



November 5

BLESSED MARIA RAFOLS



CONGREGATIO DE CULTU DIVINO
ET DISCIPLINA SACRAMENTORUM

Prot. 2109/95/L

INSTITUTI SORORUM A CARITATE S. ANNAE

Instante Reverenda Matre Iulia Lumbreras, Instituti Sororum a Caritate S. Annae Superiorissa Generali, litteris die 17 octobris 1995 datis, vigore facultatum huic Congregationi a Summo Pontifice IOANNE PAULO II tributarum, textus orationis Collectae necnon Lectionis alterius Liturgiae Horarum in honorem Beatae Mariae Rafols, fundatricis, lingua anglica, catalaunica, gallica et italica exaratos, perlubenter confirmamus prout exstant in adiecto exemplari.

In textu imprimendo mentio fiat de confirmatione ab Apostolica Sede concessa. Eiusdem insuper textus impressi duo exemplaria ad hanc Congregationem transmittantur.

Contrariis quibuslibet minime obstantibus.

Ex aedibus Congregationis de Cultu Divino et Disciplina Sacramentorum, die 26 ianuarii 1996.

(Antonius M. Card. Javierre)
Praefectus

(+ Gerardus M. Agnelo)
Archiepiscopus a Secretis



CONGREGATION FOR DIVINE WORSHIP
AND FOR THE DISCIPLINE OF THE SACRAMENTS

Prot. 2109/95/L

OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY OF ST. ANNE

At the request of Rev. Mother Julia Lumbreras, Superior General of the Institute of the Sisters of Charity of St. Anne, in virtue of the faculties granted to this Congregation by the Supreme Pontiff JOHN PAUL II, willingly we approve and confirm the text of the Opening Prayer, as also the text of the second reading of the Liturgy of the Hours, in honour of Blessed Maria Rafols, Founder, in the English, Catalana, French and Italian languages, as is found in the adjoining model.

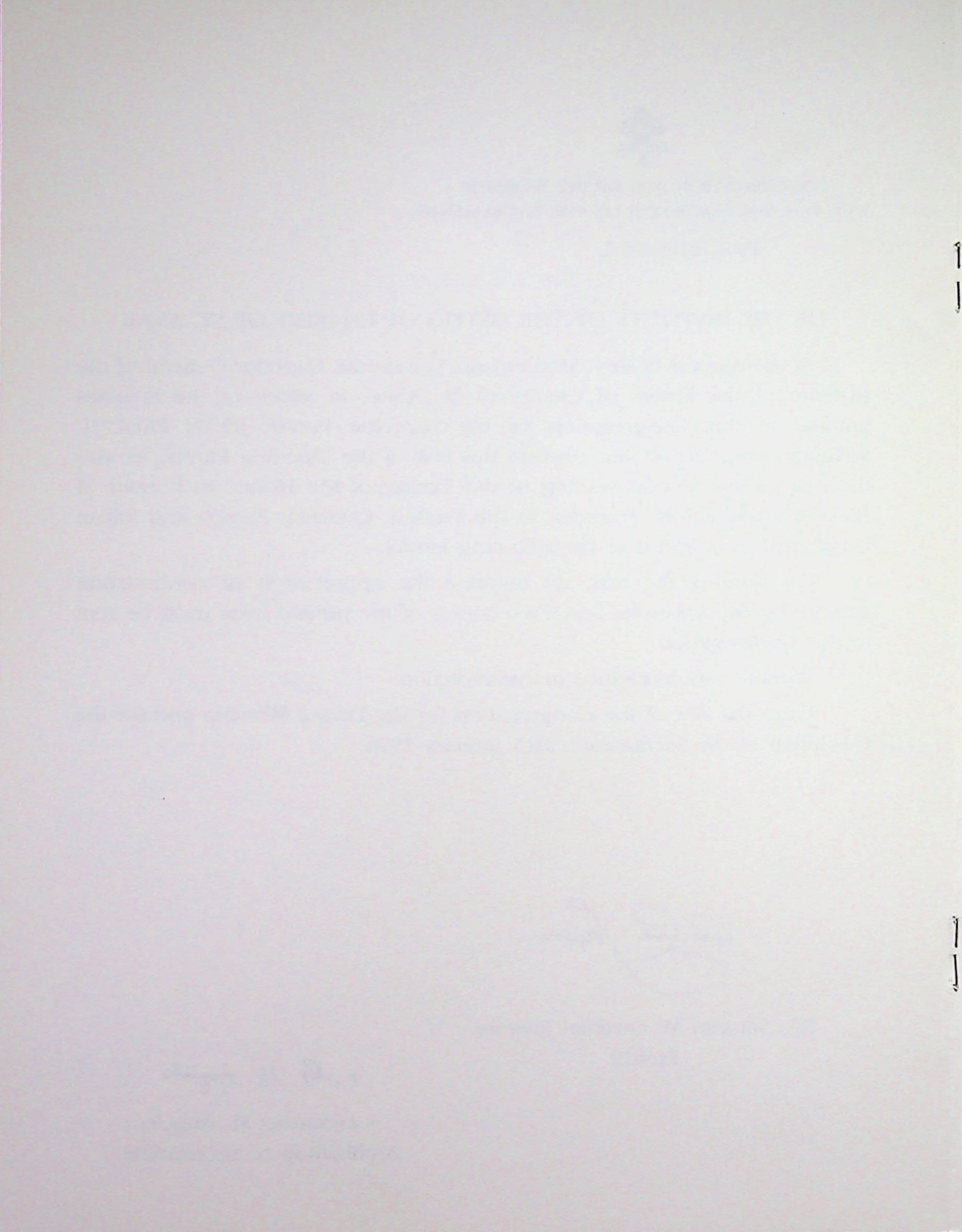
On printing the text, do mention the approbation or confirmation granted by the Apostolic See. Two copies of the printed texts must be sent to this Congregation.

