

# Correspondence

We have received letters from:

"I am an entrepreneur in the agri-food sector. My encounter with Gaudí changed my way of looking at my work: it made me discover that the Good Lord gives each one of us "talents" and a purpose in life and through time, we come to discover them and then we dedicate everything: time, energy ... money, to "exchange" these talents to make them more productive for the benefit of everyone."  
— **Camillo Gardini, Bologna (Italy) 8th October 2018**

I have a dear friend (like a second mother to me) who, at the end of 2015, was diagnosed with breast cancer. The disease spread rapidly to the lymph nodes and the liver and in February of the following year her doctors declared it terminal. After entrusting myself to God's Architect, because God had called me to the Church via Gaudí's work, I began to pray his Beatification Prayer frequently, for the recovery of my friend. In the middle of the year, after receiving intensive treatment, she began to improve. In August 2016, she had a further scan which revealed that tumors had disappeared and all subsequent scans have been clear since then.

My friend's doctors have been absolutely amazed by her recovery, which I firmly believe is due to the intercession of Gaudí, and my friend has indicated that, in principle, she is happy that her medical information is disclosed to help the cause of Gaudí's beatification. — **Matthew Showering, London 16th October 2018**

Through this email, I'm sending you my testimony for the favor obtained through the Servant of God, Antonio Gaudí Comet, which I describe as follow:

For two years I have been unemployed and I usually enter the parish church of the Sagrada Familia (crypt) of Barcelona.

I'm an architect and on Sunday, November 4th, together with my partner we went to

evening Mass in Sagrada Familia. Before starting the Eucharistic celebration, I took a prayer card with a short biography and a prayer which I found beside the Servant of God's tomb, I recited it with faith before the Blessed Sacrament, something that I would never have thought of doing previously, I asked the Almighty Father to listen to our prayer. And so it was, on leaving the Church, I met a friend who is also an architect and he told me to go to his office the following day for a job interview. I started work last Monday, November 12th.

— **Anonymous, Barcelona, 29th December 2018**

### PRAYER OF PRIVATE DEVOTION

God our Father, you instilled in your servant Antoni Gaudí, architect, a great love for your Creation and a burning desire to imitate the childhood and passion mysteries of your Son. Grant, by the power of the Holy Spirit that I also may learn to dedicate myself to a well-done work and glorify your servant Antoni, granting me, through his intercession the favor I request (*here make your petition*). Through Christ our Lord, Amen. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, grant us peace and preserve the family (*three times*).

### IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS BULLETIN

contact:  
Associació pro Beatificació d'Antoni Gaudí,  
Apartat de Correus 24094, 08080 Barcelona,  
Spain.  
E-mail: gaudibeatificatio@gmail.com

### ACCOUNTS - January - December 2018

INCOME: Collection boxes, Gaudí's tomb,  
Holy Chapel, donations to  
La Caixa c.a.)..... 20.322,51 €

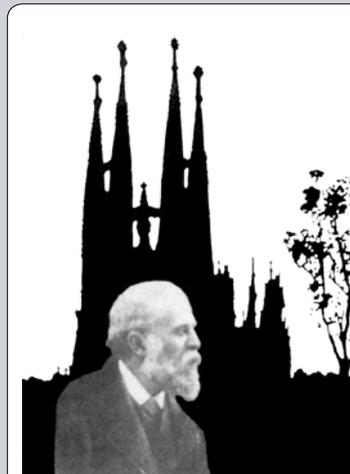
PAYMENTS: Newsletters, prayer cards,  
leaflets, letters, books, Gaudí's Association  
Pro beatification travels, Vatican, ..... 21.775,30 €

**NEGATIVE BALANCE:**  
(accounted to La Caixa) ..... 1.452,72 €

Donations to the cause can be sent to: **La Caixa,**  
**Account #** IBAN: ES62 2100 0810 2902 0067 4014  
BIC/SWIFT CODE: CAIXESBBXXX. Thank you.

# GOD'S ARCHITECT

February 2019, Issue # 29



Newsletter about the

person and reputation

of saintliness of

Antoni Gaudí

Antoni Gaudí's  
pro beatification  
Association

P.O Box 24094  
08080 Barcelona (Spain)

In the months of January and June each year, some notable dates relating to the architect Antoni Gaudí are celebrated. We celebrate his Saint's Day (the feast of Saint Anthony the Abbot) on January 17th, and in June we mark his death, on the 10th of June 1926, his Birth on 25th of June 1852 and the following day his baptism on 26th of June.

Sagrada Familia's Construction Board, with its team of architects, plans to finish the Basilica in 2026, to coincide with the centenary of Gaudí's death, and a later date has been scheduled for completion of the six central bell towers in 2022. Therefore, this newsletter wants to offer Gaudí's words about this iconography, as well as those written by J.F. Ràfols, architect and also Gaudí's collaborator and biographer, as published in his book "Gaudí" (Aedos Ed. 1952). From the same book by J. F. Ràfols, we transcribe his memories of Gaudí's personality. This testimony can be further explored in the *Testimony* section.

As before, you will find the *News* and *Correspondence* sections there in.



