



THE HUMBLE SHALL BE EXALTED

The already announced celebration of the Beatification of the Venerable Fr. Moises Lira Serafin, is a blessing for the Universal Church, which encourages us to know his life and mission as a path to holiness.

1. - God chooses the simple



God has a special affection for the humble and simple of heart, as is the case of Fr. Moises, who was called to life in Zacatlan, Puebla, on September 16, 1983, and gave him as parents Don Pedro Lira Batalla and Don Juliana Serafin Salas, they formed a family of seven children, Moises being the youngest, and educated them in the principles of Christian values.

Jesus chose him as his friend in the year 1914, at the age of 21, he met the venerable Fr. Felix de Jesus Rougier, and started with him the congregation of the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit, on December 25th of that year.

This good disciple, made his religious profession as the first Missionary of the Holy Spirit, on the 4th of February of 1927, at the age of 24 years in Mexico City. Father Felix Rougier, always presented him as an authentic Missionary of the Holy Spirit: “Look at Moises, you have him as a role model, is the first professed of the congregation. He has the spirit of the congregation” (Letters of Concepcion Cabrera de Armida to Father Felix Rougier and Missionaries of the Holy Spirit, p. 152 en: Moises Lira Serafín, Emilia de Jesus Massimi Wingert, mcmi, Tomo 2, Mexico, 2000, p. 25)

The young man, passionate about the priestly mission of Christ, was ordained a priest on 14 May 1922, at the age of 29, in the city of Morelia, Michoacán.

A ray of light enlightens his mission when he discovers within himself a wellspring of spirituality that he cannot contain in his heart. God has granted him the Charism of Founder and

in 1934, at the age of 41, impelled by the Holy Spirit, he founded the congregation of the Missionaries of Charity of Mary Immaculate in Mexico City. He discovered that God had a mission for him in the Church: to spread the seed of spiritual littleness. (Cfr. HASAP 3, p. 126, 26/XI/1943).

2 Profile of the Apostle of Kindness.

A man who is a child of God: He lived within the reality which he had to live in. He recognized the value and center of the mankind: **The man is worth for his heart**, he learned to relate in harmony with God the Father as a small, loving and pleasing son, and with every man and women as a brother and sister in solidarity and fraternity.

His theme: "I ALWAYS DO WHAT PLEASES MY FATHER" (Jn 8, 29)

His spirituality: He lived the Spirituality of the Cross and Spiritual Childhood. "Littleness is: to be a child, to live in the arms of God, to let oneself be loved by Him"

His model: Jesus the Priest, the pleasing Son of the Father and of Mary the Mother, brother of all.

His strength: Prayer before Jesus in the Eucharist and loving attention where he meets with his Father and is nourished by his Word: "Prayer... is simply opening the heart to God our Father", "Prayer is the recreation of a son with his Father".

His guide: The Spirit of God, who leads him on the path of discernment to live doing the will of the Father.

His passion: the Father and doing Charity in all its forms.

From his experience as a little child of the Father, he received the gift of being an Apostle of the love for the Father, making known his love of mercy.

Priest: He united his life to the cry of Conchita and Félix de Jesús Rougier, "Jesus, Saviour of mankind, save them", offering his life every day and in every Eucharist for the sanctification of each person.

Religious: "Religious forever, religious for all my life, my life all of God, I will live only for God, yes God, yours, yours".

Spiritual director: The purpose of his spiritual direction was to collaborate with God in the plan of salvation, helping those who approached him to advance in their union with God, in his project of sanctification: "O my God, give me to give, give me to love you so that I may teach to love you, give me holiness to sanctify, that I may live in you to teach to live in you... Fiat, Fiat..."

Friend of children: The little ones were favorite beneficiaries of his ministry, he had a love of predilection for them. Wherever he went he formed groups of catechists and Altar servers to whom he gave an integral formation and promoted them to religious and priestly life. With them he prayed, sang, played, walked and rested.

Founder: She founded the congregation of the Missionaries of Charity of Mary Immaculate on 29 March 1934, to express the merciful love of the Father, being "apostles of kindness", "benefactors of humanity".

2. Spirituality of Spiritual Childhood

The secret of his holiness lies in the experience of the beloved little Son of the Father, which God showed him in his daring spiritual littleness, as a means of sanctification: "It is necessary to be very little in order to be a great saint". (Spiritual Diary, 22/01/2023).

By faith he offered to follow the life of Jesus along the path of spiritual childhood: "We must conquer Jesus by making ourselves small" (Spiritual Diary, 04/04/1922).

Secrets that God reveals to you by the Gift of little

"To reach the heights of love, it is impossible to attain it by our own feet of clay or our own great efforts or vain science, but carried in the arms of divine omnipotence, and for this, we need not grow but become smaller, smaller. Spiritual Diary, 04/1936.

"How incomparably beautiful it is to be so small, that is why we will sing with our Mother the canticle of gratitude" DE 15/07/1935.

"More interior solitude... more silence... and the abandonment of a very small child" Spiritual Diary, 08/1944.

"As for the most intimate part of my soul, I believe that Our Lord is asking me to know more and to practice better my way which consists in living... as a good son of God... weak... helpless... loving... humble, trusting, etc., and as such living a constant and loving attention to God my Father, looking everything to Him...". Letter to Fr. Félix de Jesús Rougier, n.d.

