

CONGREGATION FOR THE CAUSES OF SAINTS

MADRID

BEATIFICATION and CANONISATION

OF THE VENERABLE SERVANT OF GOD

MARIA GUADALUPE ORTIZ DE LANDAZURI

LAYWOMAN

OF THE PERSONAL PRELATURE OF THE HOLY CROSS AND OPUS DEI

(1916–1975)

DECREE ON THE MIRACLE

The Venerable Servant of God Guadalupe Ortiz de Landazuri y Fernandez de Heredia was born in Madrid on 12 December 1916, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Her parents were devout Catholics, and she was the youngest of four children. She obtained a doctorate in chemistry, and started work as a chemistry teacher. In 1944 she asked to be admitted to Opus Dei, living in apostolic celibacy. St Josemaría put her in charge of some evangelization projects in Madrid and Bilbao. In 1950 she moved to Mexico to begin Opus Dei's apostolate among women there. She dedicated herself to giving human and Christian formation to young women in different cities and towns. In 1956 the Servant of God was called to Rome to help St Josemaría in the governance of the apostolate of the women of Opus Dei. Because of a serious heart problem, she underwent an operation and, from 1958 onwards, she lived in Madrid, where she taught at two colleges and in 1965 gained her doctorate in chemistry and received a prize for her research. Despite her poor health she continued to dedicate herself with care and enthusiasm to her

teaching, and her apostolate with colleagues, students and friends. Among other projects, she directed a catering training centre. On 1 July 1975 she had a high-risk operation as her heart condition had worsened. While convalescing she suffered a sudden respiratory crisis, and devoutly surrendered her soul to God on 16 July, the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. In 2017 Pope Francis solemnly recognized her heroic virtues.

The reputation for holiness she had had during her lifetime spread more and more, and there are many people who testify that they received favours from God which they attribute to the intercession of the Servant of God. Among reports of these spiritual and material graces, one that stands out particularly is the cure, in 2002, of a 76-year-old man from a malignant skin tumour close to his right eye. The sick man had prayed to be healed through the intercession of Guadalupe Ortiz, and had asked other people to appeal to Guadalupe for this same intention.

One night, when he was worried about a forthcoming operation to remove the cancer, the sick man begged the Servant of God with great faith that he might avoid the operation. On the following morning he found that the tumour had completely disappeared. In the opinion of the doctors the disappearance of a cancerous tumour of that kind without medical intervention cannot be explained scientifically. Additionally extraordinary is the instantaneous nature of the cure.

A diocesan enquiry into this cure was carried out in the Archdiocese of Barcelona from 25 May 2007 to 16 January 2008. On 24 October 2008, this Congregation issued a decree confirming the juridical validity of the aforementioned enquiry. In a meeting held on 5 October 2017, the Medical Council of the Congregation judged the cure to have been instantaneous, complete and permanent, and declared that it could not be explained by medical science. On 1 March 2018 a Special Congress of Theological Consultors was held; the Cardinals and Bishops met in Ordinary Session on 5 June 2018, headed by Cardinal Angelo Amato. In both sessions, that of the Consultors and that of the Cardinals and Bishops, the answer Yes was given to the question as to whether a miracle had been worked by God.

After having received from the undersigned Cardinal Prefect a detailed account of all the above, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, receiving and ratifying the votes of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, with today's date, has solemnly declared that: *Proof exists of a miracle obtained from God through the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God Maria Guadalupe Ortiz de Landazuri y Fernandez de Heredia, laywoman of the Personal Prelature of the Holy Cross and Opus Dei, namely of the sudden, complete and lasting cure of a certain man from an "ulcerated skin cancer"*.

The Holy Father has ordered that this decree be published and transcribed in the Acts of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

Given at Rome, on the 8th day of the month of June in the year of Our Lord 2018.

ANGELO CARDINAL AMATO, S. D. B.

Prefect

L. + S.

✠ MARCELLO BARTOLUCCI

Titular Archbishop of Bevagna

Secretary