

# ISABEL<sup>®</sup>

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REVISTA INTERNACIONAL DE LA SIERVA DE DIOS  
INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE OF THE SERVANT OF GOD

## Servicios prestados por la Sierva de Dios Al mundo y a la Iglesia

El descubrimiento y la evangelización de América, comenzada ésta por Isabel y recomendada en su testamento como ley constitucional a sus herederos.



## Services rendered by the Servant of God To the world and to the Church

The discovery and evangelization of America was started by Isabel and recommended in her last will as a constitutional law to her heirs.

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La promoción de la figura histórica de la Reina Isabel no está en contra de ningún pueblo, nación o raza; no está en contra de los judíos o los mahometanos; tampoco ataca o promueve ningún partido político; y no va contra ninguna persona en particular.

Esta revista promueve la Reina Isabel como ejemplo de vida santa, de gran mujer y líder para el hombre moderno y especialmente para la mujer como individuo privado y como miembro de la sociedad.

Sobre la canonización de la Reina Isabel esta revista no busca forzar en ninguna manera el juicio de la Iglesia, al cual nos sometemos, siguiendo el buen ejemplo de la Sierva de Dios.

*The promotion of the historical figure of Queen Isabel is not against any particular people, nation or race; it is not against Jews or Muslims; it neither attacks nor promotes any political party; and is not against any particular person.*

*This magazine promotes Queen Isabel as an example of a holy life, of a great woman and leader for modern man and especially for women as individuals and members of society.*

*On the canonization of Queen Isabel this magazine does not seek to force in any way the judgment of the Church, to which we submit, following the good example of the Servant of God.*

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## FAVORES / FAVORS

Brno, República Checa: La Srta. Magdalena Trnovska, de Slovakia, estaba en el hospital en Brno, República Checa, con fiebre alta y periódica la cual la perjudicaba y causaba dolores en su corazón. Después de 40 días en el hospital, los doctores seguían sin saber la causa de la fiebre. Durante todo este tiempo muchas personas alrededor del mundo empezaron a rezar a la Reina Isabel solicitando su recuperación. El domingo 21 de abril, 2002, vigilia del aniversario del nacimiento de la Reina Isabel, Magdalena se levantó y tenía mucha más fuerza, la fue posible hacer una Hora Santa frente al Santísimo Sacramento e ir a Misa, lo cual no podía hacer desde hacía 68 días. Ahora tenía energía pero todavía tenía dolores en su corazón. El lunes 22 de abril, 51 aniversario del nacimiento de la Reina Isabel, Magdalena se levantó, tenía mucha energía y no tenía dolores en su corazón; se sentía como nueva, sin cansancio y no se han repetido esos síntomas desde entonces.



*Magdalena Trnovska en el centro  
Magdalena Trnovska in the center.*

Brno, Czech Republic: Magdalena Trnovska from Slovakia was in the hospital in Brno, Czech Republic with a severe recurring fever that was also doing damage to, and causing pain in her heart. After 40 days in the hospital, the doctors still did not know what was causing the fever. During this time people throughout the world started praying to Queen Isabel for Magdalena's recovery. On Sunday April 21, 2002, the eve of the birthday-anniversary of Queen Isabel, Magdalena got up and had much more strength; she was able to make a holy hour in

front of the Blessed Sacrament and attend Mass, which was the first time she was able to do so for 68 days. She now had energy, but she still had pains in her heart. On Monday April 22nd, the birthday-anniversary of Queen Isabel, Magdalena got up. She had a lot of energy and she did not have any more pains in her heart. She felt refreshed with out any tiredness and there has been no recurrence of these symptoms since.

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## CARTAS AL EDITOR / LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## UN GRANITO DE ARENA POR ISABEL LA CATOLICA

Hace unos meses me enteré de que quieren canonizar a la reina Isabel la Católica. Fue un tema que me llamó la atención y decidí informarme mejor de ello, por lo que escribí al Arzobispado de Valladolid, Causa por Beatificación Isabel la Católica

Me mandaron todo tipo de información de forma gratuita: boletines, libros, etc... Pues una cosa que quieren es que la gente se ponga en contacto con ellos y que quien quiera ayude de la mejor forma que pueda, dando testimonio o económicamente, para poder conseguir este propósito tan justo.

Creía que era algo reciente y me llevé una sorpresa cuando me enteré de que todo empezó en 1958... ¡Y ya estamos en el 2002!

La Conferencia Episcopal Española ha escrito varias veces al Papa para la "pronta Beatificación de Isabel la Católica... ¡Existen: 105.600 cartas recogidas en 32 volúmenes pidiendo su Beatificación y en América hay gente que está a favor de la Canonización, como el Presidente de los EEUU y el ex-alcalde de Nueva York, Rudolph Giuliani... ¡Estaría bueno que lo consiguieran ellos y no nosotros! ¿Verdad?. Existe un gran problema y es que no se conoce a Isabel la Católica tal como era y lo que de verdad hizo y hace (hay testimonios de gente que la reza y a la que ha ayudado). Creo que se han dicho muchas cosas malas sobre esta reina, muchas patrañas, mentiras, y prejuicios políticos.

