

Dr Ernesto Cofiño

The Servant of God

Newsletter No. 6



Texts taken from his writings

The Servant of God understood very well the words which the Apostle Paul addressed to the Ephesians:

"Brethren, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit" (Eph 2:19-22).

Here are some ideas from his writings which show how a keen awareness of being a "fellow citizen of the People of God" and a "member of the family of God" took shape in his soul.

Knowledge of Church teaching

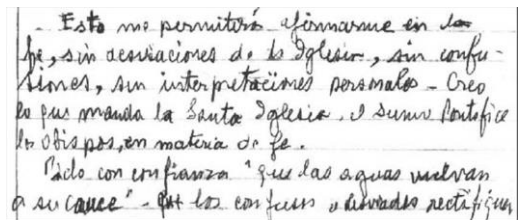
We are obliged to know, unerringly, what is the treasure of His Church, to pass it on and to defend it whenever necessary, without fear or cowardice. But for this, one must have sound knowledge.

Notebook 1-6

Fidelity in passing on doctrine

The church of God has received from Christ Himself a magnificent treasure which she has guarded for centuries in order to keep it unchanged (...) By adhering to what He tells us, following Him unhesitatingly, and striving to understand Him, we will be sure to stay on the right path (...)

Notebook 1-6



- Esto me permitirá afirmarme en las
fe, sin derivaciones de la Iglesia, sin confu-
siones, sin interpretaciones personales - Creo
lo que manda la Santa Iglesia, el Sumo Pontífice
los obispos, en materia de fe.
Pido con confianza "que las aguas vuelvan
a su cauce" - Por las confesiones y sacramentos rectificados.

Our Lady and the Church

The Virgin Mother of the nascent Church and the Church of always: when her Son goes away, she remains to strengthen his disciples.

Notebook 2-4

Favours attributed to his intercession

“May the baby settle down”

I have a friend who was expecting her fourth child. She was in her ninth month and was worried because on 5th December she was informed that because of the position of the baby, she might have to have a caesarean section on 19th December. From Saturday 13th we started praying “Cofiño, may the baby settle down”. On the 19th she went for a check-up and was told that she could expect a natural birth. We intensified our prayers to Dr Ernesto. At the check-up on the 26th the baby had changed position. On 27th December a baby boy weighing 3.8kg was delivered without the need of a caesarean section. As we had requested, the birth was natural.

L.V., B.A. (Argentina)

“I was now able to sleep”

I am very grateful to Dr Cofiño who interceded for me and helped me. My eighteen-month old son had been waking up at four o'clock in the morning for about a month. The last few days he woke up much earlier. My son and I were already tired, and we were not sleeping well. I tried to put into practice the advice of the experts and it seemed that nothing worked until one day I remembered that Dr Cofiño could help me. I started to make the novena and from the first day I prayed it, my son slept until 5:30 am and sometimes until 6:00 am. Thanks to Dr. Cofiño for the favour granted.

R.G. (Guatemala)

“May the baby be born well”

My friend was expecting her second baby on 20 April 2009. She wanted it to be a natural birth, so she looked for an obstetrician who was willing to make it happen, as the first child had been born by caesarean section. She asked Ernesto Cofiño, especially in the last month: “Cofiño, may the baby be born well”. I had already heard this prayer in another recent case (...) The delivery was delayed for 11 days and I was sure to it was going to be a caesarean. Last night at 3 a.m. Felipe was born normally, a magnificent delivery, weighing 3.4 kg.

A.O. F. (Spain)

News of the Cause

On 5 May 2001 the certificates and documentation of the Diocesan Process which took place in the Archdiocese of Santiago of Guatemala, from 31 July 2000 to 5 April 2001 were presented to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome.

The *Positio* on the life, virtues and reputation of sanctity of the Servant of God is now being drafted.

Letters we have received

From Bogotá, Colombia:

We are a family that belongs to the second Neocatechumenal community of the parish of San Jerome in Bogotá. We would like to know a little more about the life of the Servant of God Dr Ernesto Cofiño. We would like to obtain an authorized biography of him and, if possible, a relic of the Servant of God for our family oratory. May Mary Most Holy help us.

