

PRAYER with the WORDS of our SISTERS and BROTHERS BLESSED MARTYRS OF ALGERIA

Beatified on 8 December 2018 in Oran (Algeria)
Liturgical Feast Day: 8 May



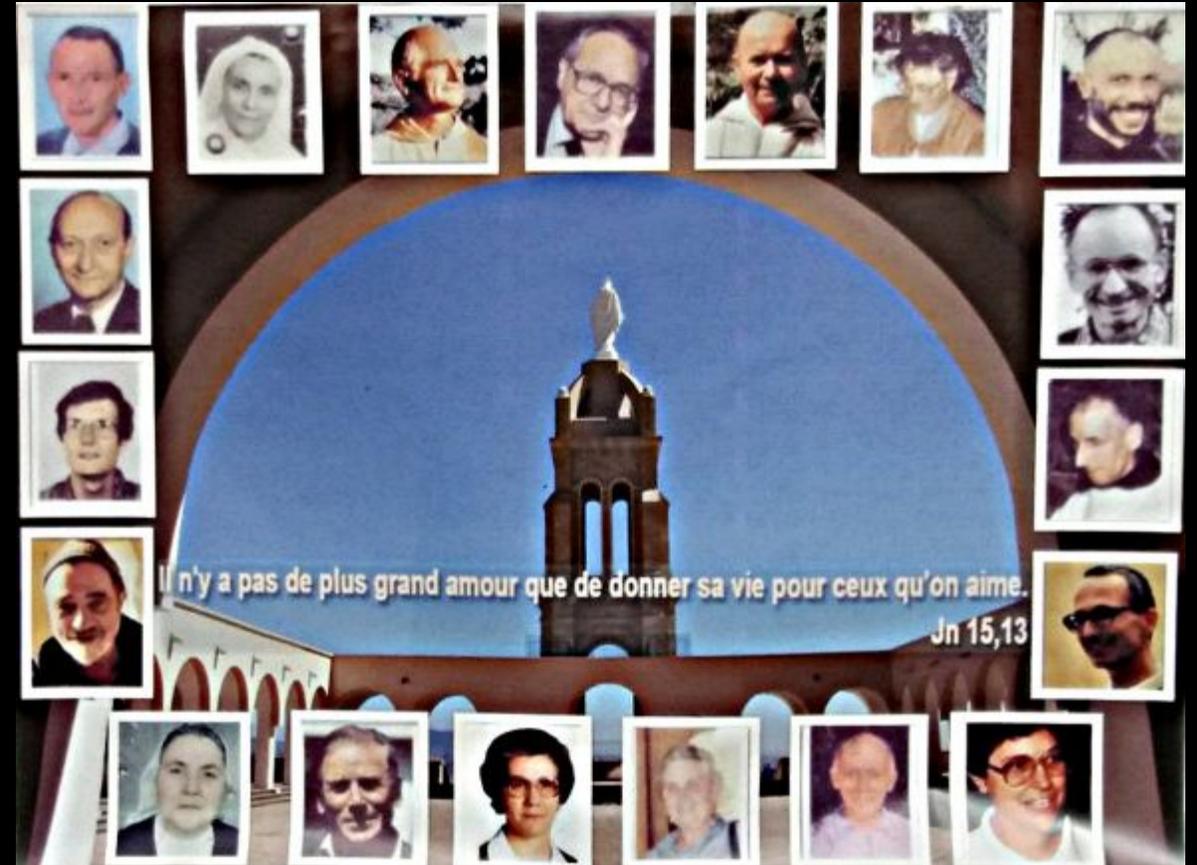
Beatification
19 martyrs
of Algeria
1994-1996
ORAN
8 Dec 2018



We can pray them all together
to ask for a grace of fidelity,
of unity and brotherhood
for our Church in its mission,
and for the whole world.



**God
we praise you,
Lord
we applaud you
in the great procession
of all the saints.**



**Paul-Hélène
Saint-Raymond
(+ Casbah)**



Petites Srs. de l'Assomption

"I'd think I was a missionary too,
both in the service of God and the Church,
here and elsewhere...
I have a deep desire for total availability...
wherever God wants. "

"Father, in any case
our lives are already given."

Frère Henry Vergès (+ Casbah)



Frères Maristes

"Virgin Mary, make me
an instrument of peace for the world.
Like Mary, with Mary,
welcoming Jesus in me
and giving it to others."

"God simply sent me
sowing the seed in a field chosen by Him:
I am therefore sowing in peace
letting him take care of the growth...
without being surprised by the presence
of the cross, as in the life of Jesus himself."

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8 mai 1994



Frère Henri Vergès et soeur Paul-Hélène Saint-Raymond

Caridad Alvarez (+Bab el Oued)



Agustinas Misioneras

"Sharing the prayer of the psalms
enriches me enormously.
I feel in communion
with all the members of the Church and
of humankind and I pray for them."

"Mary was open to God's will,
it may have cost her.
In the present moment,
I want to stay in this same spirit before God."