La "Leyenda Negra" en contra de Isabel la Católica, España y el catolicismo está de moda y casi nadie se preocupa en buscar la verdad. Leyendo un poquito en plan objetivo y poniéndonos en esa época, caen por tierra todas las patrañas y mentiras sobre esta reina tan maravillosa, católica, humana y santa.



*Pilar Pérez García*

## A LITTLE GRAIN OF SAND FOR ISABEL THE CATHOLIC

A few months ago, I learned that they want to canonize Queen Isabel The Catholic. This was a subject I was very much interested in, and decided to find out more about it. I wrote to The Archbishop of Valladolid, Cause for the Beatification of Isabel The Catholic.

They sent me all kinds of information free of charge: bulletins, books, etc... What they would like is for individuals to contact them, that is, anyone who would like to help in any way they can. You can give your testimony, or financial support, in order to bring this just cause to a successful finish.

I had thought that this endeavor was something recent and was surprised to learn that the whole process began in 1958, and now it is 2002! The Spanish Episcopal Conference has written to the Pope on various occasions for the prompt Beatification of Isabel The Catholic. There exists 105,600 letters bound in thirty-two volumes requesting her Beatification. In America there are people who are in favor of her canonization, such as the President of the United States and the ex -Mayor of New York, Rudolph Guiliani. It would be a good thing if they, and not us, could make this happen! Don't you think so?

The problem is that Isabel The Catholic is not known for who she was or what she truly did, and continues to do (there are testimonies from people who pray to her and of those whom she has already helped.) I believe that a lot of malicious statements have been said about the Queen, a lot of hoaxes, lies and political prejudices.

Because of the "Black Legend", Isabel The Catholic, Spain, and Catholicism are "fair game" these days and hardly anyone bothers to search for the truth. If we do a little reading with an objective mind, and place ourselves during that era, all the hoaxes and lies concerning this marvelous, Catholic, human and holy Queen come crashing down.

## CARTAS AL EDITOR / LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Isabel la Católica actuaba siempre pensando en “La causa de Dios”, su vida fue un compromiso con sus ideales espirituales, humanitarios, etc. Se dedicó a ellos en cuerpo y alma y siempre actuó bajo el dictado de su conciencia. Tuvo siempre visión de futuro (gracias a Ella, Colón pudo descubrir América ¿no?), repudió la esclavitud y quiso que en las nuevas tierras descubiertas lo primero que se hiciera fuera evangelizarlas, mandando frailes y sacerdotes para proclamar la fe católica por todo el mundo. Fue la precursora de los derechos humanos, de los que tanto hoy se habla, pues defendió a los indios y de ellos se acordó en su testamento cosa que no ha hecho en la historia ningún pueblo en sus colonizaciones, sino que hasta han llegado a exterminar a los aborígenes, y nadie dice nada, pero todos tan contentos.

En su testamento y Codicilio, firmado en Medina del Campo el 23 de noviembre de 1504 tres días antes de su fallecimiento, se ve su amor a la Iglesia y su fe católica. En la primera parte del testamento llama la atención su profesión personal de fe y su ofrecimiento a morir por ella y en la última parte tiene un párrafo dirigido a los vecinos y moradores de las Indias y tierra firme para que sean instruidos en la fe católica y en las buenas costumbres, no reciban agravios y sean justamente tratados. Aquí se ve como tenía siempre presente a todas las personas para que no se cometieran injusticias. Isabel la Católica fue destinada a ser la fundadora de España, de su Unidad y la madre de las Américas por la gracia de Dios, por más que muchos se empeñen en lo contrario por medio de falsedades.

El año 2004 será el V Centenario de la muerte de Isabel la Católica. Creo que ya es hora de que se produzca de una vez su Beatificación. Es algo justo y por lo que tenemos que poner nuestro “granito de arena” todos los católicos, ya que gracias a ella se extendió nuestra fe por todo el mundo y lo que no podemos hacer es quedarnos callados y dejar que sólo se oigan las voces negativas.

Pilar Pérez García

Isabel The Catholic always acted with one thought in mind, “the Glory of God.” Her life was a composite of her spiritual and humanitarian ideals. To these, she dedicated herself, body and soul, always acting under the dictate of her conscience. She possessed a vision of the future. (Thanks to her, Columbus was able to discover America, isn't that so?).

She repudiated slavery and the first thing she set out to accomplish in the newly discovered land was the evangelization of the people, sending friars and priests to proclaim the Catholic doctrine throughout the world. She was the precursor of human rights, of which we hear so much about today, inasmuch as she defended the Indians and remembered them in her will, a thing that no other people has ever done in their colonizations. On the contrary, they succeed in exterminating the aborigines and no one says a word, but all remain content.

In her last will and testament, signed at Medina del Campo on the 23rd of November 1504, three days before her death, her love for the Church and her Catholic faith is apparent. In the first part of her will, she calls attention to her personal profession of faith and her offer to die for it. In the last part, she has a paragraph directed to the Indians and the inhabitants of the Indies, and of the Mainland, so that they will be instructed in the Catholic faith and in good conduct, that they may not suffer ill treatment, but be treated justly.

We can see here, how she always had everyone in mind, so that injustices would not be committed. Isabel The Catholic was destined to be the foundress of Spain, of its unification, and the mother of the Americas by the grace of God, in spite of the concerted effort of many who work to the contrary by means of falsehoods.

