

## Feast of our Saintly Brother Martyrs of Almería, Spain (November 16)

### BLESSED MARTYRS OF ALMERIA

Brother José Cecilio Rodríguez González  
Brother Amalio Zariquiegui Mendoza  
Brother Valerio Bernardo Herrero Martínez  
Brother Edmigio Primo Rodríguez  
Brother Evencio Ricardo Alonso Uyarra  
Brother Aurelio María Villalón Acebrón  
Brother Teodomiro Joaquin Sáiz Sáiz

Shortly after the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War in 1936, the Popular Front in the Province of Almería gave orders to arrest all enemies of the revolution, especially priests and religious. Five of the Brothers were arrested at their school, two were taken prisoner in the street while on their way to mail letters to their families. Along with many others, including two bishops, these prisoners were confined in a series of makeshift prisons, where they were subjected to privation, mistreatment and ridicule. On the night of August 29, the two bishops, along with 15 others, were taken to an isolated spot where they were lined up and shot. On the next night, August 30, Brothers Edmigio, Amalio, and Valerio were taken to the outskirts of Tabernas, where they were shot in the head and their bodies thrown into a deep well. On September 8, Brothers Evencio and Teodomiro were shot near the roadside, where their bodies were left. Brothers Aurelio and José met a similar fate on September 12, their bodies also thrown into a well. Bishops and Brothers alike were condemned to death without trial for the crime of professing and teaching the Catholic faith.



Let us remember . . . **that we are in the Holy Presence of God.**

### Scripture Speaks: Romans 8:31-39

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? As it is written:

"For your sake we are being slain all the day;  
we are looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### Meditation

**Response/Intercessions:** based in *The Guide for Formation*, p. 56 (1991)

