

Newsletter No. 36  
February 2026

# Cause for Canonization of the Venerable Servant of God MAGDALENA AULINA SAURINA (1897-1956)



**Founder of the Secular Institute  
“Operarias Parroquiales”**  
Pioneer of the consecrated laity



## News

On 29 June 2025, the deputy general director of the Institute and postulator of the Cause sent a letter to pope Leo XIV to express her best wishes for his Petrine ministry, to assure him of her constant remembrance in prayer and to express her desire for an audience. On 15 November, the substitute for the Secretariat of State, monsignor Edgar Peña Parra, replied with a letter informing that the Holy Father “encourages us not to tire of bearing witness to hope on the many frontiers of the modern world, knowing how to identify new paths of evangelization and human promotion with missionary audacity” and “imparts his apostolic blessing” on the entire Institute and its loved ones, “in hopes that the Lord will grant them serenity of heart”.

On 13 November 2025, the postulator presented the Holy Father with a copy of Magdalena Aulina’s biography, informing him about the Cause for Beatification. The following day, His Holiness’s private secretary, don Edgard Rimaycuna, replied with a note confirming the receipt of the book and informing her that “His Holiness thanks you for this kind gesture and assures you of his prayers and apostolic blessing for the entire Secular Institute”.

On 28 December 2025, a Holy Mass was celebrated in the church of the “Sagrada Familia”, built by Magdalena Aulina in the “Les Rodes” district of Banyoles and inaugurated on 2 February 1926, to mark the beginning of the centenary of its construction. That small church – which represents the “dream” of an apostle – was built with contributions from the entire neighborhood and was dedicated to Jesus, Mary and Joseph (which can also be deduced from the three windows on the front). The bell, called “Gemma”, was also dedicated to the Holy Family.

In the first week of January 2026, the “Aulinian Days” were celebrated in Barcelona and the “*Carta de Reyes*” was read, following the tradition started by Magdalena Aulina ninety years ago.

## Thanks and favours received

1. I would like to thank the venerable Magdalena Aulina for a favor she had granted me, and I ask her to continue to intercede for me and my ministry. (P.S., Valencia, October 2025).

2. I would like to thank Magdalena Aulina for her intervention during the difficult final stage of my pregnancy. When I went into labor, the situation was not good at all. Although I wanted a natural home birth, I had to be rushed to hospital, even though it seemed too late and the doctors believed that the baby would be born dead. It was then that I made a strong and urgent plea to Magdalena: "Help me!". Shortly afterwards, to the surprise of the doctors, the baby's cry was heard! Thank you, Magdalena, for this wonderful gift. (T.L., Granada, October 2025).

3. After my retirement and the death of my husband, I felt very lonely and discouraged. A dear friend invited me to join a group that meets periodically in Barcelona at the home of Magdalena Aulina, where she died and is buried, and where the general headquarters of the "*Operarias Parroquiales*" is located. I went there full of hope. After a while, I got to know some wonderful women: they sew, embroider, pray, chat, smile and... have tea together. Without realizing it, the joy of living returned to me, feeling the positive influence of the venerable Magdalena Aulina, whom I thank for welcoming me into her home. (M.J., Barcelona, November 2025).

4. Reading about what the venerable Magdalena Aulina did for families, touched me deeply. Now I implore her to intercede with the Lord and come to the aid of my family, which is suffering greatly due to some serious illnesses. One of my daughters died relatively young. Another has been diagnosed with a rare disease. (C.G., Madrid, November 2025).

5. I have many reasons to thank the venerable Magdalena Aulina. Thanks to her intercession, I was able to overcome a very critical moment. After praying hard, together with my family and friends, one fine day the dark clouds threatening my health disappeared. Now, with complete confidence, I ask her to bring me complete healing and give me the strength to move forward. (G.A., Roma, December 2025).