The year 2004 will mark the Fifth centennial of the death of Isabel the Catholic. I think the time is due for her beatification. It is only just that all Catholics do their part in the promotion of this Cause since, thanks to her, our faith was spread throughout the world. We must not be quiet and allow only the negative voice to be heard.

By Pilar Perez Garcia

## ARTÍCULO PRINCIPAL / FEATURE ARTICLE

### LA SIERVA DE DIOS, ISABEL LA CATOLICA

(Continuación del número anterior)

#### III. Servicios prestados por la Sierva de Dios al mundo y a la Iglesia

1. La Reconquista y evangelización del Reino de Granada, injustamente ocupado por los moros, que constituía un verdadero peligro no solo para España sino para toda la Cristiandad. Según un pensador, la reconquista del Reino musulmán granadino, fue el acontecimiento más importante de toda la política europea contemporánea, precisamente la toma de la ciudad de Granada "suscitó un júbilo infinito en todo el mundo cristiano" (Pastor); y de un modo muy especial en Roma. Un predecesor de Isabel, San Fernando III de Castilla, había anteriormente conquistado a los moros desde Toledo hasta Sevilla.

2. La unidad de la fe católica en España y en todo el Imperio por Ella creado, donde no ha penetrado ni siquiera el protestantismo, ahorrándole las guerras religiosas que asolaron Europa y otras consecuencias que aún perduran.

3. La evangelización del vasto archipiélago de las Islas Canarias, tal vez el único territorio cristiano en toda el Africa durante casi cinco siglos.

4. Con la reforma eclesiástica llevada felizmente a término en España, un siglo antes de que el Concilio Tridentino la aplicase a toda la Iglesia, obtuvo un Episcopado como no lo han conocido las Iglesias de España durante muchos siglos (Santiago Riol a Felipe V). Con la reforma dejó la Iglesia Española bien preparada para las empresas de servicio universal a que estaba destinada. Los obispos españoles tuvieron además un papel relevante en el desarrollo del Concilio de Trento.

5. Paralela a la eclesiástica, fue la reforma de las Ordenes religiosas, tanto masculinas como femeninas, que dieron a la Iglesia una legión de santos y misioneros que se prodigaron especialmente en la evangelización de América, del Reino de Granada, de las Canarias y más tarde de las Islas Filipinas. El movimiento reformador promovido por la Reina Isabel era a la hora de su muerte general e irreversible.

6. El descubrimiento y la evangelización de América, comenzada ésta por Isabel y recomendada en su testamento como ley constitucional a sus herederos. En el Continente

### SERVANT OF GOD, ISABEL THE CATHOLIC

(Continuation of the previous number)

#### III. Services rendered by the Servant of God to the world and to the Church.

1. The reconquest and evangelization of the Kingdom of Granada, unjustly occupied by the Moors, which constituted a true danger, not only for Spain, but for the whole of Christendom. According to one intellectual, the reconquest of the Muslim Kingdom of Granada was the most important event in all of contemporary European politics. The taking of the city of Granada "raised up an infinite jubilation in all the Christian world" (Pastor); and in a very special way in Rome. A predecessor of Isabel, St. Ferdinand III of Castile, had previously conquered the Moors from Toledo to Seville.

2. The unity of the Catholic Faith in Spain and in all the empire created by her, where Protestantism had not penetrated in the least, thus avoiding the religious wars that assailed Europe and other consequences that persist even now.

3. The evangelization of the vast archipelago of the Canary Islands, perhaps the only Christian territory in all of Africa during the last five centuries.

4. With the ecclesiastical reformation carried to a happy end in Spain, a century before the Council of Trent would apply it to the whole Church, she obtained an episcopate such as had not been known to the Church of Spain for many centuries (Santiago Riol to Felipe V). With this reform she left the Spanish Church well prepared for the undertakings of universal service for which it was destined. The Spanish bishops had moreover a relevant role in the development of the Council of Trent.

5. Concurrently with the ecclesiastical reformation, was the reformation of the religious orders of men and women which gave to the Church a legion of saints and missionaries who spent themselves generously, especially in the evangelization of America, the kingdom of Granada, the Canary Islands and later in the Philippine Islands. The reforming movement promoted by Queen Isabel was, at the hour of her death, general and irreversible.

6. The discovery and evangelization of America, commenced by Isabel and recommended in her last will as a constitutional law to her heirs. In the Spanish-American conti-

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ibero-americano vive sobre la mitad del catolicismo mundial gracias a Isabel la Católica: “Es el Continente de la esperanza para la Iglesia” les ha repetido el Santo Padre a los Religiosos de la América Latina, en su Carta Apostólica “Los caminos del Evangelio”, del 29 de Junio de 1990. En ella leemos frases como esta: “América Latina permanece fiel a la fe en el corazón de sus gentes” (nn. 8,12,14 princ., etc.).

7. La prohibición de la esclavitud de sus aborígenes en el Continente Americano siempre respetada por sus sucesores; mientras siguió su práctica durante mucho tiempo fuera de América y por los mismos españoles con los negros de África.