Esther Paniagua (+Bab el Oued)



Agustinas Misioneras

"No one can take our lives
because we've already given it away...
Nothing will happen to us
since we are in God's hands...
and if anything happens to us,
we're still in his hands."

Esther's father on the day of the funeral:
"I forgive those who murdered my daughter...
and I thank the Algerian people
for allowing her to be what she was."

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Jean Chevillard (+ Tizi Ouzou)



Père Blanc

"I know I can die murdered.
Our vocation is to bear witness
to the Christian faith on Muslim soil.
For the rest, 'Inch Allah!' "

"If Christians want to be true Christians,
the sign by which they will be recognized
will not be the liturgy, nor the Mass,
nor the sacraments.

By this all will know you as my disciples:
If, as I have loved you, you love each other...
and that until the sacrifice."

Alain Dieulangard (+ Tizi Ouzou)



Père Blanc

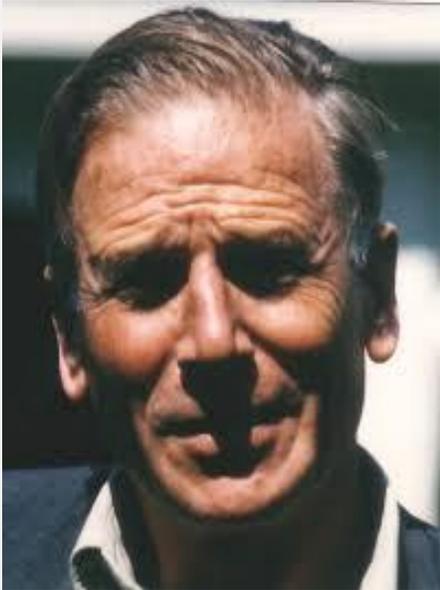
"We continue our presence as Church and even make plans for the future here, as if nothing happened, trusting in the Lord."

"Like the apostles on the lake, all we have to do is cry out to the Lord... to wake him up.

The future? It's in God's hands.

I hope we can continue, at least to ensure a minimum presence in the Church until peace is restored, which will come back eventually."

Charles Deckers (+ Tizi Ouzou)



Père Blanc

"I know that my activities
are dangerous to my life...
Here is my vocation, I'm staying..."

We put all our trust
in Him who holds in His hands
the destiny of all men.

Fear reigns in Algiers
but to leave would be cowardice,
when so many people are suffering.

Today's world, in general,
and religious cultures in particular,
cannot escape the need for dialogue
to ensure the harmonious "connivance"
required for the honour of God,
that we wish to serve each other."

Christian Chessel (+ Tizi Ouzou)



Père Blanc

"Believing in the meaning of our presence in Algeria today is perhaps nothing else than to believe in the power of love, so that we can say again at this time that 'we have recognized the love of God' and we believed it. »

"Staying is an act of faith in God, in the Church, grace for us missionaries, grace for Algeria, grace for the Muslim world, grace for the whole Church. »

"Yes, it is a grace for the whole Church which also communicates the passion of a whole people and receives from its Church the witness of its faith. »

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Jeanne Littlejohn
Sr Angèle-Marie
(+ Belcourt)



Notre-Dame des Apôtres

"We mustn't be afraid.
We only have to live well.
the present moment...
The rest is not ours."

"I choose to stay in Algeria
to bear witness to Jesus
and that I'm not afraid
because I'm with Him
and with the Blessed Virgin".

In its simplicity, that answer says it all.

Denise Leclercq
Sœur Bibiane
(+ Belcourt)



Notre-Dame des Apôtres

"I'm very sad, I feel helpless in the face of so much suffering, but I know, God loves these people and I have great confidence in Our Lady of Africa."

"Her light helps me to discover of the wonders that are hiding, astonishing solidarities, generosity, superhuman courage, the Spirit is there in their working heart."

"The Word of God helps me stay tuned to be a beacon of hope:
I choose to stay."

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Odette Prévost (+ Kouba)



Petites Sœurs du
Sacré-Cœur

"It's a special moment
to live with more truth,
fidelity to Jesus Christ and to the Gospel. »

"It's probably there,
at the heart of this very simple, shared life,
which we respond
to this permanent call of God
to seek Him, to discover Him
hidden in the heart of the world like a fire"

**God
we praise you,**

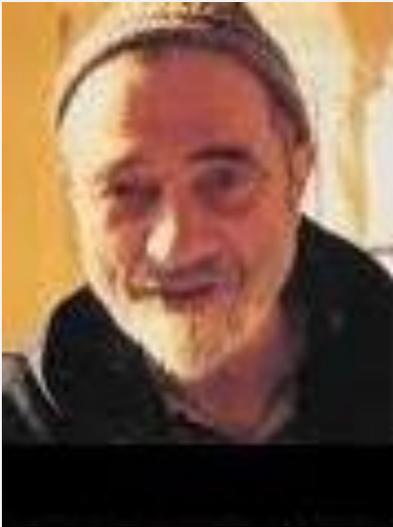
**Lord
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The Seven Brothers of TIBHIRINA: Cistercians of the S.O.