"A little soul, as it never sees itself, nor any creature, but only God; as it rests and leans only on Him, it is always calm and smiling, like the little child, abandoned to the care of the one who loves him more than its own life" Spiritual Diary 04/193

4. Spirituality of the Cross

He nourished his spiritual life with the essence of the Spirituality of the Cross, with which he identified himself as a little son and victim: "This is my way: Little one, Victim and beloved son of Mary". Letter to Father Félix de Jesús Rougier, 1920.

In him is confirmed the new birth of which Jesus speaks in the Gospel, it is necessary to be born again, he received the first fruits of the promises given by Jesus to Blessed Concepción Cabrera de Armida: he must have the qualities of a child, without self-will, without arrogance or pride,

being happy to receive everything, from above or from below; in agreeing blindly to everything, with the candor, the simplicity, the transparency of the soul of children. (Cfr. CCA. II, 330-333/23/12/1914, History of the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit,

In him blossomed the virtues of Jesus Priest and Victim: "The little soul must be like a little Host in order to immolate itself unceasingly for the glory of the Heavenly Father, with Jesus" (HASAP 3, P. 56, 28/11/1941).

I offered myself and [I] offer myself to be the consolation of the souls, accepting with the joy of a little child what pain and joy this sublime and beautiful mission entails... I will no longer descend... from the cross that awaits me... Spiritual Diary 08/04/1936.

His offering united to Christ the Priest bears the stamp of pain and love in filial obedience in the submission of his will to the Father. He writes: pain will come to grind us like wheat and for this, we must be very united in doing what God wants (HASAP 1, p. 351. 26/04/1938).

Saving love for Father Moses is the love that becomes self-giving in **sacrifice**, which shows itself in self-denial, in immolation for love. Sacrifice purifies and leads to the death of the self. HASAP 1, pp. 29-36.

In him the Eucharistic dimension shone out in a special way, a grace of the Holy Spirit that conformed him to Jesus in the Eucharist: He aspired to be a saving Host by union and immolation with Him on the Altar.

He manifested the charity of Christ by making his life a joyful gift to the little ones, the needy, the sick and in a special way in the hidden ministry of the confessional, in the long hours of spiritual direction, leaving in everyone the sweet smell of Jesus Priest and Victim.

5. MARIAN SPIRITUALITY

Mary is the delight of his childlike heart, he welcomes her as a newborn child, Spiritual Diary 22/06/1922: "O Mary, my good Mother, I am your son" this tender expression is full of filial love which he increased in his Marian piety: "I will make my love grow for Mary" to her he entrusts himself with the love of a little child: "I fear nothing, because Mary is always with me" Letter to Fr. Felix 09/01/1921.

Mary his Mother accompanies him at his priestly ordination, and the joy that filled his heart he celebrates and shares with her: "O Mary, my Mother of Guadalupe, rejoice, you already have another priest son, who will never go up to the altar without you. Into your hands I entrust and place my priestly life. Mother, help me" Spiritual Diary 15/05/1922.

We find in the Spiritual Diary and in other writings a Magnificat in which he expresses his close relationship, alive and full of affection, it is Mary his tender Mother who involves his thoughts, his gaze and his words:

"Nothing that is for God that does not pass through the Hands of Mary" Spiritual Diary 08/09/1922.

"Mary is our Mother who loves us, that is why there must be among us this filial abandonment to her".

"We need to converse intimately with our heavenly Mother".

"We must walk holding her motherly hand and exchange sweet glances with her".

"Let us rest our painful head on her loving motherly heart" HASAP 3, p. 103.

«"Mary, I ardently desire to love that being for what they do not love him, and to make him loved by my brothers, but, for You, with You! And in You".

Mary our intercessor is a Mother who listens to the prayers of her children: "O Mary, my Mother, give me recollection, love, sorrow, trust, Mary, if you were not my Mother I would not ask so much of you... Mary if I am your son, grant me what I ask... if it pleases God" Spiritual Diary 03/08/1922.

PRAYER

To ask for graces and favors through the intercession of Venerable Father Moises Lira Serafin.

God and our Father, in Venerable Father Moises Lira Serafin, you have given us an example of charity in the joyful service of the poor and you have made him an apostle of filial love for you and the Mother of your Son. Grant that in imitating him, we may love Christ as he loved him and serve him in our brothers. Hear, O Lord, our trusting supplication and grant us through his intercession the grace we ask from you....

(pause)

Grant, Father that his glorification in the Church may be that the spirit of adoption which you have given us in your Son Jesus Christ may increase in all mankind. Amen.

Father Moses... pray for us.

With ecclesiastical license.

CAUSA MOISÉS LIRA SERAFÍN: BBVA Banco, account: 04724 95422 Purchase of books: Naranjo 157, Col. Santa María la Ribera Alc. Cuauhtémoc, 06400, CDMX, Tel. 5555 47-3139 Cuauhtémoc 920, Col. Tequisquiapan 78270 San Luis Potosí, S.L.P. Tel. 444 813 20 46 Sr. Beatriz Ruiz Rodríguez: secretariageneralmcmi@gmail.com

Traducción de la Hna. Luz Angélica Quiñonez Rivera, MCMI.