8. La más que probable liberación de la invasión musulmana de Italia y de Roma, mediante la presencia continua del ejército y de la armada del “Gran Capitán” en los Reinos de Nápoles y de Sicilia con tal fin, y con la dispersión de la escuadra turca por la misma armada española por orden expresa de Isabel (a. 1500). La ocupación de Italia y de Roma habría, sin duda, cambiado la historia de la catolicidad, al igual que acaeció en el Oriente medio con la ocupación por los turcos de Jerusalén y de Constantinopla.

9. Gran parte del catolicismo europeo se salvó gracias a la fidelidad del Emperador Carlos V a las recomendaciones de su abuela materna. Sumado al de España, América, Filipinas... representa bastante más de la mitad del Catolicismo mundial: todo ello debido a la acción e inspiración determinante de Isabel la Católica.



ment lives more than half of the catholic world, thanks to Isabel the Catholic: “It is the continent of hope for the Church”, the Holy Father has repeated to the religious of Latin America in his Apostolic letter, “The Ways of the Gospel”, June 29th, 1990. In it we read sentences like this: “Latin America remains faithful to the Faith in the heart of its people” (nn 8,12,14, etc.).

7. The prohibition of slavery of the aborígenes in the American continent was always respected by her successors; while its practice continued for a long time outside of America, and even by the Spanish themselves with the blacks in Africa.

8. For all practical purposes, liberation from the Muslim invasion of Italy and Rome by means of the continuous presence of the army and the fleet of the “Gran Capitan” in the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily for this purpose, and with the dispersion of the Turkish squadron by the same Spanish fleet, by the express order of Isabel (y.1500). The occupation of Italy and Rome, without a doubt, would have changed the history of catholicity, as happened in the Middle East with the occupation of Jerusalem and Constantinople by the Turks.

9. A great part of European Catholicism was saved, thanks to the fidelity of the emperor Charles V to the recommendations of his maternal grandmother, Isabel. The whole of Spain, with the Americas and the Philippines... represents considerably much more than half of the Catholic world: all of this due to the determined action of Isabel the Catholic.

10. The long Spanish “golden age”, which knew its springtime with Isabel, and which had great influence in all the eastern world with its Catholic spirit and with its effects that have lasted up until our day.

11. The creation and consolidation of the modern state, (the first in history), which was better called “empire”, and of a monarchy without which would not be possible the evangelization of the Americas and of the Philippines, and whose monarchs were always proud to use to the title of “Catholic Kings” inherited from its founders, Ferdinand and Isabel.

The life of the Servant of God seems to constitute an important chapter in the divine plans over the world and over history, not only of the Church but of universal history also. According to William Thomas Walsh, she changed the

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10. El largo "siglo de oro" español, que conoció su primavera con Isabel, y que tuvo mucha influencia en todo el mundo occidental con su espíritu católico y con efectos que perduran en nuestros días.

11. La creación y consolidación de un Estado moderno (el primero de la historia, que mejor se llamaría un Imperio), y de una Monarquía sin la cual no habría sido posible la evangelización de América y de las Filipinas, y cuyos Monarcas se han honrado siempre con el título de Reyes Católicos heredado de sus fundadores Fernando e Isabel.

La vida de la Sierva de Dios parece constituir un capítulo importante de los planes divinos sobre el mundo y sobre la historia, no sólo de la Iglesia, sino de la historia universal. Ella, según W. Thomas Walsh, cambió el curso de la civilización y el aspecto del mundo entero. La Iglesia y el mismo mundo serían muy diferentes si borramos de la historia los gestos de Isabel la Católica. Para comprender buena parte de la historia de los últimos cinco siglos, se precisa tener cuenta de nuestra Sierva de Dios como primera causa determinante y eslabón de una cadena ininterrumpida de acontecimientos con impronta histórica universal. A pesar de la "Leyenda Negra", no se puede escribir la verdadera historia moderna, política y religiosa (y no en todo negativa), sin contar con España, ni la historia de España sin contar con Isabel la Católica. La evangelización de América encuentra únicamente paralelos y tal vez superiores bajo diversos puntos de vista en la evangelización de los pueblos mediterráneos y de los pueblos bárbaros de Europa.

### IV. El mensaje que la Reina puede llevar al mundo.

1. Isabel nos enseña como pueden conjugarse los valores humanos y los cristianos, la política y la religión cristiana. En el esbozar el primer Estado moderno nos demostró que, lejos de existir oposición alguna entre la doctrina cristiana y la organización estatal, aquella ayuda beneficiosamente a ésta. La eficacia de su gobierno se debe a su inmenso prestigio personal unánimemente reconocido, mas que a la institución monárquica de entonces, muy limitada por los privilegios de la Nobleza, como reconocen muchos críticos, procedía de su santidad, de la gracia divina animando y sublimando sus virtudes naturales.- En un mundo que no cree ya en las "ideologías", el modo de gobernar de los Reyes Católicos, se presentaría como una alternativa ejemplar. Isabel constituye un caso típico, tal vez único en la historia, de cómo se debe elevar a todo un pueblo de su extrema postración a cimas imprevisibles, guiándolo con criterios sobrenaturales, sin olvidarse de los naturales.

course of civilization and the aspect of the entire world. The Church and the world itself would be very different if we erased from history the feats of Isabel the Catholic. To understand a good part of the history of the last five centuries, it is necessary to have in mind our Servant of God as a first determinant cause and link of an uninterrupted chain of events with historical and universal imprint. Regardless of the "Black Legend" it is not possible to write the true modern history, political and religious, (and not negative in everything), without taking Spain into account; nor the history of Spain without taking into account Isabel the Catholic. The evangelization of America only finds parallels, and perhaps in some different points of view is greater than the evangelization of the Mediterranean peoples and of the barbarian peoples of Europe.