Frère Luc (+Tibhirine)

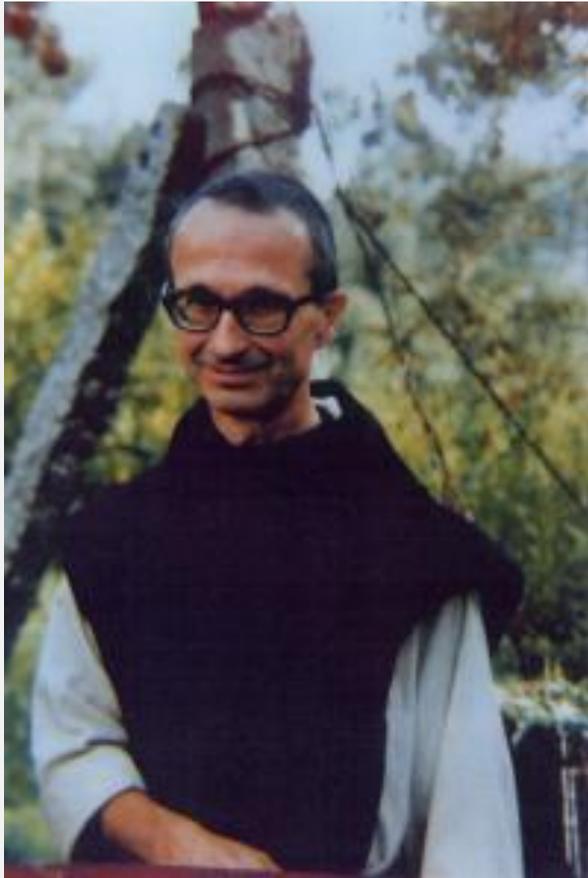


"Fear is lack of faith,
faith transforms anguish into confidence.
So, what and who could we be afraid of?...
We're like the bird on the branch,
ready to fly to other skies,
...new heavens and a new earth..."

"What can happen to us?
To go to the Lord
and to immerse ourselves in his tenderness..."

"Lord, give me the grace
to die without hate in my heart."

Frère Christian (+Tibhirine)



"Christians and Muslims, we have an urgent need to enter into mutual mercy...

This exodus to the other cannot divert us from the Promised Land, if it is true that our paths converge when the same thirst draws us to the same well.

Can we drink from each other?
The taste of the water is the judge of that.

True living water is the one that no one can make spring up, nor contain.

The world would be less deserted if we could recognize in each other a common calling, that of multiplying in passing the fountains of mercy"

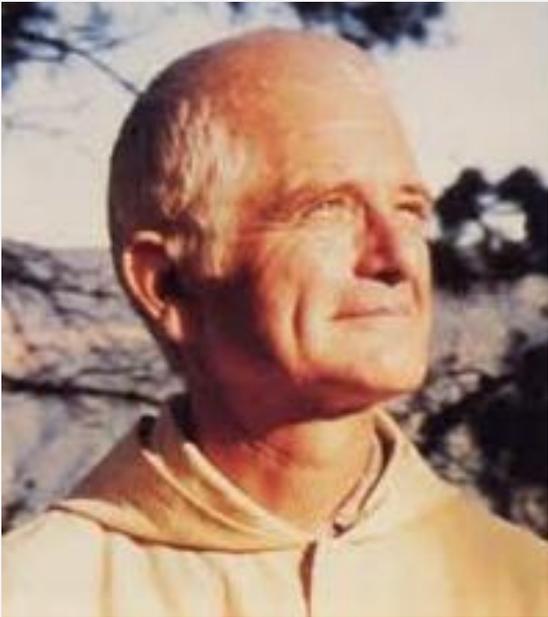
**Frère Christophe
Lebreton
(+Tibhirine)**



"Your word disturbs to come looking for me,
only the word can reach my loneliness,
it comes to the threshold of secrecy and stands there;
the word is answered, I hear it, which believes in me,
its screaming tears the veil, I see his glory,
its hand rests on my eyes, on my lips,
on my heart, I am healed
it's time to come out in a loving response.

My body is for the earth.
But, please, no protection between the two.
My heart is for life,
but please no hanky-panky between the two.
My hands for work will be folded, very simply.
Let my face be absolutely naked
so as not to prevent the kiss.
And let my gaze be seen."

Frère Célestin (+Tibhirine)



"O Jesus, I accept with all my heart...
that your death repeats itself,
is realized in me;

I know that with you, we go back up
of this dizzying descent into the abyss,
proclaiming the demon's defeat."

