

Montse Grases

Newsletter of the Office
for the Causes of Saints
Opus Dei Prelature in East
& Southern Africa
2026 | no. 30



The Church speaks about Montse

On 26 April 2016, the Pope authorised the publication of the decree on the heroic virtues of Montse Grases. For the past ten years, Montse has been recognised as Venerable. From that document, we can better understand what her life teaches us.

"I am a daughter of God." "Whenever You wish, however You wish, and in whatever way You wish." "*Omnia in bonum*" ("Everything is for the good"). These three short prayers, which the Venerable Servant of God Montserrat Grases used to repeat frequently, aptly describe her spiritual journey. Her vivid awareness of her divine filiation moved her to lovingly fulfil the will of God the Father.

Montse was born in Barcelona in 1941. She was the second of nine children. She had a lively, spontaneous temperament. At times, her reactions could be a little abrupt, although she strove to be kind and cheerful with everyone. In 1954, at her mother's suggestion, she began attending a centre of Opus Dei that offered Christian and human formation. Gradually, she realised that God was calling her to this path within the Church and, on 24 December 1957 — after reflection, prayer, and seeking advice from her parents — she asked to be admitted to Opus Dei, giving herself completely to God in apostolic celibacy.

"In June 1958, she was diagnosed with a sarcoma in her left leg. When her parents told her that she was suffering from this incurable and fatal illness, Montse reacted with great peace and a supernatural outlook."

"Montse died in the prime of her youth, shortly before her 18th birthday. Nevertheless, despite its brevity, her life was a true gift from God to those who knew her and to those who have come to know her since, because she carried out her ordinary duties aflame with love for God and for others. She brought many souls closer to Jesus through her piety, her cheerful expression, and her simple yet heroic generosity. Her early and wholehearted response to God's love is an example that can help many people, especially young people, to understand the beauty of following Christ in everyday life."

In 2018, during the Synod on Young People, a list of young witnesses was compiled. Montse was one of the 34 models proposed by the Church to young people. ■

Favours

An ordinary miracle

My sister, who had just qualified as a doctor in El Salvador, moved to Germany a year ago hoping to have her degree recognised there. She was required to find a job to be able to continue to live there. She delayed starting her job search because she had to return to El Salvador for several weeks to care for my father, who had been very ill. When she returned to Germany, she asked me to pray that she might find work. I suggested that we entrust this intention to Montse, who had always dreamed of becoming a nurse. We asked for her intercession and, just as the deadline for finding a job was about to expire, she found one and was able to extend her stay. The saints of ordinary life also intercede for "ordinary miracles". J.G. (El Salvador, 2025)

A healthy child

Our grandson Ricardo, who has just turned six, was born by a miracle! We turned to Montse's intercession from the very first day that our daughter Blanca was told that her pregnancy had complications, as the child had been diagnosed with trisomy 19. My daughter and her husband Ricardo were told that there was no need to continue the pregnancy, as the child would have very little life expectancy. But they refused. The child was born by caesarean section with only one minor issue. A few days ago, he underwent his third operation, and the surgeon told us that he would probably not need any further interventions. The boy is an intelligent child, ahead of his classmates, and has even just been selected for his neighbourhood football team! For more than six years now, we have given thanks to Montse and entrusted our whole family to her protection. JA (Spain, 2025)

I pray to her as my mother did

After a very busy summer, my back began to hurt. The pain increased to the point where I could hardly walk or lie down. The pain was very intense and, after the relevant medical tests, I was diagnosed with a disc protrusion with nerve compression. Alongside the prescribed rehabilitation, I decided to entrust myself to our dear Montse Grases and prayed a novena, as she had once helped my mother greatly with a similar problem. In addition to coming to know Montse's life more deeply, it brought me great peace and considerable physical relief. PHG (Spain, 2025)

Venerable Montse Grases

Prayer

O God, you granted your servant Montse the grace of serene and cheerful dedication to your will with admirable simplicity in everyday life. Grant that I may lovingly offer to you all my daily activity and convert it into Christian service for others. Deign to glorify your servant Montse, and through her intercession grant me the favour I ask of you... (*here make your request*). Amen.

Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory Be.

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

Those who obtain favours through Montse Grases' intercession are requested to write to the Prelature of Opus Dei, Office for the Causes of Saints, P.O. Box 19884-00100 Nairobi, Kenya
E-mail: info.ke@opusdei.org.

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