From Tegucigalpa, Honduras:

Every day when I board the bus to go to work and when I look at the sky through the window I pray that the Lord will grant me the strength to overcome a difficulty through the intercession of the Servant of God Ernesto Cofiño. I put all my trust in his intercession because many favours have already been granted to me. After reciting the prayer I take time to read the life of this faithful servant of God and I am amazed. With eternal gratitude.

Boiro, La Coruña, Spain

Dearly beloved in the Lord:
Providentially I have been sent from Italy a prayer card of the Servant of God Dr Ernesto Cofiño, a member of Opus Dei. I feel admiration for his beautiful virtues and precious life of charity and love for his neighbour. As Director of the Marian Centre, I am interested in propagating his exemplary life dedicated to following closely the path of Christ our Redeemer. It is my wish that pious families and groups of enthusiastic young people will see in the Servant of God the true strong man of the Gospel, who was a faithful follower of St Josemaría Escrivá.

Please send me a booklet of his life, as well as some prayer cards, so that I can spread his figure as an apostle. If possible also, a relic "*ex indumentis*" for our private devotion and to be able to share it with a sick person, as a consolation and possible miracle to raise Dr Ernesto to the altars.

I will write to you and will keep you informed of the reception and spread of his spirituality.

Yours affectionately *in Corde Iesu*

Prayer

for private devotion to the
Servant of God

O God, our Father, source of all good,
You granted your son Ernesto
abundant graces to be a doctor who
faithfully serves the life that begins in
You and belongs to You alone. Grant
that I too may respect and foster the
gift of life and generously fulfil my
daily duties, out of love of Jesus Christ
and my fellow men and women.
Deign to glorify your servant Ernesto,
and through his intercession grant me
the favour I ask of You... (Make your
request). Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be.

*In conformity with the decrees of Pope Urban
VIII, we declare that there is no intention of
anticipating in any way the judgement of the
Church, and that this prayer is not intended
for public use.*

Those who have obtained favours through the
intercession of The Servant of God Ernesto Cofiño
are asked to let us know by writing to us at the
address below. More information is available at
www.ernestocofino.org. This Newsletter is issued
free of charge. Those who wish to give a
contribution to help its publication may send
donations by cheque or postal order to the address
below or by direct transfer.

Prelature of Opus Dei, Office for the Causes of
Saints, 4 Orme Court, London W2 4RL

e-mail: ocs.uk@opusdei.org

Direct transfer for donations to

"Opus Dei Charitable Trust"

Account Number: 81044834 Sort-Code: 40-05-33.

Ref: COFINO

Biographical Notes

1899 5 June. Born in Guatemala City;
baptised on 9th June.

1910 29 June. First Holy Communion.

1917 10 August. Graduated with a
Bachelor's degree in "Sciences and Letters"
from the Mens' National Central Institute.

1919 20 August. Begins studies at the
Faculty of Medicine, Sorbonne University,
Paris.

1926 By competitive examination is elected
as an intern at the hospitals of Paris.

1929 8 November. Obtains the degree of
Doctor of Medicine at the Sorbonne
University. Returns to live in Guatemala.

1933 21 May. Marries Clemencia Samayoa
Rubio; they have five children.

1940 Is appointed Medical Director of the
Sociedad Protectora del Niño and Chief
Physician of the Children's Hospital of the
same society.

1956 6 December. Applies for admission to
Opus Dei as a Supernumerary.

1961 The Research Council of the University
of San Carlos of Guatemala appoints him
Honorary Professor of the Chair of
Paediatrics of the Faculty of Medical
Sciences.

1969 3 December. Receives the University
Medal of the University of San Carlos.

1981 Oral carcinoma is detected. He
undergoes surgery and three quarters of his
left lower jawbone is removed.

1983 6 January. In recognition of his work in
the medical field, the name "Dr. Ernesto
Cofiño" is given to the Department of
Paediatrics of the San Juan de Dios Hospital.

1991 Cancer is diagnosed in June. Died on
17 October at 7:15 in the morning..