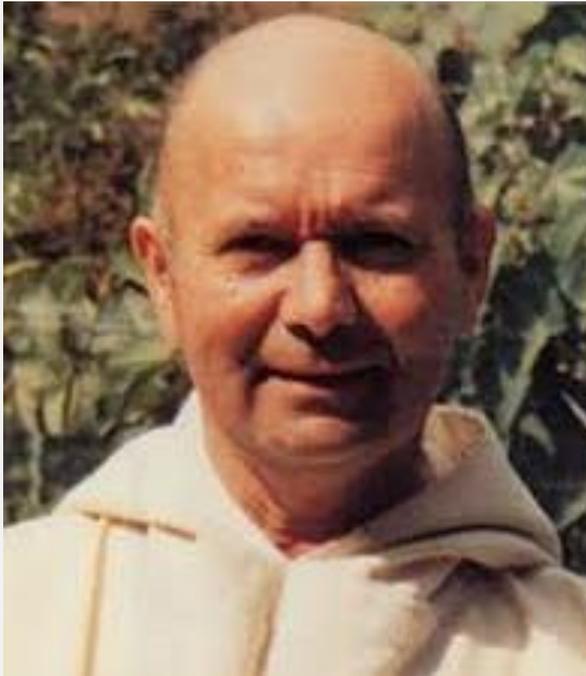
"In providing my daily services...
(and that helps me every day),
this morning I sing two short phrases:

*'O God, You are our Hope
on the face of every living person.'*

and

*'Wonder of your grace!
You entrust to men
the secrets of the Father.'"*

Frère Paul (+Tibhirine)

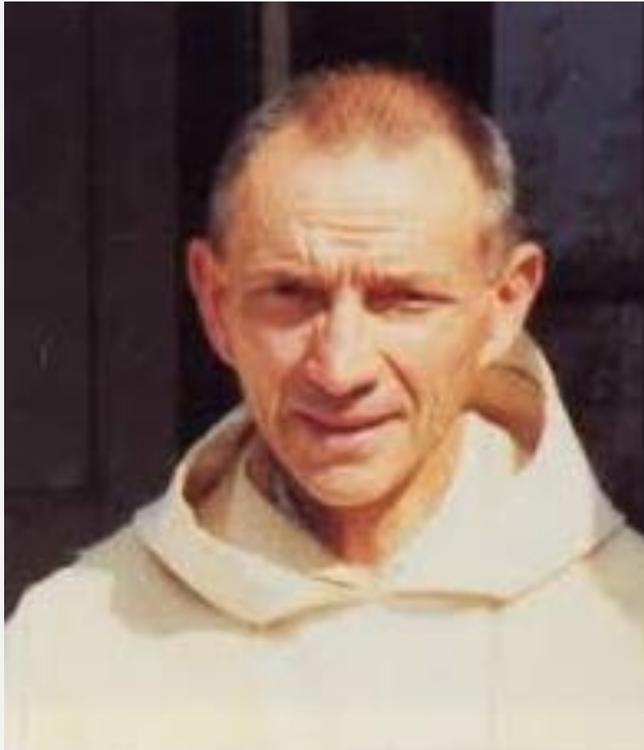


"Only One knows the day and the hour...
of our release in Him...

Let us be available
so that he can act within us,
through prayer and loving presence
to all our brothers."

"Love cannot be
but the meeting of two freedoms.
There is no love in compulsion.
God knows that our happiness
can only be in Him,
but he can't force it on us."

Frère Bruno (+Tibhirine)



"... I thank the Lord for being here...
and in this state of life. It's simple,
hidden like the seed buried in the ground;
that will germinate in its time.

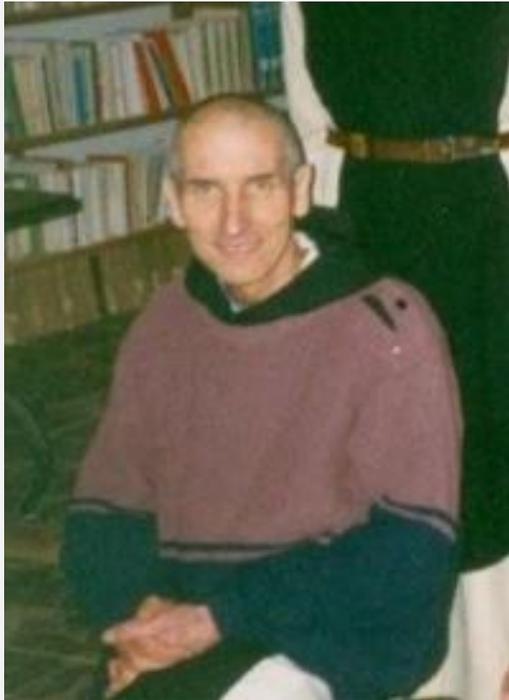
Life of faith and great hope.
Here as in the whole world,
God has sown the seed of His Kingdom,
but every childbirth has its pains..."

"Here I stand before Thee, O my God...
Here I am, rich with misery and poverty,
and nameless cowardice.

Here I stand before Thee
who are only Love and Mercy.

Before You, but by your only grace,
here I am, with all my mind,
all my heart, all my will".

Frère Michel +Tibhirine)



"Martyr, it's such an ambiguous word around here...
If anything happens to us... I don't wish it,
we want to live it here,
in solidarity with all those Algerians
who have already paid with their lives,
only solidarity
with all those innocent strangers..."