6. On the evening of 3 January, I tied three knots in a cord, which I placed at the feet of the statue of Our Lady: each knot represented a difficulty or concern, and one of the three knots was for my family of origin. The next morning, I picked up my cord and went to pray fervently at the tomb of Magdalena Aulina in Barcelona, presenting her with my three “knots”. Three days later, I unlocked my phone and saw that my older brother’s profile was active (he had left home because of difficulties in his life, and we had not heard from him for almost two years) and I was able to listen to a voice message from him. It was a big and exciting surprise: a gift from Magdalena Aulina, to whom I say a thousand thanks. (M.-A.K.T., Jonquières St Vincent, January 2026).

*Anyone who has received graces through the intercession of the venerable Servant of God can communicate this to one of the following addresses:*

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## Offers

*We thank you for your donations to cover the costs of the Canonization Process of the venerable servant of God Magdalena Aulina. We will record them here, with your name, initials, or anonymously, according to your wishes.*

R.L., Anonymous, M.J., R.L. (Barcelona); M.R.O, A.M.L., Taller Group, M.R.G., C.V., M.P. (Banyoles); C.G. (Madrid); C.H., P.S. (Valencia); Anonymous (Olot); J.E., F.P., G.M. (San Adrián); T.L. (Granada); E.K. (Canarias); F.N. (Valladolid); S.M., E.M., M.C., G.A. (Roma); M. Family (Chéroy).

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## Some characteristics of her life

1. On 2 February 1947, Pope Pius XII promulgated the apostolic constitution *Provida Mater Ecclesia*, giving in this way official recognition to “Secular Institutes”, founded “with the aim of faithfully observing the evangelical counsels in the world, and attending with greater freedom to those works of charity which, due to the malice of the times, religious families ere wholly or partly forbidden to perform” (n. 9).

2. On 12 March 1948, Pope Pius XII signed *motu proprio* the letter *Primo feliciter* where – “having before our eyes the multitude of souls hidden with Christ in God, who aspire to holiness in the world and, with a generous heart and willing spirit, joyfully consecrate their entire lives to God” – gives thanks “for this new group that has increased the number of those who profess the evangelical counsels throughout the world; and for the valuable assistance that has truly providentially strengthened the Catholic apostolate in our times”. The Pope specifies that “what forms the specific character of these Institutes is their secular nature, in which resides their entire reason for being”. Therefore, “nothing should be taken away from the full profession of christian perfection, firmly founded on the evangelical counsels and truly religious in substance; but perfection must be exercised and professed in the world; consequently, one must adapt to secular life in everything that is lawful and that can be reconciled with the duties and practices of that same perfection”.

3. On 19 March 1948, the Congregation of the Religious published the instruction *Cum sanctissimus*, which contains the “most important norms, which can rightly be considered fundamental, for the solid foundation and organisation of Secular Institutes from the very beginning” (n. 3). These documents constitute a fundamental milestone in the fruitful history of the Church’s apostolic activity and in the development of institutions of consecrated life.

4. At this point, Magdalena Aulina, her spiritual advisors, and the members of the “*Opera*” clearly saw the path by which their apostolic dreams could be realised. Therefore, they prepared to join the secular movement that the Holy Father had initiated. It was the turn of monsignor Marcelino Olaechea, archbishop of Valencia, to initiate the procedures for the Holy See to decree the transition of Magdalena Aulina’s “*Opera*” from a Pious Union to a Secular Institute. After discussing it properly with the Foundress and the “*Operarias*”, on 7 March 1950 he submitted the request to the Congregation of the Religious.



Audience with Pius XII at Castel Gandolfo  
(July 16, 1951)

5. Meanwhile, Magdalena Aulina, having founded a house of the “*Opera*” in Rome, wished to present it to the Pope. For this reason, she requested a private audience, which was granted at Castel Gandolfo on 16 July 1951. On that occasion, she was able to present the Constitutions of the Institute to Pius XII, from whom she received strong encouragement and words of consolation. In fact, the Holy Father

said to her: “It was the Lord who first inspired you, rather than the Vicar of Christ, about what a Secular Institute is”. The following year, on 30 July 1952, Magdalena was once again received in audience at Castel Gandolfo by Pope Pius XII.