### IV. The message that Queen Isabel can bring to the world:

1. Isabel teaches us how to combine human and Christian values, politics and the Christian religion. In outlining the first modern State, she showed us that, far from there existing any opposition between the Christian doctrine and the organization of the State, that one beneficially helps the other. The efficacy of her government is due more to her immense personal prestige, unanimously recognized, rather than to the monarchical institution of that time, which was very limited by the privilege of the nobility; and this relevant moral ascendancy, as is recognized by many critics, proceeded from her holiness, from the divine Grace animating and sublimating her natural virtues. In a world that does not believe any longer in "ideologies", the manner of governing by the Catholic kings could be presented as an exemplary alternative. Isabel constitutes a typical case, perhaps unique in history, of how to elevate a people from its extreme prostration to the unforeseeable summits, guiding it with supernatural criteria without forgetting the natural ones.

2. She was a model of a "wholesome" democratic sense, because in her State respect for the regional autonomones and minorities, for the "fueros" or (privileges), and for the local customs was essential, all of it guaranteed with a religious oath

3. She gave an example of authentic democratic spirit from the very beginning of her reign, convoking general assemblies for the nation where the progmatial guidelines of government were outlined. The Church was amply represented in the general Congregation of the Clergy

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2. Fue modelo de un "sano" sentido democrático, porque en su Estado era esencial el respeto de las autonomías regionales y de las minorías, de los "fueros" y de las costumbres locales, todo ello garantizado con juramento religioso.

3. Dió también un ejemplo de auténtico espíritu democrático, ya desde el comienzo de su reinado, convocando a toda la Nación a asambleas generales, donde se trazasen las líneas programáticas del gobierno. La Iglesia estuvo ampliamente representada en la Congregación general del Clero ("Concilio Nacional" de Sevilla, a 1478), la cual elabora un plan amplísimo de reforma: eclesiástica, de los religiosos y del pueblo. Para el aspecto político, convocó las "Cortes" generales con amplia participación de todas las clases sociales (Toledo 1480); también éstas elaboraron un programa político no menos vasto para el gobierno de la Nación. Estas dos grandes Asambleas tuvieron un carácter de verdaderas "Cortes Constituyentes" y sus Actas se pueden considerar como una verdadera Constitución. En ellas fue planificado el reinado de Isabel "ad intra" e instalada la plataforma de enlazamiento de sus empresas "ad extra" de valor universal; todo lo demás era cuestión de tiempo, de perseverancia y de oportunidad.

("National Council" of Seville, 1478), in which was elaborated an ample plan of reformation: ecclesiastical, of the religious orders, and of the people. For the political aspect she convoked the general "Cortes" with ample participation of all the social classes; (Toledo, 1480) also elaborating a political program no less vast for the government of the nation. These two large Assemblies had a character of true "Cortes Constituyentes" and its acts can be considered as a true Constitution. In them the reign of Isabel was organized "ad intra" and installed the platform to launch enterprises "ad extra" of universal value; the rest was all a question of time, perseverance and opportunity.

4. She teaches us how to finish with the mafia and terrorism which was superabundant everywhere when she ascended to the throne, especially in Andalucía.

5. The politics of Isabel support the apostolic letter "Mulieris dignitatem" of the happily reigning pope, when contemplating the feminine genius egregiously guiding the public interest. She was, at the same time,



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4. Nos enseña como se puede acabar con la mafia y el terrorismo, que pululaban por doquier, especialmente en Andalucía al subir Ella al trono.

5. La política de Isabel acredita la Carta apostólica "Mulieris dignitatem" del Papa felizmente reinante, al contemplar el genio femenino conduciendo egregiamente la cosa pública. Fue asimismo un ejemplar de sano feminismo en la promoción de la mujer como no se ha visto hasta nuestros días.

6. Para todos los laicos, en general, será un mensaje muy actual de cómo se puede procurar el Reino de Dios en el manejo de las cosas temporales, aún las más difíciles y complicadas.

7. Para las familias será un modelo de las virtudes familiares como hija, hermana, esposa fiel, madre solícita de cinco hijos, sin descuidar por ello los deberes del gobierno. Aquí se nos presenta como modelo de exquisita feminidad.

8. Isabel nos dejó un ejemplo de su grande amor a la Iglesia, al Papa, a la Jerarquía, a los Institutos religiosos (cf.III,4). En las "Ordenanzas de Castilla" por ella promulgadas, se dedica todo el libro I, con sus 12 títulos y 87 leyes, a la fe católica y a la Iglesia. En una de ellas leemos: "A los Reyes y a los Príncipes de la tierra Dios confió la defensa de su Iglesia", principio de inmensa trascendencia que equivale a la recepción en bloque de todas las leyes de la Iglesia en el ordenamiento civil. Y en otro documento suyo: "Las cosas que se refieren a la Iglesia y al Papa, nosotros debemos mirarlas y cumplimentarlas sobre todas las cosas del mundo y más que las nuestras propias". Y en un tercer documento "Y porque los príncipes cristianos deben celar el honor y el servicio de Dios Nuestro Señor y castigar las ofensas que contra El se hacen, por ésto..." Quiso que el príncipe heredero, llegado a la adolescencia, presidiese el Consejo Real para que aprendiese a administrar la justicia, "Porque ésta es la causa por la que Dios ha puesto a los reyes y príncipes en la tierra". Y en su testamento por dos veces reafirma el principio de que debemos estar dispuestos a dar la vida por Dios y por su Iglesia: Una vez, lo dice de sí misma, que sería muy feliz de poderlo realizar, y la otra se lo recuerda a sus herederos: "Por la fe (dice), estamos obligados a poner las personas e vidas e lo que tuvieramos cada que fuere menester".