It seems to me that He
who helps us today to stand
is the One who called us.

I remain profoundly amazed by this."

God
we praise you,

Lord
we applaud you

in the great procession
of all the saints.



Mgr. Pierre Claverie évêque d'Oran



Ordre des Prêcheurs, O.P.

"It is now that we must take our share of the suffering and the hope of Algeria, with love, respect, patience and clarity."

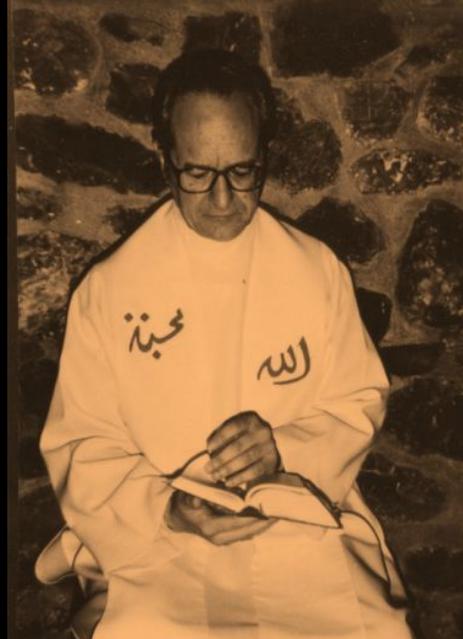
"Martyrdom is the greatest testimony of love. It's not about running towards death, nor to seek suffering for suffering's sake... but it's by shedding one's own blood... that we're getting closer to God."

"Holiness is above all a great passion. There is folly in holiness, the folly of love, the very folly of the cross, ignoring both calculations and the wisdom of men."

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Sanctuaire de Santa Cruz à Oran
Lieu de la béatification

God's Word in Romans 8:35-39

"Who can separate us from the love of Christ?

Is it misfortune? Or is it anxiety? Is it suffering from others? Or is it hunger, poverty? Danger or death?

The Holy Books say: "Because of you, we are always in danger of death. We are treated like sheep for slaughter."

But in everything that happens to us, we are the great victors through him who loved us. Yes, I am sure that nothing will be able to separate us from the love that God has shown us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor spirits, nor the present, nor the future, nor all those who have power, nor the powers from above, nor the powers from below, nor all created things, nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God!"

Everybody:

The Holy Spirit is not a prisoner of the Church's borders.

It is spread all over the world.

It is present in all human consciences, in the cultures and spiritual life of all peoples...

There is an action outside the Church that converges with what the Holy Spirit produces in the Church.

Song of Zechariah:

Blessed be the Lord, The God of Israel;
He has come to His people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
Born of the house of His servant David.

Through His holy prophets
He promised of old

That He would save us from our enemies,
From the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers
And to remember His holy Covenant.

This was the oath He swore to our father Abraham:
To set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship Him without fear,
Holy and righteous in His sight all the days of our life.

You, My child shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
For you will go before the Lord to prepare His way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation
By the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our Lord
The dawn from on high shall break upon us,

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
And to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Everybody:

The Holy Spirit is not a prisoner of the Church's borders.

It is spread throughout the world.

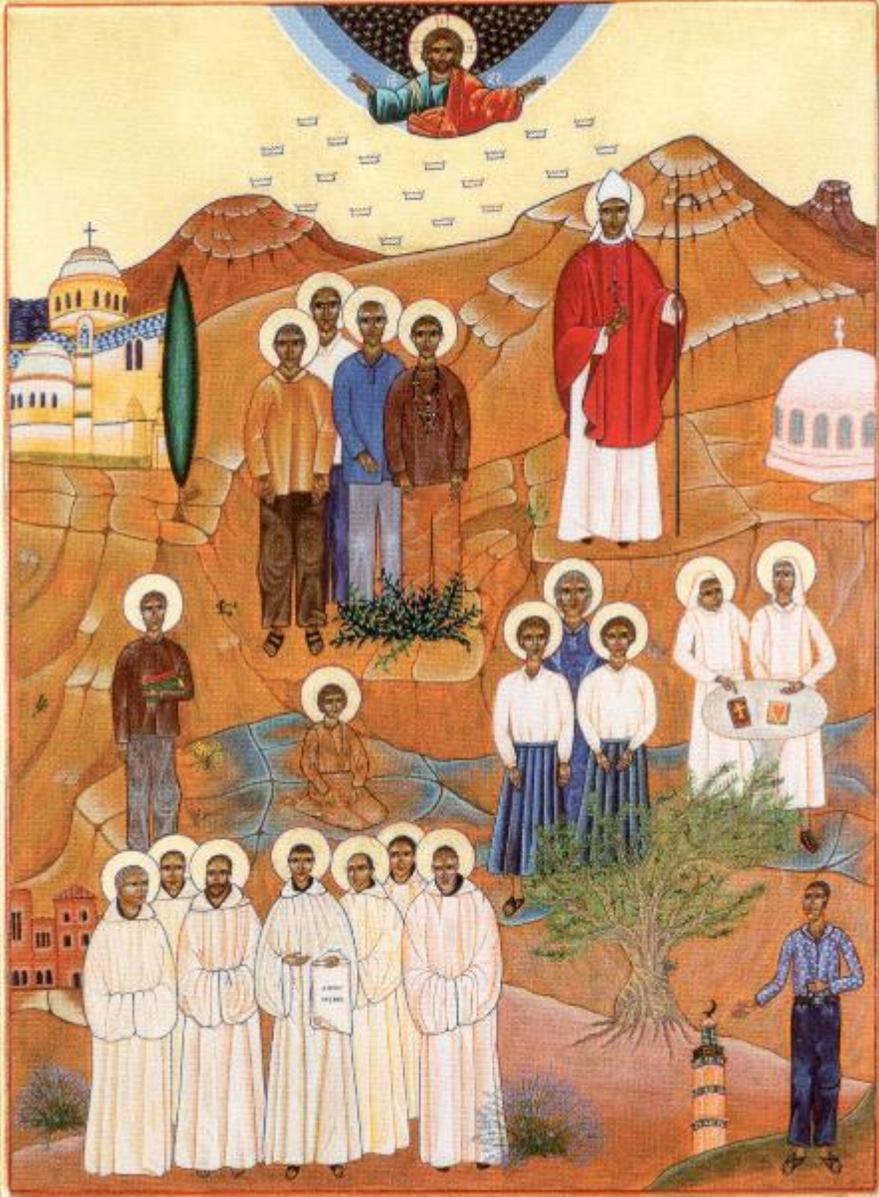
It is present in all human consciences, in the cultures and spiritual life of all peoples .