## Features of her spirituality

1. «More than thirty years ago, Magdalena Aulina began her “*Opera*” in Banyoles, in the diocese of Girona. The blessed outcomes were so many and so great – in the Christian education of children, young women, especially working women, and in the care of the sick – that they soon gathered under the direction of the parish priest. Several young women joined her, finding support even among families of high social standing [...]. Magdalena Aulina never thought of building a traditional congregation but rather intended to create a “*Opera*” of secular apostolate. She thus, anticipated the apostolic constitution *Provida Mater*. [...] The undersigned, with the *nihil obstat* of the bishop of Girona, brought that “*Opera*” to his diocese of Pamplona at that time (in the town of San Adrián), and then extended it, by virtue of the fruits of religion and charity reaped, to two other places: Funes and Garralda, and elevating it in all three places to the dignity of a Pious Union, with the title of “*Señoritas Operarias Parroquiales*”. [... I assure you that I know], like no other, the “*Operarias Parroquiales*” and the inspirer of the “*Opera*”, Magdalena Aulina Saurina, [... and I can] say, before God, whom I consider examples of purity, solid piety, charity, sacrifice and serenity of spirit, and whom I believe are called to do immense good, under the orders of bishops and parish priests». (Marcelino Olaechea, *request to the Congregation for Religious, to elevate the Pious Union to a Secular Institute of diocesan right*, 7 March 1950).

2. «*Señoritas Operarias Parroquiales*. This is the name given to a female institution of secular apostolate. The young women who make up this institution consecrate their lives to Jesus Christ, in the service of the Church, according to the august will of our most Holy Father, pope Pius XII, in his apostolic constitution *Provida Mater Ecclesia*. General purpose: the greatest glory of Jesus Christ and his most holy Mother, and the good of souls. [...] The “*Opera*” of the “*Señoritas Operarias Parroquiales*” has saint Gemma Galgani as its patron, for her purity and virtues lived in the world, following the declaration of pope Pius XII, when he proposed her as a model for secular youth. [...] The “*Señoritas Operarias*”, due to their work “in the world”, do not have common schedules or rules in their lifestyle. A “*Señorita Operaria Parroquial*” devotes herself entirely to God through the three classic vows, first temporarily and then eternally». (*Constitutions*, 7 March 1950).

3. «Most Holy Father, humbly prostrate at the feet of the Holy See, your devoted daughter Magdalena Aulina Saurina, general superior of the “*Señoritas Operarias Parroquiales*”, has the consolation of referring to the audience that Your Holiness has graciously granted her on 30 July, during which, deeply moved by your paternal benevolence, she briefly



With Angelina Galgani and her husband Ernesto in Lucca (July 1952)

outlined the current situation of her apostolic “*Opera*”, which began in 1916, with God’s help and ecclesiastical blessing, in Banyoles (in the diocese of Girona). [...] At the feet of Your Holiness, I declare once again that throughout my entire activity, I have desired only to serve God, to make Him loved and known. That is why I have never looked for new methods. I have based everything on the Gospel and the Catechism, convinced that if people know, love, and practise the truths of the faith, their behaviour will be regenerated [...]. The greater glory of God, the better service of our holy Mother Church, and the paternal benevolence of Your Holiness bring me to your feet, invoking your supreme word, so that I may better follow the solemn directives of the Chair of Saint Peter. In the meantime, on behalf of all the “*Señoritas Operarias*”, the parish priests of the foundations,

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the most reverend prelates who have welcomed us, the many benefactors who generously help us, and myself, I humbly ask for the grace of the apostolic blessing». (Magdalena Aulina, *letter to Pope Pius XII*, 4 August 1952).

