

Correspondence

In response to the letters and emails asking for relics of the Servant of God, we would like to let you know that at the moment, we do NOT have any relics available.

"I am an admirer of Gaudí's work, which Grace introduced to me on a family trip, what touched my soul was the Devotion and Love of God that his masterwork, the Sagrada Familia, transmits. A song of praise that makes one say "Glory to God." I would appreciate if you could send me holy cards; I am from Montevideo, Uruguay. I join in the prayers for the intention of the beatification of the Servant of God Antonio Gaudí, and I will implore his intercession for the health of my children and work for my oldest, who is an architect. God bless you."

Beatriz Gómez, MONTEVIDEO. February 2nd 2019

On June 4th, I attended a Mass in the Sagrada Familia crypt with a group of French people. At the end, a friend told me that Antoni Gaudí could be invoked to ask for help. Since my son was out of work for almost 2 years, I asked him with all my heart to help him find a job. On the 14th, my son received confirmation that on the 19th he could start working at a French company in Barcelona. I do not know if it is a coincidence, but I wanted to let you know.

Florence Bori, July 5th 2019

I wish to donate the advance of the salary received for my first job, alongside these brief lines, full of gratitude for the many graces, small and great, received by Gaudí's intercession. For years, in fact, I have turned to him, sure of the tenderness of his companionship through every difficulty. In particular, after having repeatedly thought about dropping out of school, I entrusted him with my academics, and this year I graduated with honors. But the greatest grace I have received is the radical conversion of my heart. Gaudí helped me, with his example, to get out of my deep despair by teaching me to trust the Lord every day with what I am and what I hope for, so that my life becomes His masterpiece more with every day.

Irene Ricciardi. August 8th 2019

Dear Association, I am the rector of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, in Poblenou, Barcelona. This parish was founded on June 10, 1926, yes, the same day Antoni Gaudí died. I also have a very great devotion to the martyrs of religious persecution, and of course those related to the church of the Holy Family. I would like to know if I can work with you in any way, either by promoting Gaudí's beatification or that of the 12 martyrs related to the Sagrada Familia, or in any other task. Yours, Fr. Gabriel Carrió.

Mn. Gabriel Carrió i Amat, BARCELONA. December 4th 2019

PRAYER FOR PRIVATE DEVOTION

God, Our Father, who inspired in your servant the architect Antoni Gaudí, a great love for your Creation and an ardent desire to imitate the mysteries of your Son's infancy and passion; make me, through the grace of the Holy Spirit, know to dedicate myself also to a work well done, and deign to glorify your servant Antoni, conceding me, through his intercession, the favor that I ask (*favor*). Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, bring us peace and protect the family! (*three times*).

IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER

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

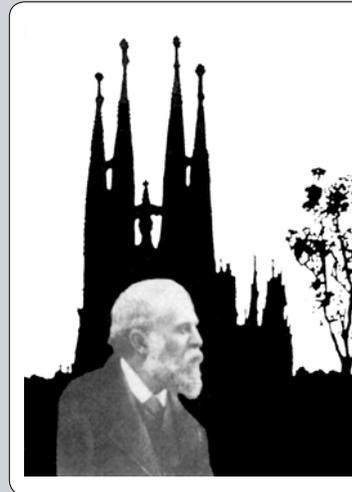
STATE OF THE ACCOUNTS (January – December 2019)

BALANCE AS OF 01.01.2019.....	€30,337.04
INCOMING FUNDS 2019.....	€16,396.29
PAYMENTS 2019.....	€14,136.16
CURRENT BALANCE.....	€32,597.17

You may send your donations for the cause to the Caixa account
IBAN: ES62 2100 0810 2902 0067 4014
BIC/SWIFT CODE: CAIXESBXXX. Thank you.

