



Prayer in Vocation

Saint Jaime Hilario Barbal Cosen (January 18th)

A School Prayer

Almighty and merciful God, with the offering of his life you made your servant Saint Brother Jaime Hilario, martyr, an outstanding witness of faith. Grant that by his example we may always live under the guidance of your Spirit and with the intention of pleasing you.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

A Classroom Prayer

Lord, as students, we have many difficulties in our daily lives. Help us to imitate the courage of Saint Brother Jaime, who was prevented from teaching by a hearing impairment. Give us the strength and confidence that we need in following Jesus in our daily lives and to join together with each other in encouragement and support.

A Prayer for Parents *(could be used in a newsletter):*

Heavenly Father, in educating young people we encounter all kinds of physical and mental disabilities. May the prayers of Saint Brother Jaime, who because of his own disability (hearing impairment), had to adjust his life to new circumstances help us go forth with courage and confidence as we accept the challenges of teaching our children to be people who care for and work with those who have all types of disabilities.

The Story:

After sixteen years in various teaching assignments, his hearing problems forced Bro. Jaime to abandon the classroom to work in the garden at the house of formation at San Jose in Tarragona.

In July of 1936 he was at Mellerosa on his way to visit his family at Enviny when the civil war broke out. Recognized as a Brother, he was arrested and jailed. In December he was transferred to Tarragona and confined in a prison ship with several other brothers. On January 5th 1937 he was given a summary trial. Though he could have been freed by claiming to be only a gardener, he insisted on his identity as a religious and thereby sealed his doom. He was brought to the cemetery known as the Mount of Olives on January 8th to face execution. His last words to his assailants were "To die for Christ my young friends, is to live." When two volleys failed to meet their mark, the soldiers dropped their rifles and fled in panic. The commander, shouting an insult, fired five shots at close range and Brother Jaime fell at his feet.