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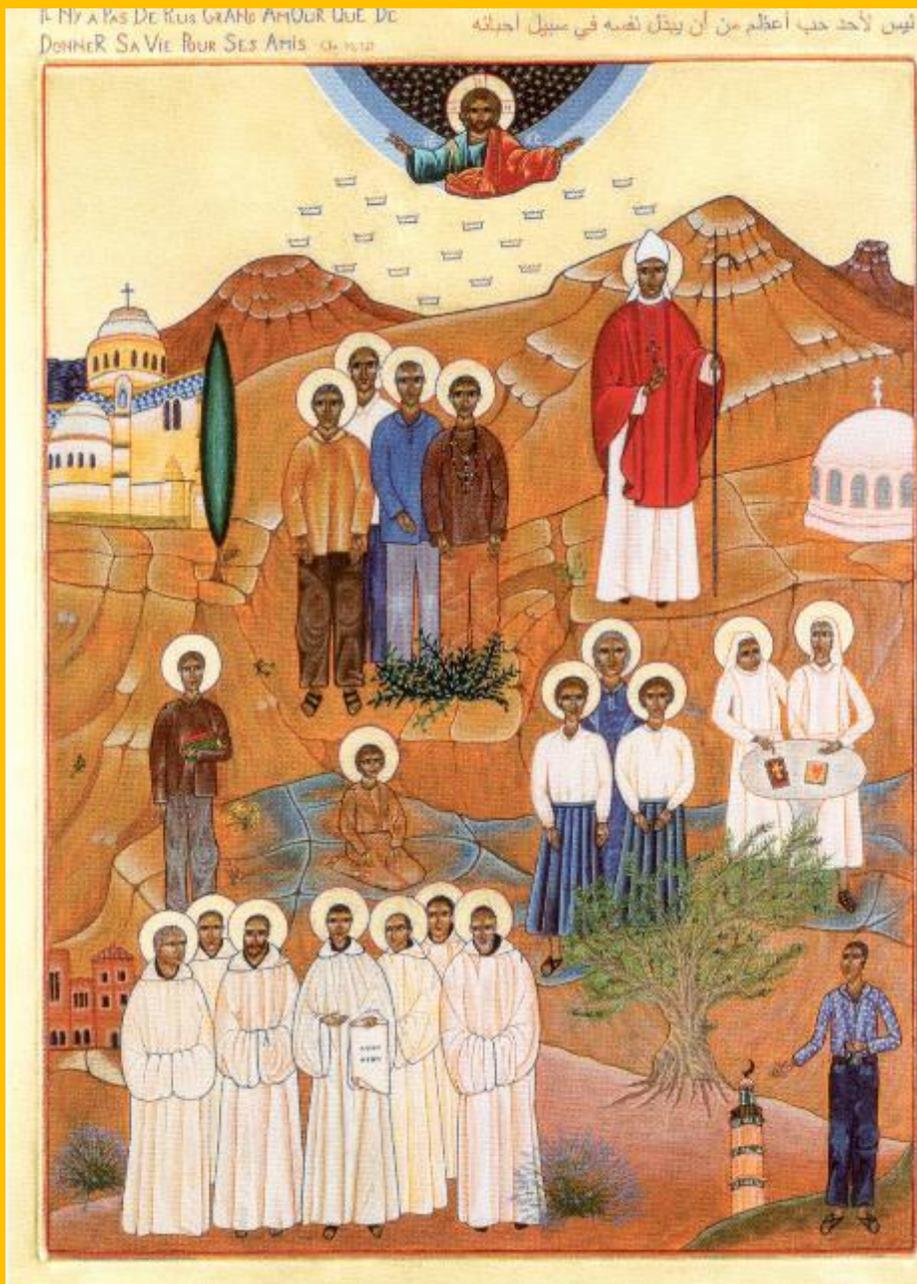
(Cardinal Duval, Archbishop of Algiers 1954-1988)