Without any hindrance in contradiction.

From the See of the Congregation for the Divine Worship and for the Discipline of the Sacraments. 26th January 1996.

Sd. Antonio M. Cardinal Javierre
Prefect

+ Gerardus M. Angelo
Archbishop of Secretariate



BLESSED MARIA RAFOLS, virgin
Feast

She was born in Vilafranca del Penedés (Barcelona), on 5 November 1781. In 1804 she founded the Congregation of Sisters of Charity of St. Anne, in the Hospital of Our Lady of Grace of Zaragoza. She spent her life, day after day, in abnegated dedication to the sick and abandoned children. She was proclaimed Heroine of Charity, during the Siezes of Zaragoza, for her heroic charity. She died on 30 August 1853. The Holy Father John Paul II, beatified her on 16 October 1994.

Common of virgins or Common of holy men and women (for those who worked for the underprivileged).

OPENING PRAYER

Lord God,
you enriched blessed Maria Rafols
with the charism of charity,
grant us by her example and intercession,
to spend ourselves serving the brethren,
and be counted among the blessed in your kingdom.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your, Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Office of Readings

SECOND READING

Dogmatic Constitution on the Church «Lumen Gentium», 42.

Offer your lives like Christ Jesus

God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him (1 Jn. 4:16). God has poured out his love in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us (cf. Rom. 5:5); therefore the first and most necessary gift is charity, by which we love God above all things and our neighbour because of him. But if charity is to grow and fructify in the soul like a good seed, each of the faithful must willingly hear the word of God and carry out his will with deeds, with the help of his grace; he must frequently partake of the sacraments, chiefly the Eucharist, and take part in the liturgy; he must constantly apply himself to prayer, self-denial, active brotherly service and the practice of all virtues. This is because love, as the bond of perfection and fulness of the law (cf. Col. 3:14; Rom. 13:10), governs, gives meaning to, and perfects all the means of sanctification. Hence the true disciple of Christ is marked by love both of God and of his brother.

Since Jesus, the Son of God, showed his love by laying down his life for us, no one has greater love than he who lays down his life for him and his brothers (cf. 1 Jn. 3:16, Jn. 15:13). Some Christians have been called from the beginning, and will always be called, to give this greatest testimony of love to all, especially to persecutors. Martyrdom makes the disciple like the master, who willingly accepted death for the salvation of the world, and through it he is conformed to him by the shedding of blood. Therefore the Church considers it the highest gift and supreme test of love. And while it is given to few, all however must be prepared to confess Christ before men and to follow him along the way of the cross amidst the persecutions which the Church never lacks.

RESPONSE

Phil. 2,2.3.5; 1 Tit. 5,14-15.

