# **Montes**

# Newsletter of the Office for the Causes of Saints

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# A great friend

My name is Rita. I am Lebanese and I have a special story about my relationship with Blessed Montse Grases. At the age of 25, I left my village in the mountains to live in Beirut, where I decided to become a member of Opus Dei. I had seen that my path to holiness was to be found in doing the work of the home that can contribute so much to creating a family spirit in the centres of the Work. It was there that I found a book with an orange cover that caught my attention: a biography of Montse. I fell in love with her story and did not stop reading until I had finished it two days later.

Montse made a deep impact on me because of her joy in giving herself completely to God's will. Shortly afterwards, I was offered a move to Spain to complete my training. Although the idea of leaving my country was difficult for me, I felt that Montse gave me strength to accept this opportunity.

Ever since I met her through the book, I feel that she has been a great friend. Her example encourages me in difficult moments, and her smiling eyes are a constant inspiration. I am impressed to know that, like me, she had a strong character, but struggled to moderate it until she reached heaven. This encourages me to strive to improve and to achieve holiness.



New panels about Montse Grases at the entrance to the oratory of Our Lady of Bonaigua, Barcelona, where Montse's mortal remains lie.

I always carry with me a prayer card with a relic and I ask for her help. A great dream of mine was to pray in the crypt where her remains rest in Barcelona. In 2010 I could not fulfil it, but the following year I met her younger sister in Lebanon. It seemed like a 'wink' from Montse.

Finally, two years ago, while I was on a course in Valencia, with the help of a friend, we were able to organise a quick trip to Barcelona. I was able to pray before her remains for an hour and I enjoyed a strong, definitive time with her; I felt her presence and we had a conversation between friends. I am sure that Montse planned that moment and I am deeply grateful to her for having made this dream come true.

Montse's friendship accompanies me in a special way during this Jubilee Year of Hope.

## **Favours**

### 30 novenas

My son had taken the entrance exams for the judiciary twice before. He had been preparing for the exams for about five years. The exams consist of a test, a first oral exam followed by a second oral exam. For the third attempt, I thought of asking Montse Grases to grant him, through her intercession, the favour that he would be able to pass all three. His studying was truly titanic. For my part, I made about 30 novenas to Montse Grases so that everything would be favourable. He passed the test and the first oral exam. The second one took place on 2 October 2023 and he passed with flying colours. He is now a prosecutor.

AMS (Spain)

### The ghost is gone

One night the 'ghost', the phantom limb phenomenon (the set of symptoms that come when you have an amputated limb) came to me. Sometimes it comes in my right leg. which had to be amputated because of a sarcoma. Sometimes I get it so bad that to get rid of the pain I take pills that end up causing dizziness and vomiting, and it can last for several days. I am telling you this because I started to feel it last night, and I didn't want to miss Holy Mass today. I had already taken a Nolotil and was using the electric blanket, but I was very tired from not sleeping and felt sick. I went to Montse Grases, who also suffered a sarcoma. I said 'Montse. I can't go on, help me!' It was instantaneous. The 'ghost' left immediately. AVA (Spain)

Those who obtain favours through Montse Grases' intercession are requested to write to the Office for the Causes of Saints, Opus Dei Prelature, 4 Orme Court, London W2 4RL. Email: ocs.uk@opusdei.org ; or through the website www.montsegrases.org

# News of the Cause

Montse was declared *Venerable* in 2016.

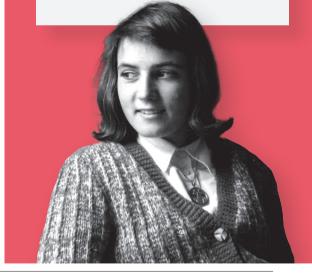
# Venerable Montse Grases

### 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.



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