IL N'Y A PAS DE PLUS GRAND AMOUR QUE DE
DONNER SA VIE POUR SES AMIS. (Jn 15,13)

ليس لاحد حب اعظم من ان يبذل نفسه في سبيل احبائه



Blessed those
who have given
their lives
out of love!



Prayer of the Martyrs of Algeria

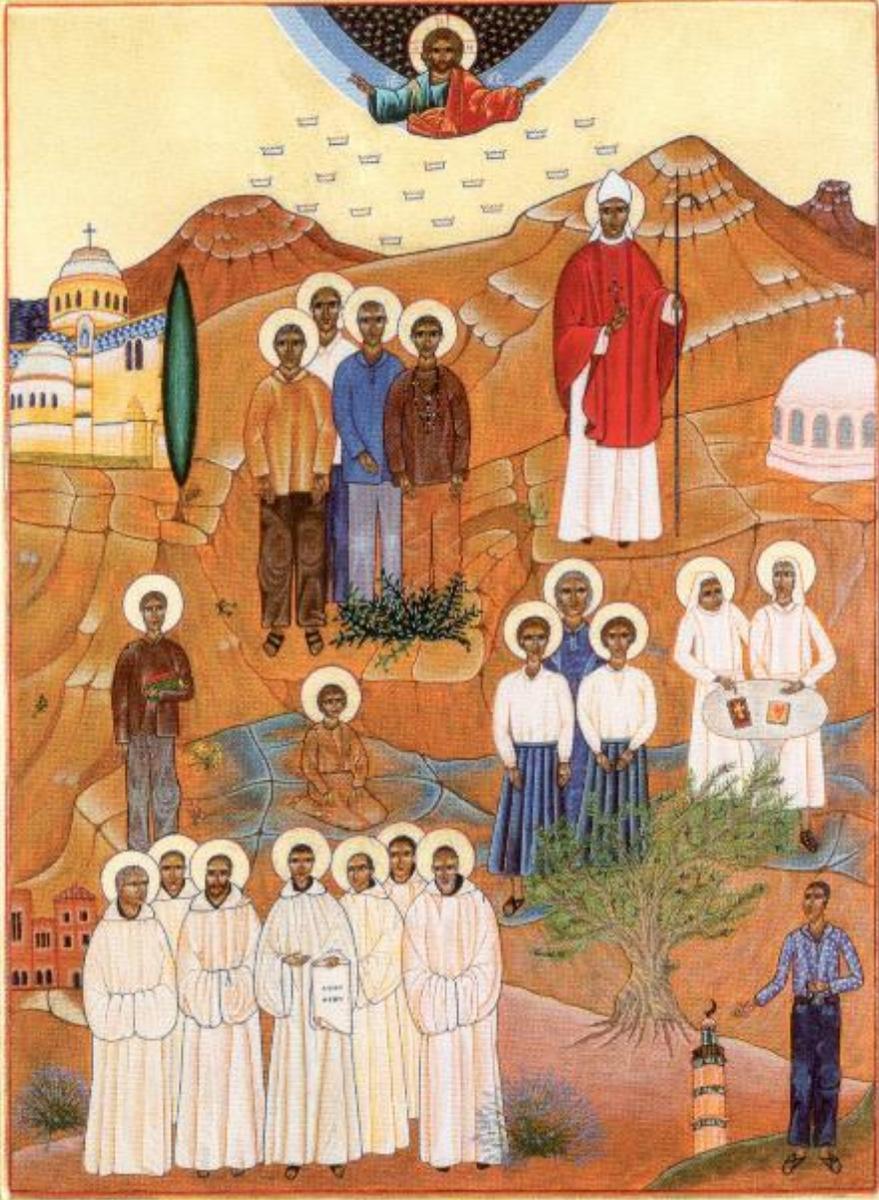
Lord God, our Father, we praise you for the passion, death and resurrection of your Son Jesus, the martyr par excellence, from whom comes salvation.

You wanted to share his martyrdom with our brothers and sisters in the Church of Algeria:

Henri and Paul-Hélène, Caridad and Esther, Jean, Charles, Alain and Christian, Angèle-Marie and Bibiane, Odette, Christian, Luc, Christophe, Michel, Bruno, Célestin and Paul, and your Bishop Pierre Claverie.

IL N'Y A PAS DE PLUS GRAND AMOUR QUE DE
DONNER SA VIE POUR SES AMIS - (J. 15,13)

ليس لأحد حب أعظم من أن يترك نفسه في سبيل أحبائه



We pray to you, Father, so that, through their intercession, dialogue, respect and love between your Christian and Muslim children may be strengthened.

