

Saint Sister Bonifacia Rodriguez Castro, SSJ (1837 - 1905 AD)



[https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=5860](https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=5860)

*being steadfast in the station of life CHRIST calls us to*

"A native of Salamanca, Spain, Bonifacia grew up in a family that moved repeatedly as her father, a tailor, struggled to pay rent. The young girl took up the trade of rope-making, and after her father's death, she worked to provide for her mother.

Within a few years, she had her own workshop, which soon became a haven for other young working women who sought spiritual companionship and encouragement. Bonifacia encouraged them to seek to live the hidden life of JESUS, Mary and Joseph in Nazareth.

In 1874, with Jesuit Father Javier Butina y Hospital, she founded the Servants of Saint Joseph [SSJ], a new women's religious congregation aimed at supporting women workers. Only three months later, Father Butina was exiled from Salamanca, and the Bishop appointed a Priest director who objected to women religious working alongside the poor and removed Bonifacia from her post as Superior.

Bonifacia was able to receive permission from the Bishop to open a new house of the Order in Zamora. When she returned to Salamanca to seek unity with the women there, she was refused entry.

She returned to Zamora and confided the details of her rejection by the women of her home Convent only to her diary. She died in 1905, predicting the future union of the houses of the Order - which was achieved, in fact, two years later.

Father of Mercies, through the intercession of Saint Bonifacia Rodriguez Castro, teach me to be silent rather than complain," \* recalling how our Lord JESUS CHRIST Himself suffered in silence in His Passion of Love to redeem our lives and souls, and remaining steadfast in the station to which CHRIST has called me. AMEN.

PSALM 116:1-19

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i289qFwVGKo&list=RDs7BB6kArmoI&index=20>

Stand firm in our Savior JESUS, for He hath redeemed us.

1 I love The LORD, because He hath heard my voice and my supplications.

2 Because He hath inclined His ear unto me, therefore will I call upon Him as long as I live.

3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of Hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.

4 Then called I upon The Name of The LORD; O LORD, I beseech Thee, deliver my soul.

Stand firm in our Savior JESUS, for He hath redeemed us.

5 Gracious is The LORD, and righteous; yea, our GOD is Merciful.

6 The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and He helped me.

7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for The LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee.

8 For Thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling.

Stand firm in our Savior JESUS, for He hath redeemed us.

9 I will walk before The LORD in the land of the living.

10 I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted:

11 I said in my haste, All men are liars.

12 What shall I render unto The LORD for all His benefits toward me?

Stand firm in our Savior JESUS, for He hath redeemed us.

13 I will take The Cup of Salvation, and call upon The Name of The LORD.

14 I will pay my vows unto The LORD now in the presence of all His people.

15 Precious in The Sight of The LORD is the death of His saints.

Stand firm in our Savior JESUS, for He hath redeemed us.

16 O LORD, truly I am Thy servant; I am Thy servant, and the son of Thine handmaid: Thou hast loosed my bonds.

17 I will offer to Thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon The Name of The LORD.

18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people,

19 In the courts of the LORD'S house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.

Praise ye the LORD.

\* ["Saint Bonifacia Rodriguez Castro." The Magnificat, 9/11/2021, p 1145.]