



Venerable  
**Isidoro Zorzano**

*Prayer for private devotion*

Almighty God, you granted your servant Isidoro countless graces in the fulfillment of his professional duties in the world. Grant that I too may sanctify my ordinary work and bring Christ's light to my friends and acquaintances.

Deign to glorify your servant Isidoro and through his intercession grant me the favor I ask of you... (here make your request). Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father.

*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.*

From his youth he was remarkable for his diligence and seriousness about his commitments. One of his schoolmates at the Institute of Logroño was St. Josemaría Escrivá, which would turn out to be a decisive factor in his life.

In 1927, he finished his schooling in engineering in Madrid. His application to his studies and his spirit of service made him an example for all his colleagues. These qualities stood out in a still more evident way during his years of professional practice. In a time of social and ideological conflicts in Spain, Isidoro was deeply respected by both his professional colleagues and the laborers at the railroad company where he worked, because of his professional competence and his spirit of sacrifice.

Out of a desire to please God and an eagerness to bring many souls closer to him, he also dedicated time and effort to teaching, to involvement in professional associations, and to social and welfare initiatives in poor neighborhoods.

On August 24, 1930, he asked for admission to Opus Dei. He was one of the first members, and he always gave a luminous example of fidelity to God's call in the middle of the world.

From 1936 to 1939, during the religious persecution unleashed in Spain and the ensuing civil war, he displayed

heroic courage. Notwithstanding the danger he was in because he was known as a devout Catholic, he used the freedom of movement he had as a citizen of Argentina to provide spiritual and material help to many people, including the members of Opus Dei who were hidden in various parts of Madrid or locked up in jail.

At the beginning of the forties, he first began to experience the symptoms of the illness that led to his death: malignant lymphogranulomatosis. His union with our Lord grew day by day during his prolonged suffering. Doctors, nurses, and religious who treated him were amazed at the spiritual cheerfulness with which he bore his acute pain. He died on July 15, 1943, after having received the Anointing of the Sick from the founder of Opus Dei.

His life manifests the way in which the spirit of Opus Dei is practiced: searching for holiness in ordinary Christian life in the middle of the world, illuminating every sphere of human life with the light of faith and love. His reputation for holiness spread rapidly after his death, and his cause of canonization was opened in Madrid in 1948. A process was opened in 1964 in Montreal to examine a miraculous healing attributed to his intercession.

*Those who obtain favors through the intercession of Isidoro Zorzano are asked to notify the Opus Dei Prelature, Viale Bruno Buozzi 75, Rome, Italy, or email [info@opusdei.org](mailto:info@opusdei.org).*