**CONTINUARA**

a prototype of wholesome feminism in promoting the value and talents of women, which has not been seen up until our days.

6. For all lay people in general, this will be a relevant message of how to obtain the Kingdom of God while dealing with temporal things, even the most difficult and complicated.

7. For families she is a model of family virtues, as a daughter, a sister, a faithful wife, and as a solicitous mother of five children, while never neglecting her duties of governing. In this she presents herself to us as a model of exquisite femininity.

8. Isabel left us an example of her great love for the Church, the Pope, the hierarchy, and the religious institutes, (cf.III;4). In the "Ordinances of Castile", promulgated by her, the whole of Book One, with its 12 titles and 87 laws, is dedicated to the Catholic Faith and the Church. In one of them we read: "To the Kings and the Princes of the earth God confided the defense of His Church", a principle of immense transcendence which is equivalent to the reception in its entirety of all the laws of the church in the civil code. And in another document of hers: "The things that pertain to the Church and the Pope, we must look at and comply with above all the things of this world, even more than our own things." And in a third document: "And because the Christian Princes should have a great zeal for the honor and service of God our Lord and punish the offenses that are done against Him, for this..." She wanted the heir -Prince, when he reached adolescence, would preside over the Royal Council so that he would learn to administer justice, "because this is the cause for which God has put Kings and Princes on earth." Her last will twice reaffirmed the principle that we should be disposed to offer our lives to

God and to His Church: Once she said this about herself, that she would be very happy to be able to have the opportunity to do it, and the other time she reminds her heirs of this: "For the Faith", she says, "we are obliged to expose our persons and lives and whatever we have, whenever it becomes necessary".

**TO BE CONTINUED**



## CAMINO A ROMA / PATH TO ROME

Este artículo ha sido publicado en español separadamente

This article has been published in Spanish separately



**H.E. Cardenal Antonio Ma. Rouco Varela**  
Archbishop of Madrid

It is my pleasure to be able to address some words of greeting to all who have come here to Madrid, to celebrate the VI Congress "Path to Rome". And with words of welcome directed first of all to the Father General and Founder of Miles Jesu, to the members of the Institute, a new faith family, and to all those who have come from other parts of the world.

I believe that here one can note and greet people: men and women, and young people who have come from America, North America and South America, and from other places from Europe and surely also from Spain and Madrid.

I cannot give you a welcome to Madrid, since we are in the closing ceremony, but I can wish that your stay in Madrid and that the development of the Congress in Madrid these two days have been very fruitful. It seems to me that the purpose of the Institute, as well as that of the Congress "Path to Rome", are very much in accordance with the great objectives of John Paul II and with that which we could call the permanent task of the church, of looking for and finding the road of Catholic fullness, faithfulness to the apostolic succession, to the successors of the apostles, in a special way to the successor of St. Peter and thus to travel ever farther along the road to unity; not a half-way or deficient unity, but a unity reached by fullness, that is to say, a unity reached by the manner and way of professing the Faith in Jesus Christ. It should be a confession of faith that embraces everything and all His salvific work, and all the manners of His presence throughout time, until He comes again. These are the ways that have come together, so to say, in the visible Body of His Church, by the Word given to us through the Scriptures, the Tradition of the Church, the Magisterium of the Church, the Apostolic Ministry, and above all, in a very special way as the hinge and synthesis of unity: the successors of St. Peter. This faith is the one uniting us, the one that will unite us. The fullness of the faith in Jesus Christ is not easy to keep alive in these

times. Perhaps one has always had to fight and struggle for his own faith. Nobody can say that he is sure of his faith on his own, in virtue of what he can do; of his own capacity, or of his own human abilities. But what one can say and what we should all acknowledge is: trusting in the action of God's grace accompanied by persevering prayer, the Faith will never be lost to us. In any case, in these times to ask for the gift of faith, of the fullness of the faith in the Lord, is urgent, because these are difficult times for believing fully in Him. Sometimes, even inside of the ecclesial community, and not to mention within other christian communities, to confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God made man, to confess that He is the Word, the Word of the Father revealed to us through the flesh which He took from the womb of the Virgin Mary; to confess that dying on the cross He has redeemed us from our sins and has inaugurated the time of mercy and of forgiveness, and of grace; that He has truly risen, in the fullness of His humanity, in His entire soul and body; that He has really risen, snatching us, we might say from the reality of the world and history; that He lives gloriously before the Father, and that He will return with glory and dignity to save the world; all this is not easy, it is not easy for a lot of people of our times, at least the impression is given that they do not consider it easy. To confess Jesus Christ fully, is a good road to unity. To journey to Rome is the best path, the only good path, so that the full confession in Jesus Christ can be produced in its fullness.