## Testimonials

1. «The entire life of members of Secular Institutes, consecrated to God through the profession of perfection, must be converted into apostolate, which must always be exercised in a holy manner with such purity of intention, intimate union with God, generous forgetfulness and strong self-abnegation and love of souls, that it does not merely manifest the inner spirit that informs it, but also nourishes and renews it continuously. This apostolate, which embraces the whole of life, is always felt so deeply and so sincerely in these Institutes that, with the help and disposition of divine Providence, it seems that the thirst and ardour of souls has not only provided a happy opportunity for the consecration of life, but it has also imposed its organisation and particular character; and that, in a wonderful way, the so-called specific purpose also required and created the generic one. This apostolate of Secular Institutes must not only be exercised faithfully in the world but, shall we say, with the instruments of the world, and therefore it must use professions, exercises, forms, places, and circumstances that correspond to this secular condition». (Pius XII, *motu proprio letter Primo feliciter*, 12 March 1948, n. 6).

2. «The “*Opera*” faced some bitter enemies [...]. The “*Opera*” also encountered some rather unsuitable friends. [...] There was mention of supernatural communications made to Magdalena Aulina, especially inspirations and assistance from Gemma Galgani, whom she chose as protector of the “*Opera*”, even before she was declared Venerable. [...] The bishop of Girona, who never opposed this apostolic “*Opera*”, and for which he always had words of praise, initiated a process regarding the presumed supernatural communications. [...] The bishop declared that it was “not supernatural” and, believing that he was not receiving adequate obedience, forbade the holy Communion to all those residing in the house in Banyoles. [...] Then, the undersigned bishop interfered after convincing himself that both Magdalena Aulina and all the people around her were willing to do whatever the bishop told them to do. [...] Finally] after corresponding with me, the bishop of Girona was persuaded to accept the humble letter from the people mentioned above, who sincerely placed themselves entirely at his disposal and were ready to carry out his orders and wishes. He admitted them to

an audience, made public with affection and praised the prestige and christian piety they had demonstrated before the incident, and shortly afterwards, accompanied by me, went to visit them. That is how this whole affair came to a canonical conclusion". (Marcelino Olaechea, *letter to father Arcadio Larraona*, 13 September 1950).

3. «Getting to the heart of the matter, concerning to the “*Señoritas Operarias Parroquiales*”, I see from your letter: 1° That the *Positio* is about to be completed at the Office of Secular Institutes. 2° That it suggests an unfavourable response – at least for now – to my requests. 3° That you recommend not to insist, but rather to allow time to pass, so as not to expose the matter to a definitive unfavourable solution. Am I deducing correctly? Well, this is what I think, with absolute clarity: 1° If the unfavourable



Visit to the house of the martyrdom of saint Maria Goretti at the Ferriere di Conca (July 1951)

response of the *Positio* depends on having been persuaded by a spirit that is not good, or doubtfully good, of the “*Señoritas Operarias Parroquiales*”, the passage of time will not correct this current deduction; on the contrary, the passage of time will make it more difficult to clarify the current deduction. On the other hand, it is in

the interest of the Church, of the bishops who established the Pious Union, and of the good souls who entrust their possessions and themselves to it, that this spirit, which is either not good or of dubious goodness, be clarified; and that the contradictory judgement be clarified, except for the names of the complainants, by listening to everyone and carefully balancing the reasons. Truth, truth, truth! 2° If the adverse response of the *Positio* does not depend on an internal reason but is a need for prudence to calm nerves and allow time to offer the necessary opportunity, I am a man of government, and it will seem understandable to me. (Marcelino Olaechea, *summary of father Arcadio Larraona's reply letter*, 4 October 1950).



**Prayer for  
THE BEATIFICATION OF THE VENERABLE  
MAGDALENA AULINA SAURINA  
and thanks for her intercession**

Most Holy Trinity, source of all light and goodness, who inspire ever new models of Christian life, praise and glory to you for the witness of the Venerable Magdalena Aulina, your servant.

Her life, entirely devoted to you, amazes and moves us, and is a model of virtue. Following her example, help us to walk in faith, hope, and charity. According to your holy will, grant us the grace ... which we ask of you through the intercession of your servant Magdalena.

We humbly ask you to glorify her on this earth too, so that we may invoke her as a promoter of Christian life in families to the glory of your name forever. Amen.

*An "Our Father", a "Hail Mary",  
and a "Glory be to the Father".*