between governance and spiritual direction, measures have been adopted to better ensure full freedom and voluntariness in the incorporation processes, and practical ways of expressing the call to live the virtue of poverty within the world have been updated. (Interview with [El 9 Nou](#), 24-IX-2024)

Does the Pope's measure [the *motu proprio* *Ad charisma tuendum*] dissolve Opus Dei's distinctiveness within the Catholic Church?

Allow me to politely disagree. The specific character of Opus Dei is found in its charism or spirit, rather than in its "juridical garb." At its core is the universal call to holiness through work and the ordinary realities of life. The Pope, in *Ad charisma tuendum*, refers to this message as a "gift of the Spirit received by St. Josemaría," that is, as a charism. I repeat: this is the relevant specific characteristic. In fact, with this *motu proprio* Pope Francis confirms the bull *Ut sit*, with which John Paul II erected Opus Dei as a prelature: he modifies two accidental aspects and confirms the essential charism.

Characteristic of Opus Dei is something as ordinary as work: the relevance of work as a place of encounter with God, whether in Silicon Valley or the slums of Kinshasa, whether working as an engineer in the Madrid subway or as a teacher in a school on the outskirts of any metropolis.

Opus Dei does not wish to be an exception within the Church. Its juridical proposals have sought the formula that best fits the reality of lay people who, through a vocational call and with the pastoral care of priests, want to follow Christ in the realities of their families, work, social life, etc. within the framework of their respective particular churches. The fact that until now it has been the only personal prelature may have been perceived as something “exceptional,” but it is certainly not that. On the contrary, I think it would be very good if there were other personal prelatures that would contribute to the evangelization of many areas that especially need Christian inspiration. (Interview with [El País](#), 26-VI-2023)

Many people are intrigued by the youth of some vocations to Opus Dei, sometimes even before the age of 18. Are young people truly free to decide their vocation and join Opus Dei as young as 16?

Freedom is an essential requirement for any vocation. Joining Opus Dei is only possible at 18, the age of majority. If someone feels they have a vocation, they can begin a process of discernment before that, but with the clear understanding that they are not yet part of Opus Dei, and only with the express permission of their parents. From the time that someone requests admission to the Work until their definitive incorporation, there are several formative stages that last at least six or seven years. Each year, the person must express their desire to continue. It's not an automatic process, but a profound call to personal discernment and freedom, far deeper than most life decisions.

The Church acknowledges that young people can discover their vocation and fully respond to God's call of love. Carlo Acutis will soon be canonized, and he died at 15; Blessed Laura Vicuña at 13; Saint Dominic Savio at 14; and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux decided to become a Carmelite in her teens. The activities of spiritual formation that Opus Dei promotes among young people, with parental involvement, are seeds that help them to know and witness their faith, to love their family, to serve others, to be good friends, and to prepare to be good professionals and citizens. Most discover that their vocation is in marriage, some in lay celibacy, and perhaps others in the priesthood or religious life. (Interview with [El Mercurio de Chile](#), 28-VII-2024)

The founder, St. Josemaría, often reminded us of the need to “serve the Church as the Church wants to be served.” How can we interpret this famous statement today?

I would say that the meaning of that phrase has not changed since the

day it was spoken: love for the Church and the Pope is in the DNA of St. Josemaría's message. From a practical point of view, this leads to helping as effectively as possible in the dioceses where the members of Opus Dei live and to which they belong. (Interview with [Avvenire](#), 30-VI-2024)

Opus Dei is embarking on a real "journey," at the Pope's invitation, to rediscover the freshness and strength of its charism. What is being discovered on this journey?

In all the countries where Opus Dei is present, we hold what are called "regional assemblies" every 10 years. These are precious moments of dialogue and reflection. What emerges is a desire to return to the essentials, to the charism, finding the best ways to live and communicate it in today's circumstances. For instance, one of the themes arising from these assemblies is the wish to root the apostolic work of the Work increasingly in sincere friendship and in the transformation of the heart, rather than in structures, projects, or activities. (Interview with [Avvenire](#), 30-VI-2024)

What do you envision for Opus Dei in the next 50 years?

Looking to the future, I would like Opus Dei to be a source of friendship, of faith expressed through action, and of freedom of spirit and creativity to carry out the Church's mission of evangelization and contribute to building a more just society. (Interview with [Semana](#), 17-VIII-2024)

6. Documents

6.1 Information on www.opusdei.org

The Opus Dei website has published a page full of information about the [Ordinary General Congress](#).

6.2 Photos

- [Opus Dei on Flickr](#)

6.3 Videos

- [The charism of Opus Dei, explained by Saint Josemaría](#)
- [The Heart of Work: Saint Josemaría's Vision](#)
- [Activities of Opus Dei](#)
- What is Opus Dei? [English](#) | [Italian](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Spanish](#)
- Video about the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- [Working together](#), a video about cooperators

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