GOD'S ARCHITECT

December 2019, Issue # 30



**Newsletter about the
person and reputation
of saintliness of
Antoni Gaudí**

**Antoni Gaudí's
pro beatification
Association**

P.O Box 24094
08080 Barcelona (Spain)

This Newsletter, Number 30, features in the "Testimony" section an article by the maestro Lluís Millet i Pagès (1867-1941), on the occasion of Gaudí's death and on hearing the Passion according to Saint Mathew, by composer J.S. Bach, performed by the Orfeó Català (the Catalan Singers) at the Barcelona Music Palace (Palau de la Música). At this performance the organ player was Dr. Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965), a doctor, philosopher, theologian, and musician, medical missionary in Africa and Nobel Peace Prize winner of 1952. In the article, Millet discusses Gaudí's work at the Sagrada Familia, especially its symbology, music and song.

We know from elsewhere that Schweitzer compared Gaudí to Blessed Ramon Llull (1232-1316); both had the art to admire and connect all created beings, the harmony of the whole, men with a universal view. In the Orfeó signature book, Gaudí wrote "Al cel tots serem orfeonistas" ("In Heaven, we all will be singers").

As always, the Newsletter concludes with the latest news (summarizing the most noteworthy events of the 2019 year), part of the correspondence received, and the state of the accounts.

TESTIMONY

"A great artist has disappeared from among us, a brilliant architect, a man in the clearest and fullest sense of the word, a truly extraordinary man, a penetrating spirit gifted with sight, armed with an incorruptible faith. A man who saw the world as linked to the eternal, who felt all the dignity of Nature glorifying the Creator of all things, a Christian in the complete sense of word, a humble devotee of Christ the Redeemer, giving a firm witness, with his works and with his whole life, to a deep and complete faith. His artistic work expresses the marvel of the power and courage of this artist of ours: both in body and soul, a fearless and courageous servant with

Testimony

an absolute faith. Thanks be to God, Catalonia has never been bereft of great men who have honored her with transcendental worth, who have made her shine in the farthest-flung countries with the most proclaimed civilizations. Even in modern times, Catalonia has not lacked for other figures who have guided and comforted us through the evils that often overshadow us. Among these personalities Gaudí was a very unique figure, perhaps the one with the most formidable power and the sharpest insights.

His architectural forms show this force, which for a moment scares us but immediately emerges and dwarfs every form around it. These forms appear like a force of nature stylized by the powerful hand of a genius in making order out of blind power. The church of Sagrada Família, even though barely begun despite the many years it has been built, is the most fervent, opulent and complete expression of the genius and the ideal of this artist, and this work will be his crowning glory in the future.

These purely musical pages, however, are not the appropriate place to interpret and embellish our man's artwork, but it is our duty to highlight the projects of this great artist that related to the art of music. Because Gaudí, even in that small body, he held a strong flame that illuminated everything and that allowed him to embrace all his artistic work in a great synthesis. And therefore, in the great church, no detail is arbitrary, no line is without symbolic meaning or a practical purpose for divine worship. Thus, in the construction of the bell



towers he was obsessed with giving them such a shape as to magnify sounds suitably, and thinking about the kind of bells that would match the magnificence of the church.

Twelve bell towers, four on each side, had to crown the façades that would give entry to the church. These twelve bell towers symbolize the twelve apostles transmitting the truth of the Gospels: four on the east façade, the wonder already built, where the stone flourishes in living forms of nature framing the birth of the Redeemer, rising tree-like

to Heaven with arms high up these singular towers that are to bring the voice of God to the people. Four over the west portal, which, contrasting with the opposite one, remind us of the cruel Passion of our Redeemer; and four on the noon façade, which will be the apotheosis of Glory dominating the Last Judgment of humanity, forming a bridge over the flow of citizens, the feverish round of the world and the flesh. These twelve bell towers must have, according to Gaudí's conception, their particular and general voice. For those to the East, one of them already finished and the others just about, the bells must be tubular. The great architect was concerned for a long while, doing many tests assisted by the maestro Francesc Pujol, experimenting with all the acoustic laws applied to that ideal instrument. And with what delight and enthusiasm he tested it, together with our musician friend, with all possible results and experiences! The bells on the Passion façade will have to be organ pipes, and certainly made mostly of tongues; a celestial organ of great power; finally, those on the main facade will be bells with a traditional shape. It is understood that all the above sounds would have to cover the entire chromatic musical range, enough octaves to perform the richest aerial polyphony.