In Rome, it is often said: "Blessed be Jesus Christ". It is a very Roman form of greeting. It is also sung, even now, even though the "Christus Vincit, Christus Regna, Christus imperat" has been forgotten for some time. In Rome, all the great Catholic tradition of the Church, of the true Church of Jesus Christ, is presented to us as if on a platter, full of fragrances of history and of the gifts of God, all of them personified at this moment in the person of John Paul II.

It seems to me that I have also lived the Congress and I desire that it has much fruit for you with its title, "A Woman Clothed with the Sun". You have come to Spain to encounter the Blessed Mother, to discover the role of women in the Church, through the visits to the historical sites of St. Theresa, less, it seems to me, of the sites of Queen Isabel. Nevertheless, Queen Isabel and St. Teresa were two women on the go. The court of Spain was a traveling court for a long time, practically until Philip II far into the XVI century, established his residency in Madrid, and from that time Madrid has been the capital of the kingdoms of Spain.

Two exceptional women! St. Teresa of Jesus, whose annual feast we celebrated just a few weeks ago. I have had the joy, this morning, of consecrating and dedicating a new parish and its church, in a city near Madrid, dedicated to St. Teresa. I could see from the altar one of her best known poetic texts, engraved on the facade of the choir loft which said: "Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, everything passes away; God does not change; patience obtains all things. Whoever finds God lacks nothing. God alone is enough." The life of St. Theresa of Jesus,

## CAMINO A ROMA / PATH TO ROME

and before her, the life of Isabel the Catholic, give testimony to show that God alone suffices. That is why their lives became a kind of great grace for the Church of their times and of all times and showing how a Christian woman can live and build up the Church. And this in a way that goes farther than the institutional structure.

If there has been an extraordinary guide of souls in Church history, it is Theresa of Jesus. If there has been a spiritual doctrine that has converted many people, it has been hers. One of her greatest converts, as you know, has been Edith Stein- St. Theresa Benedicta de la Cruz. (She relates in her autobiographic writings, the upheaval of her soul after some years of searching, when she had abandoned the more or less pious faith of her Jewish family, a faith subject to a situation of philosophic scepticism, a fruit of the environment at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.)

That time was very positivistic and heavily imbued with scepticism. She was lucky though to find a philosopher and a school of Philosophy that wanted to depart from that pit of positivism, or of the idealism of the subjectivism of an idealist like Husserl, but this was not taking her to the luminous encounter with the truth. A little lady entering and visiting the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral of Edimburg was for her a stronger impulse to find the truth, according to her own testimony, than the lectures of the great teachers, and philosophy, and her own works. Now, it seems, that a great part of the works that Husserl had signed, were, in fact, authored by Edith Stein herself, his associate professor. This, as we know in the German university; happens quite a bit; it happened with frequency, and I think that it still takes place.

But her encounter with the truth, happened when, one night she found the book, "My Life", by St. Teresa of Jesus in the house of some Catholic friends, a couple she had met at the seminars of Husserl; she read it all at once, all during the night. She did not lay down, and when she finished reading it in the morning she said: "This is the truth". She relates that at that moment she had decided three things: she wanted to be baptized in the Catholic Church, (only two come to my mind now); she wanted to be baptized and become a Carmelite. She took the first step right away, though the second one was difficult for her to take, because her advisers and the bishops of Germany asked her to take an active role, in order to take advantage of her philosophic formation, by teaching in the schools of higher learning, first in Spira, and later in Munster. But, at the beginning of the 1930's, she was able to answer her great vocation of becoming a Carmelite. I think that she did not want to miss out dying for the Lord, since she had to do it, and she did it with a beauty of soul and with a fruitful spirituality that was worthy of her mother and teacher, Theresa of Jesus.

Another great Theresa, a daughter of St. Theresa of Jesus, of these modern times, is Therese of Liseaux. We also have

Theresa of the Andes, and so many other Theresas, that the world has sown in the "Carmels", and outside all the "Carmels" throughout the entire Church.

But not only women, but also many men have been converted through the spiritual teachings of Theresa of Jesus. And in a way, we have to say that the first of her great disciples was St. John of the Cross. And in her foot steps and following her paths of theology, of her spiritual experience and her consecrated life, many have encountered the Lord. She was a great teacher of the spiritual life. She is a woman who built up the Church, and who continues to build it up from heaven as few have done. She herself, in a way, was also converted in a very personal encounter with Christ Jesus in overturning of all her charism in favor of the Church. The life of St. Teresa of Jesus and of all her contemplative sisters is a life contemplatively apostolic or apostolically contemplative. She lived for the Church, the Church of Christ, for the living Church: One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic. "Roman" was not said back then, there was no need to say it yet, it was evident.