Bless Algeria and its people, and in peace renewed we will give you glory.

Father, we call upon our martyrs to...

(specify the grace to be requested)

And you, Mary, whom all have loved... and who is worshipped in the house of Islam, listen to our prayer and intercede before your Son, Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Final Prayer:

Lord, on the five continents, in hatred of the faith, so many Christians are threatened and persecuted.

Signs of contradiction, animated only by the desire to love, they die for you who is Love.

We pray for them, accept them in your presence.

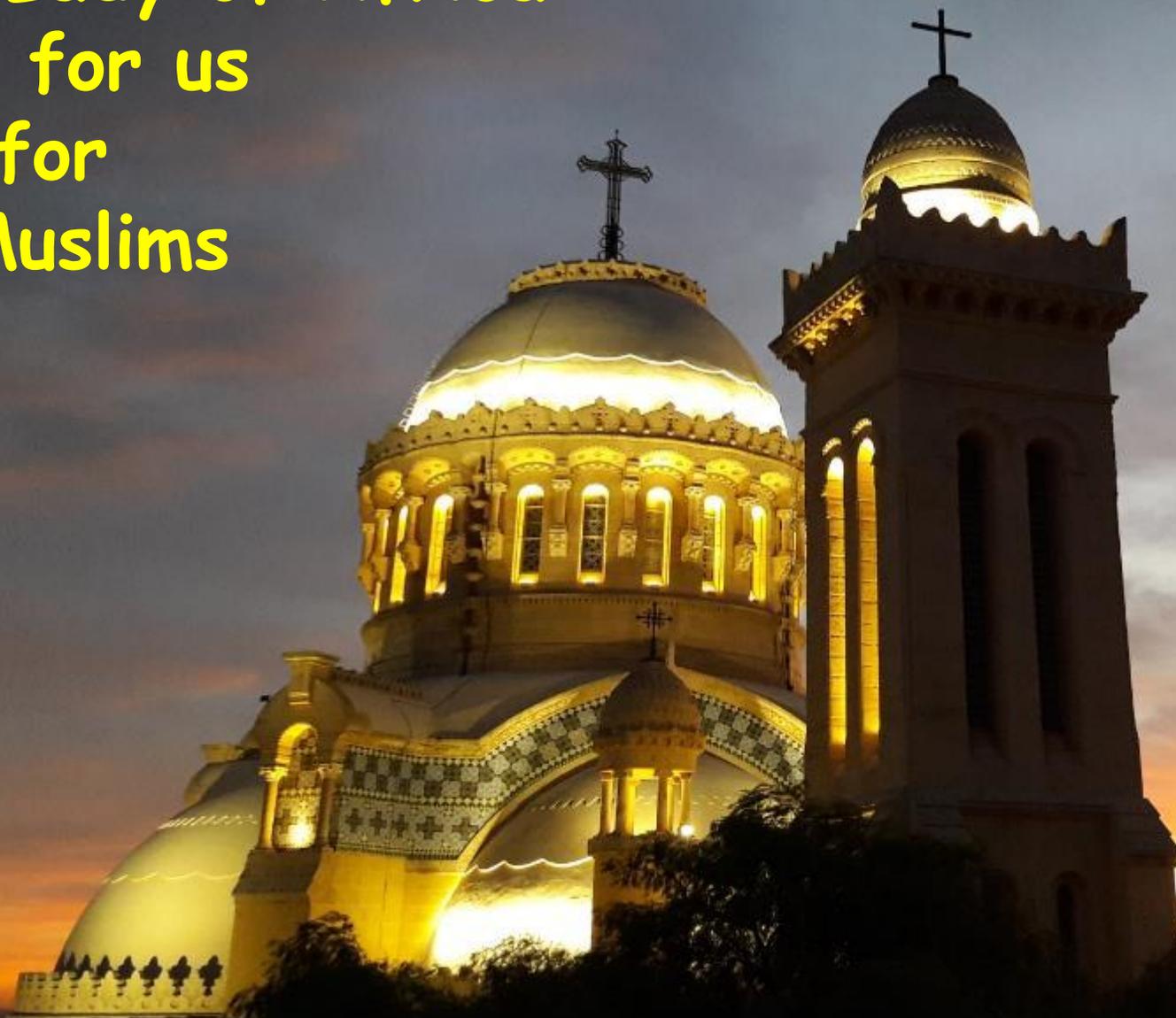
We also entrust their persecutors to You,
blinded by hatred and violence.

May the sacrifice and forgiveness of their victims lead them on a path of conversion.



Virgin Mary,
you, being the first,
felt the sword in your flesh.
Invoke for us the Spirit of strength,
that it may take away the fear, the shame, the
cowardice from us,
that he may renew our faith and
give us the desire to testify,
under any circumstances,
that Christ is Lord.

Our Lady of Africa
pray for us
and for
all Muslims





Realization

White Fathers and Augustinian Sisters

Maghreb, 2020

