



Remembering the Faithful Martyrs of the Spanish Inquisition

It was October 8, 1558. The city of Valladolid, capital of the Spanish empire at that time, was ready for a big event presided over by King Philip II, an *Auto de Fe*, intended for the “purifying” of the Catholic Church of all those persons considered heretics by it. Their only crime was their faith in Christ as the only means of salvation. In order to remember the courage of these brethren of the past, we brought back the last hours of one of these martyrs, don Carlos de Seso, a nobleman who died at the stake for his faith that day. The night before, don Carlos was allowed to write his testimony, which turned to be a complaint against the errors of the Catholic Church and a confession that his only hope of salvation and eternal life was in Jesus, his only Savior. At the end of the representation the members of the choir sang this inspiring hymn:

*"Are ye able," said the Master,
"To be crucified with me?"
"Yea," the sturdy dreamers answered,
"To the death we follow Thee."*



Participants in the Inquisition Representation

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«When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.»

I Timothy 1:5

Calling to Remembrance

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We greet you again in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We thank the Lord for each one of you who pray for us, knowing that He will not forget all your prayers and will reward all the sacrifice you do to support our ministry here in Spain. Just like God remembers, so must we remember all those faithful brothers and sisters who have preceded us in the faith to take courage in our own Christian race. This is what we have done this past month of October, preparing a special program to commemorate the death at the stake of some faithful Christians of the XVI century in Spain.

We have also called to remembrance the life and ministry of Felipe Ponce, a minister of the gospel who was sent by our church in Mataro to his homeland in Honduras as a missionary. Bro. Ponce was called to the Lord's presence the 25th of October, leaving behind his wife Reyna, and three adult daughters, one of them married recently. Bro. Ponce was an example of faithful and constant work for the Lord,

sharing the Good News with his neighbors from near and far, visiting remote villages in his country. Please, remember in prayer his wife and daughters, that they may find their comfort in the Lord in this time of grief.



The Ponce Family by Bro. Felipe's Grave

www.ipmworld.org

Summer Family Retreat

One more time the Lord gave us a very blessed time in our Summer Family Retreat. The Bible teaching was brought by Bro. Antonio Diez, from a church in Huesca (northern part of Spain). Bro. Diez preached on Psalm 19, which we memorized and reflected about God's creation and revelation. It was very special to have the Norwoods with us, as well. Daniel and Ruth helped with the children's lessons, the music, and Daniel gave a devotional in the morning. Roxana and Sergio were able to come too, and enjoyed the fellowship with other Christians. It was their first time in an activity like this.

Surprise Baby Shower for our daughter Ruth

The news about Ruth pregnancy were very recent, yet the ladies took advantage of the fact that she was around our area to organize a Baby Shower for her. They had very little time to put together all the details but finally it took place shortly after the retreat. Many relatives and friends who had not seen Ruth for years were able to come and spend that evening with her. The Scripture meditation was on Psalm 37:5 *«Delight thyself also in the LORD; And he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.»* We thank the Lord for His care and provision even in these "small" things.



Ladies at the baby shower

Answered Prayers & Requests:

- We thank the Lord once again for a new addition to our family on the way. Daniel and Ruth are expecting their first baby boy! Little Daniel is due the first week of February 2026. We appreciate your prayers for this young couple, both for physical health and spiritual strength in their missionary work in Jerez de la Frontera, in the southern part of Spain.
- We also thank the Lord for the growth we can see in Roxana. She is attending church regularly and she is being discipled as well. Also, we are grateful for Sergio, who is faithfully attending his church and also comes to our afternoon services and youth meetings whenever he has an occasion.
- We covet your prayers for the outcoming Christian Education Conference. This year we don't have the possibility to organize a Retreat, so we will have something different. Our guest speaker is Prof. Andy McIntosh from the UK, who will teach and preach about the wonders of God's creation and Christian discipleship. We are looking forward to seeing God's blessing in this activity!

Closing Words

*"Are ye able?" Still the Master whispers down eternity,
And heroic spirits answer now, as then, in Galilee.*

*Lord, we are able. Our spirits are Thine.
Remold them, make us, like Thee, divine.
Thy guiding radiance above us shall be
A beacon to God, to love, and loyalty.*

Dear friends and co-workers in our service to the Lord, let us always remember that no matter how hostile the situation may be, **in Christ** we are able to follow Him to the end!

Your fellow disciples of Christ,

The Rosa family



Summer Family Retreat 2025