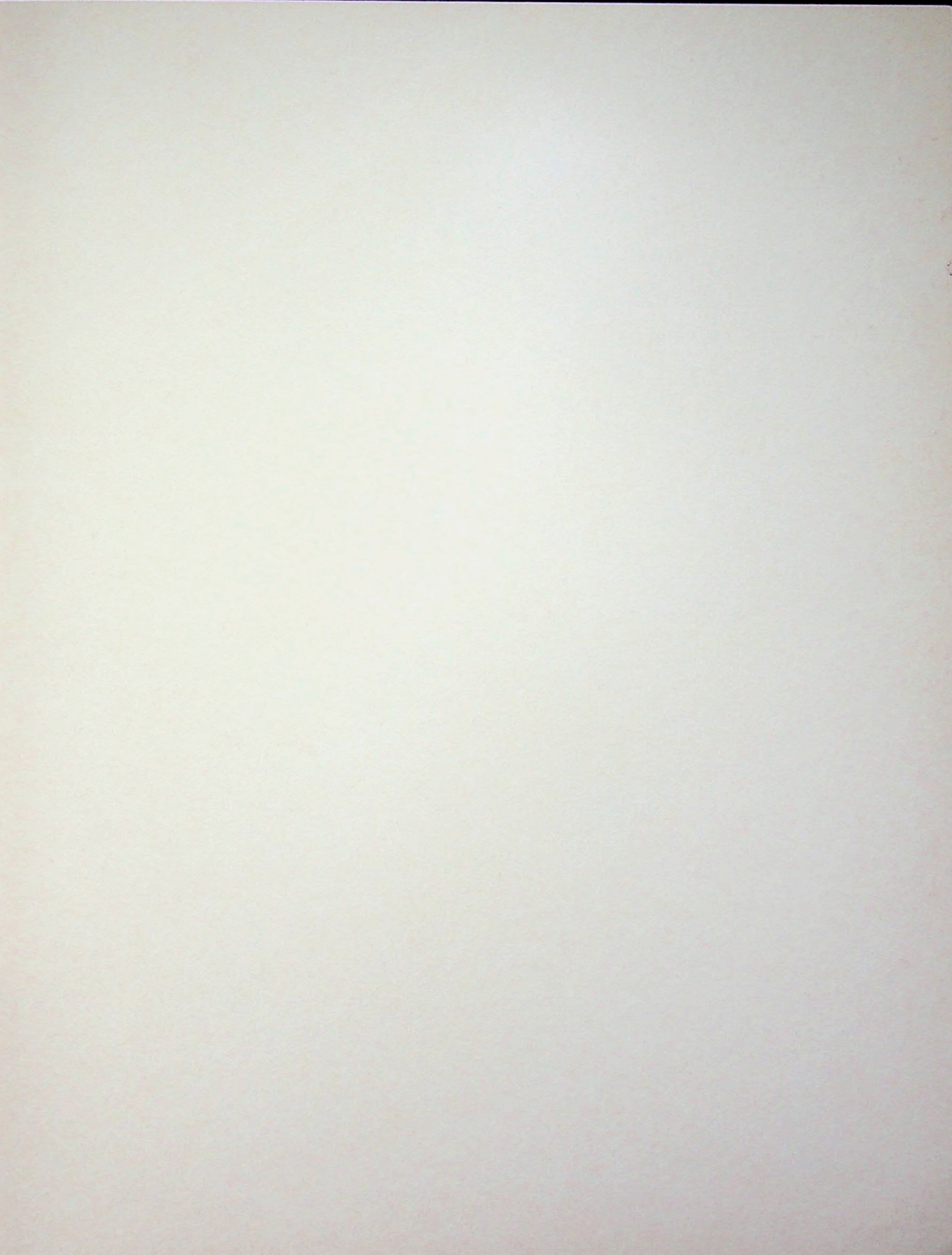
R/ Have the same love, and always count others better than yourselves. *Have among yourselves the same attitudes of Christ Jesus.

V/ Cheer the faint-hearted, support the weak, be patient with all; always seek what is good for each other and for all. *Have among yourselves the same attitudes of Christ Jesus.

PRAYER

Lord God,
you enriched blessed MARIA (Rafols) with the charism of charity,
grant us by her example and intercession, to spend ourselves in the
service of the brethren, and be counted among the blessed in your
kingdom.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ.





Sisters of Charity of St. Anne