## Testimony

### Gaudí's description of the central towers

The towers' shape, both vertical and parabolic, is the union of gravity with light. At the top, there will be bright spotlights, like natural light emanating from the sky. These focusses, of which we have already spoken, will give life and excellence to the Temple during the nights of religious solemnities and will serve to highlight the Temple as one of the City's iconic landmarks. (*Gaudí's words collected by Cèsar Martinell in "Gaudí and the Sagrada Familia in his own words"*).

### Ràfols's description of the central towers

At night, intense beams of light should radiate from the spotlights on the four-armed Cross which crowns the great tower, towards the star that ends over the altar dome dedicated to the Virgin, the pinnacles of the other four towers, recall the four Evangelists, and the twelve bell-towers, reflect the Twelve Apostles. These spotlights submerge the Temple in an atmosphere of light, symbolizing the light of Truth epitomizing the expansion of the Church. (*"Gaudí", Aedos Ed. 1952*)

### Ràfols's testimony about Gaudí

It should be necessary to conclude the written epilogue, "*Gaudí 1952*" that could also have been equally entitled "One Hundred Years of the Architect", but the vibrant imagery about the Master, it move us to frame the final point of our thoughts with distant and kaleidoscopic memories. We recall meeting Gaudí and the patriarchal Eusebi Güell for the first time in the workshop of La Sagrada Familia set amidst the eucalyptus perfume, intensified by the kettle boiling on the stove.

Thanks to the warm welcome given to us in the Temple and in "La Pedrera" we could see and admire him often and up-close in the activity in which he carried out in both works. Whoever was dealing with him, appreciated his superiority sensation from this man, although he was small in stature. It soon became evident that he was a clear minded man, who had no doubts. The thrust of his Faith was instilled in him from a supernatural and the thrust of his Faith, which he used to overcome the obstacles he encountered, was instilled in him from a supernatural level and manifested itself in the technical and artistic security in the successful realization of his works.

Twenty or so years after his death, we can remember Gaudí, with his white beard, and his blue gaze, surrounded by assistants, labourers and modelers. We can situate him, at one point or another of that a developing Barcelona, of which he fell victim. We can see him on the wooden ladder in the workshop where he used to work; greeting the watch-woman and stroking her baby; or half affected by the cold and in the company of "Mr. Llorenç" (modeler and his right hand man in the "Cathedral of the Poor"), walking to Park Güell, where he would spend the night; or in the Performance Hall of the Jesuits, listening -in company of poet Maragall- to the conferences of Fr. Casanovas. We picture him at the Puerta del Ángel, in the evening, with his cane now, his trusty companion over the last few months, making his way towards the center of Barcelona, on the way to his spiritual retreat which is the church of the Philipians Fathers. Gaudí, as ever with his mind wandering but yet rich in fertile imagination which he constantly put in the stone dream that was under construction. (*"Gaudí", Aedos Ed. 1952*)

## News

The Pro Beatification Association has continued to meet as usual, presenting the accounts and activity of the president, giving conferences and updating the Congregation on the Cause of Sainthood, in the Vatican. At the diocesan level, the appointment of Fr. Josep M<sup>o</sup> Blanquet SF as the diocesan responsible for the causes of Sainthood, has been good news, as he was nominated official Delegated Judge for Gaudí's cause in the diocese of Barcelona, from 2000 to 2003. From this position of authority, he will promote the cause most effectively.

From Septiembre 29th 2018, Fr. Lluís Bonet is from September 29th, retired as Parish Priest of the Sagrada Familia. Monsignor Cardinal-Archbishop, has designated Fr. Josep M<sup>o</sup> Turull i Garriga, previously rector of the Barcelona Diocesan Seminary, as his successor. The designation also includes the rector of the Basilica, since the Dedication of the Basilica by Pope Benedict XVI. Fr. Turull has been responsible for the Masses that have been celebrated in the Basilica. He has also been commissioned by the Archbishop to further promote the cause of beatification and has already travelled to Rome with Fr. Josep M<sup>o</sup> Blanquet and Fr. Armand Puig, for that purpose.

Overwhelmingly, we can say that the Sunday celebrations in the Basilica and obligatory celebrations gather a pace, with a capacity of around 700 attendees. Remembering that the languages used are: Latin, Catalan, Spanish, French, Italian and English. The Cathedral Chamber Choir master, Francesc Valls and the organist Juan de la Rubia, provide the musical accompaniment.

The works on the Temple continue unabated, with the construction of the six-central bell towers. The architects are working towards a completion date of 2026. The Construction Board has signed some agreements with the City Council of Barcelona thereby facilitating its completion, contributing financially to a feasibility study of the surrounding area and related planning llicences. However, a number of issues remain unresolved.

The visits to the Sagrada Familia continue increasing despite the increasing security controls. A more restricted timetable to access the crypt has reduced the flow of visitors, and likewise, to Gaudí's tomb. In the stand, beside it, you can find, prayer cards, booklets and our newsletters, in different languages.



Tomb of Antoni Gaudí in the Crypt of the Sagrada Família.  
Photo by M.J. Rasero, PARIS MATCH