



a l'ombra de l'alzina
a la sombra de la encina
à l'ombre du chêne
all'ombra della quercia

Magdalena Aulina

in the shade of the oak tree

15-03-2026

“My beloved brother in the Lord. Kneeling before my Jesus, my Mother, and our dear sister Gemma, I am writing this letter to you.

This morning, my Beloved entered my humble heart, where I told Him all about your concerns, offering you all the divine treasure that our love holds in the richness of the Eucharistic Sacrament. [...]

What the Lord God intends to do with you should not frighten or sadden you. Now, then, think of God's goodness, of Mary's great love, and of the predestined affection of a soul as great as Gemma's, who rejoices in being your sister. José María, my brother! Come on, fear nothing.

Relying on divine goodness, all that is needed now is your offering. This offering, my beloved brother, I realized this morning must be directed entirely towards Mary: that is to say, first and foremost, on Sunday the 26th, you will make a consecration to Mary, our tender Mother. [...]

My dear brother, you must have complete confidence that this consecration, which I am proposing to you, will not in any way complicate your daily life. [...] Prepare your heart with great faith and love. [...]

Come on, my brother: you have nothing to fear. Always remember these two words: ‘You can do all things, and you can do absolutely nothing’. You can do all things (and you will be able to do everything) if you do not stray even slightly from the path of Love that Jesus desires for you.

You won't be able to do anything, my brother, if you waste your time trying to please others, seeking only results... True faith, José María, is what Jesus desires. May your words and actions be filled with holy love and ardent faith. [...]

We must desire nothing more than for Jesus to be better known and more loved. How grateful I am to you, José María, for the great help you have given your little sister. Jesus will repay you greatly.

Help me greatly to become a better person every day, my brother; I have in my heart a burning desire to truly be one; and finally, to achieve the desired conversion of my soul through the complete devotion of myself to my Beloved, whom I love so dearly. [...]

Greetings to our parents and our sisters, [...]

Your little sister in Jesus, Mary and Gemma,

Magdalena of Jesus, Mary and Gemma”

José María Boada Flaquer – to whom Magdalena addressed her letter of 24 January 1930 – was a lawyer and the eldest son of Tomás de Aquino Boada Borrell. Born in 1892, he had participated with great fervor in the Spiritual Exercises held in November 1926.

When Magdalena entered the Boada household on 16 October 1929, José María held the position of General Secretary of the “*Obra de Ejercicios Parroquiales*”. His brother Tomás wrote that “his attention and interest in everything concerning Magdalena were extraordinary. He was always willing to reflect on her ideas, her aims and, above all, on the brilliant and providential conception of her Work”. Endowed with intelligence,

elegance, and charm, he made a significant contribution to Magdalena's work. Unfortunately, most of his writings were lost during the looting of the Civil War.

Magdalena had personally "offered" herself to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on 15 February 1918. On 6 October 1922, she had offered to the Lord "the universal sacrifice of her existence as a victim of expiation". On 8 December 1922, she had vowed to live her whole life in purity, chastity, and virginity of body and soul. On 16 July 1923, she took a vow of poverty, chastity, and perpetual obedience.

In her letter of January 1930 – in which a profound spiritual motherhood is evident – Magdalena proposes to José María a consecration "of soul and heart" to the Virgin Mary, "our tender Mother". She invites him to prepare himself with deep faith and great love so that Jesus, Mary, and Gemma may find in his heart everything they desire: his trusting surrender to their Love.

She encourages him by assuring him that he has nothing to fear: he can do all things, as long as he remains on the path of Love that Jesus shows him; and this consecration will in no way interfere with his 'outer', professional life.

This letter reveals both the spiritual motherhood and, at the same time, the firmness of Magdalena's spiritual guidance, which does not allow for compromise when it comes to Christian authenticity and fidelity to the Gospel.

And, alongside this strength, her sincere and disarming humility shines through, making her feel like a "little sister," in need of conversion and eager to be helped to become ever better.

The tenderness of her heart also shines through: a loving, caring soul, capable of embracing everyone with warmth.

In these words to José María, as in so many others, we recognize one of the most beautiful aspects of Magdalena's spirituality: simple yet profound, it combines the determination of Love that calls us to holiness with the tenderness of Love that lifts us up, comforts us, and walks beside us.

