

# TRÓCAIRE NEWS

*“Aspire not to have more, but to be more” (Oscar Romero)*

## In this Newsletter:

- About Oscar Romero
- Prayer of the Faithful
- Prayer for the Beatification of Archbishop Oscar Romero
- Quotes from Archbishop Romero
- Trócaire & Archbishop Romero

## About Oscar Romero

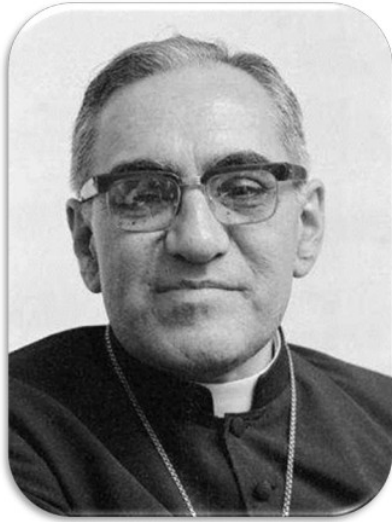
On 23rd May, the beatification of Archbishop Oscar Romero will take place in Rome.

Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador in El Salvador, was assassinated on March 24th, 1980, whilst celebrating Mass in a small chapel in a hospital.

He had always been close to his people and preached a prophetic gospel. He denounced the many injustices in his country, and supported the poor and the development of social groups.

From 1977-1980, while El Salvador was on the brink of civil war, Archbishop Oscar Romero was a voice of hope for the poor and victims of human rights abuses. Despite numerous death threats, he continued to speak out on their behalf against injustice and oppression. *“If they kill me, I shall arise in the Salvadoran people,”* Romero said. *“If the threats come to be fulfilled, from this moment I offer my blood to God for the redemption and resurrection of El Salvador. Let my blood be a seed of freedom and the sign that hope will soon be reality.”*

He became the voice of the Salvadoran people when repression had crushed all other channels of expression in El Salvador. Today, his perseverance is a symbol of hope for all persecuted Christians across the world. Trócaire invites you to join Pope Francis the people of El Salvador in rejoicing and welcoming the beatification of Archbishop Oscar Romero as he begins his much anticipated journey towards sainthood.



**Archbishop Cardinal Romero**

**Assassinated 24th March 1980**

**Beatified 23rd May 2015**

*“But it is not God’s will for some to have everything and others to have nothing. That cannot be of God. God’s will is that all his children be happy.”*

Archbishop Oscar Romero

## Prayer for Oscar Romero

God and Father of all,  
you gave us your servant Oscar Romero as a faithful and zealous pastor whose great love for your Church was shown in a special way by his love for the poor and those most in need. Grant that we too may reflect in our living the Gospel of Jesus your Son. Graciously honour your servant Oscar and grant me through his intercession the favour I ask of you.....  
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## What’s On?

**Archbishop Diarmuid Martin will celebrate the occasion of the beatification and the Festival of Peoples Mass in St Mary’s Pro Cathedral, Dublin Sunday 23 May at 6.30 pm.**

Trócaire has long been affiliated with Oscar Romero and worked alongside him in El Salvador in the 1970’s. In 1979 we began funding the El Salvador Human Rights Commission, which had been founded by the Archbishop, in response to the unlawful killing of 8,000 people. In 1980 he wrote to Trócaire thanking us for our support of the Archdiocesan radio station which he used to educate the largely illiterate population about their rights. “I would like once more to thank your kindness and preoccupation for our country and our Church and the kindness of the Irish Bishop’s Conference and Trócaire’s” he said.

## Prayer of the Faithful

- 1: God our Father, you inspired your servant Oscar Romero to be an instrument of Peace, a voice for the voiceless and strength to those who are persecuted. We pray in thanksgiving for his recent beatification and in the hope of a better world for all, especially persecuted Christians in our world.**
- 2: We pray for the People of El Salvador as they endeavour to recover from the aftermath of a brutal civil war. We pray especially for those who risked their lives to defend the human rights of others. May the Lord of justice and courage continue to inspire them in their fight for what is right and true.**
- 3: Oremos por la paz: Que la paz de Cristo resucitado cure las heridas de la violencia y la injusticia y que nuestros corazones sean transformados de manera que cada uno de nosotros pueda ser un hacedor de paz. Escúchanos señor.**