Next, the figure of Queen Isabel the Catholic places us in the life, in the biography, of a woman that is worth reading time and again, not so much because of other writings, but because of her Last Will, especially the last chapter referring to the evangelization of America. But even more important was her task of governing in which she lived her vocation and her responsibility in relation to her kingdoms exercising her Christian and Catholic conscience, ever more purified and clear, as a basis for governing. She lived her life as Queen, in a dedication and giving of her life to the Lord, without confusing in an inopportune way the political and ecclesiastic functions, still less the ecclesial and the spiritual roles, especially in accordance with the times she lived in. She also acted to reform the Church, in as far as Church law of the time allowed a Catholic Queen to do so. And how did she do this? With intelligence, with decision, with energy and with great charity. Her influence reaches to our own days and her example is one of a model mother, wife, Queen, woman, governor, Christian, and Catholic, that can transform the paths of the Church and influence them in a way that goes farther than that which can be done, many times, institutionally.

They are two good examples, two good shining models for all men and women who today, already on the threshold of crossing into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, want to build up the Church in a catholic way for our own day, in fidelity to Jesus Christ and offering His salvation to all men.

My wish for you is that, having chosen this place, this city, these two women, in order to get a glimpse of Our Lady clothed with the sun, who will lead us to our final dwelling, when her Son shall return, you will have reaped many fruits that is my wish for you and this I ask overall to Saint Theresa of Jesus. Thank you very much!

## CAMINO A ROMA / PATH TO ROME

### VII Congreso Internacional "Camino a Roma"

No me sigas a mí. Sigue al Vicario de Cristo,

Cabeza de fortaleza y unión en la Iglesia fundada por el mismo Jesucristo.

**en AVILA**

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1996- Nueva Orleans, Louisiana USA    1999- Birmingham, Inglaterra  
1997- Nueva Orleans, Louisiana USA    2000- Roma, Italia  
1998- Chicago, Illinois USA            2001- Madrid, España



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**Temas del Congreso para este año:**

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Estudiante de Medicina en  
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Alejandra de Austria



**David Rey, MJ**

Converso de la  
Iglesia Bautista a la  
Iglesia Católica

## ACTUALIDAD

### Oficina del Alcalde

### Harrisburg, Pensilvania

## Proclamación

**CONSIDERANDO QUE:** el día y la fecha del lunes 22 de abril del 2002, marca el 551 aniversario del nacimiento de la legendaria Reina Isabel de Castilla, España, una histórica visionaria cuyo empeño y liderazgo condujo al descubrimiento de la civilización occidental del Nuevo Mundo; y

**CONSIDERANDO QUE:** la protectora y benefactora de Cristobal Colón, la Reina Isabel personificó un empeño luminoso, y por medio de su compromiso continuo para explorar y descubrir, fue la raíz de la historia existente de América, de libertad y desenfrenada pasión por conquistar desventajas insuperables y

**CONSIDERANDO QUE:** la historia de América está ligada a la historia de España y su ilustre Reina de Castilla, por los vínculos comunes de amistad, tradición, dignidad y libertad individual que continúan hasta este día y

**CONSIDERANDO QUE:** esta ilustre líder mundial es hoy perpetuamente reconocida por medio de los buenos esfuerzos del Comité Nacional para el Día de la Reina Isabel, fundado hace más de 41 años por el respetado John Paul Paine ; ahora por ello se designa y

#### PROCLAMA:

Que el lunes, 22 de abril del 2002 se declara

#### DIA DE LA REINA ISABEL

En y para los ciudadanos de la ciudad de Harrisburg, Capital de la República de Pensilvania, impulsando a todos los ciudadanos a reconocer y apreciar las muchas relevantes contribuciones de este dinámico e histórico Icono,

Firmado y sellado

El 10 de abril del año DOS MIL DOS

Alcalde Stephen R. Reed

Proclamaciones similares a ésta se recibieron de los siguientes Estados: New Jersey, Nebraska, Rhode Island, Nevada y Maryland entre otros.

## CURRENT EVENTS



Office of The Mayor  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

## Proclamation

WHEREAS,

The day and date of Monday, April 22, 2002, marks the 551st Anniversary of the birth of the legendary Queen Isabella of Castile of Spain, an historical visionary whose courage and leadership led to Western Civilization's discovery of the New World; and

WHEREAS,

The benefactor and directress of Christopher Columbus, Queen Isabella personified enlightened endeavor, and through her sustained commitment to exploration and discovery, gave root to America's long-standing history of freedom and unbridled passion for conquering oft insurmountable odds; and

WHEREAS,

The history of America is inextricably linked to the history of Spain and its illustrious Queen, and their common bonds of friendship, tradition, dignity and individual freedom continue to this day; and

WHEREAS,

This illustrious world leader is today perpetually recognized through the good efforts of the National Committee for Queen Isabella Day, founded by the respected John Paul Paine more than forty years ago; now therefore be it hereby designated and

PROCLAIMED,

That Monday, April 22, 2002, be declared

### QUEEN ISABELLA DAY

In and for the citizens of the City of Harrisburg, Capital of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with all citizens urged to recognize and appreciate the many outstanding contributions of this dynamic historical icon.

SET UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL THIS  
TENTH DAY OF APRIL, ANNUM  
TWO-THOUSAND AND TWO

MAYOR STEPHEN R. REED



*Similar proclamation letters were received from the following States: New Jersey, Nebraska, Rhode Island, Nevada, Maryland and others.*

**ISABEL**

REVISTA DEDICADA A LA REINA, SU VIDA Y SU INFLUENCIA EN LA IGLESIA Y EN EL MUNDO



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