

JOHN PAUL II

REGINA CÆLI

Sixth Sunday of Easter, 16 May 2004

In French:

I address a cordial welcome to the Lebanese pilgrims who have come for the canonization of <u>Nimatullah Al-Hardini</u>, with a particular greeting to His Beatitude Patriarch Nasrallah Pierre Sfeir and His Excellency General Émile Lahoud, President of the Lebanese Republic. I hope that the new Saint intercedes before God so that your compatriots continue on the roads of peace and fellowship.

In Spanish:

I greet the Spanish-speaking pilgrims: the Cardinal Archbishop of Barcelona, the Bishops, priests and faithful who have come from Spain and America, and most especially the Sons of the Holy Family and the Missionary Daughters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, founded by the new Saint José Manyanet. By following his example and through his intercession, may we all walk the path of holiness, following the model of the spirit of Nazareth!

In Italian:

I greet the Cardinal Archbishop of Milan and the other Prelates present as well as the Delegation from the Italian Government and all the personalities present. I greet all who have come to honour the new Saints, particularly the spiritual sons and daughters of Don Orione from Italy and various parts of the world; the Rogationist Fathers and the Daughters of Divine Zeal; the Sisters of the Holy Family and the Congregation of the Holy Family of Bergamo; the pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Milan. A special thought also goes to the [Italian] State Police on their anniversary, and I express my grateful appreciation for their generous service in maintaining public order, security and the peace of mind of citizens.

To all present I hope that the witness of the Saints may be for each of you an inspiration and support in the daily service to God and neighbour. May the Blessed Virgin Mary obtain this, she whom the new Saints venerate with filial love and to whom we now turn with trust.

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