For a few years our artist's imagination obsessed over that ideal sound of his great church. He dreamt of that sublime accompaniment for his work, and all the great liturgical solemnities through his powerful imagination, in which his ideal bells sang the Glory of the Lord with full voice.

He spoke to me once, the good maestro, about our admired friend. At his side, I listened to him quietly, attentively, capturing every word and all the brightness of those small, penetrating eyes as I had never seen them before. He was dreaming on the inside, and he was speaking words of justice and fire, with that absolute clairvoyance and with that unique faith, rare in these times. He explained the great high interior galleries of the church, made for future choirs, with a capacity of ten thousand singers ...

Lluís Millet, "Antoni Gaudí", *The Catalan Music Review*, May-July 1926, nos. 169-171, pp. 125-127

News

TALKS given by José Manuel Almuzara in: Barcelona, Pamplona, Logroño, Zizur, Madrid, Fuenlabrada, Granada, Córdoba, Santiago de Chile, Rancagua, Chile; Cabriels, Tokyo, Fukushima, Lima, Arequipa, Cuzco, and Rome.

ROME, invited by the Springtime of Faith Foundation, Rome Summit 7-10, 2019, Friday November 8th at 1:45PM, lecture: "What Gaudí Can Teach Us about Returning to the Origin and Meaning of Beauty".

TALK + CONCERT "To Love the Sacred Heart of Jesus like Gaudí:" in the Córdoba Cathedral (06/07), in the Cathedral of Jerez de la Frontera (06/27) and in the Church of Cervera de la Calzada (07/19).



The Image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus that Archbishop St. Antonio María Claret gave to Fr. San José Manyanet from Cuba, and him to Gaudí, on June 11, 1899, when the World was being Consecrated to the Sacred Heart by Pope Leo XIII with the Encyclical *Annum Sacrum*, a devotion that both friends shared fervently and always maintained. Gaudí kept it in his Park Güell home until he gave it to Fr. Ramón Oromí Sullà for his projected Museum of the Founding Priest, Father Josep Manyanet i Vives (1833-1901).

Visits to the Sagrada Família guided by José Manuel Almuzara.

"THE SOUL OF GAUDÍ" ("L'ÀNIMA de GAUDÍ"), a talk given by Josep Maria Tarragona on 09/19, organized by the Friends of Gaudí of Reus, on the occasion of the exhibition of the reliefs of Neus Segrià and Antonio Oteiza at the Sant Pere Church in Reus.

Media: Interviews, Documentaries. "The documentary" on the C33 channel aired on November 14: "GAUDÍ, GOD'S ARCHITECT," about Gaudí's beatification process. The documentary follows the story of five lay people who decided to create an association to show that Gaudí is worthy of one of the most precious titles in the Church: beatification".

Directed by Marc Petitpierre and Josep Padró. Produced by Karavan Productions Films, SL. A co-production with Televisió de Catalunya tv3 and the collaboration of ICEC.

Publications: Holy Cards, Brochures, Newsletters, Books.

Josep Maria Tarragona has written and published "**GAUDÍ, the ARCHITECT of SAGRADA FAMILIA,**" in Catalan, Spanish, English, French, German and Italian. The book can be purchased through the author's email: jtarragona@gmail.com

Work on the Positio continues, with the collaboration of Fr. Josep Maria Turull, Fr. Josep Maria Blanquet, SF and Mons. Armand Puig.

Our gratitude goes out to our friend Leonardo Jiménez of Madrid, for his constant, enduring admiration for the architect Gaudí and his magnum opus the Sagrada Família, as well as for his generosity toward spreading the architect's work, and economic contributions.