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# "Fragments of History": 10 Podcasts on the History of Opus Dei

In this podcast series, various historians speak about people and events in the life of Saint Josemaría and the history of Opus Dei. Over the next 10 weeks, a new podcast will be made available each week.

09/30/2021

"Fragments of History" is a series of podcasts that looks at different

events and people in the life of Saint Josemaría and the history of Opus Dei, through interviews with various historians.

Episodes will be released weekly.

**List of episodes**

Episode 1: Characters in a Divine Story

Episode 2: Locked in the Legation of Honduras

Episode 3: Crossing the Pyrenees

Episode 4: Friends Until Death

Episode 5: Encarnita Ortega: Her Life in 5 Broad Strokes

Episode 6: Pedro Casciaro: the Story of a Sensitive Man

Episode 7: Juan Jiménez Vargas: the Dream Came True

Episode 8: The Minerva Publishing House

Episode 9: 3 Short Stories about the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross

Episode 10: St. Josemaria's Letters

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**Episode 1: Characters in a Divine Story**

Recounting the surprising story of Irene Kalpas, Pablo Pérez, Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Navarra, shows how the story of Opus Dei can be told through each of the people who have found their way to God in this institution of the Catholic Church.

Opus Dei (English) · Characters in a Divine Story

Read a transcript of the podcast

## Episode 2: Locked in the Legation of Honduras

In March 1937, in the middle of the civil war, Saint Josemaría spent four and a half months locked up with some members of Opus Dei and a dozen families in the Legation of Honduras, a building located very close to the Plaza de Emilio Castelar in Madrid, as it had diplomatic immunity. Those months of isolation were also a period of spiritual growth for Saint Josemaría and those who accompanied him.

Opus Dei (English) · Locked in the Legation of Honduras Fragments of History, episode 2

Read a transcript of the podcast

## Episode 3: Crossing the Pyrenees: All of Them or None of Them

At the end of 1937 Saint Josemaría and some of the first members of Opus Dei and friends crossed the Pyrenees to the so-called national zone, where it was easier for Saint Josemaría to continue his priestly work. During this crossing, there were some particularly risky and difficult moments. The historian José Carlos Martín de la Hoz recounts one of them.

Opus Dei (English) · Crossing the Pyrenees: all of them or none of them Fragments of History, episode 3

Read a transcript of the podcast

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## Episode 4: Friends Until Death

Saint Josemaría was a man with many good friends. He always valued friendship as one of the great treasures of life, and he left this message as a legacy to the faithful of the Work. Pablo Pérez, Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Navarra, spoke of St Josemaría's lasting and deep friendship with Francisco Moreno and Enrique Giménez Arnau, two friends he met in his youth in Zaragoza.

Opus Dei (English) · Friends Until Death Fragments of History, episode 4

Read a transcript of the podcast

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**Episode 5: Encarnita Ortega**

Encarnación Ortega was born on May 5, 1920, just over 100 years ago.

Encarnita, as everyone called her, was one of the first women in Opus Dei; she met Saint Josemaría in 1941 and soon asked to be admitted as a numerary. The historian José Carlos Martín de la Hoz, vice-postulator of the cause for canonization, recounts in this podcast some events in Encarnita's life that help us to understand her human and spiritual worth.

Opus Dei (English) · Encarnita Ortega: Her Life in 5 Broad Strokes Fragments of History, episode 5

Read a transcript of the podcast

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**Episode 6: Pedro Casciaro: the Story of a Sensitive Man**

Pedro Casciaro was one of the first members of Opus Dei. He met Saint Josemaría when he was studying

mathematics and architecture in Madrid. That restless, sensitive and somewhat cold young man, religiously speaking, began to form a closer relationship with God and discovered his vocation. It was the beginning of an exciting adventure and the path that led him to a full life, as José Carlos Martín de la Hoz recounts.

Opus Dei (English) · Pedro Casciaro: the Story of a Sensitive Man
Fragments of History, episode 6

Read a transcript of the podcast

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**Episode 7: Juan Jiménez Vargas: the Dream Came True**

*May 18, 1992:* two old acquaintances meet in the waiting room at Ciampino airport in Rome. The day before they had attended Josemaría

Escrivá's beatification. One was Juan Jiménez Vargas. The other was Don José Carlos Martín de la Hoz, who asked him: "Yesterday, when you saw that crowd in St. Peter's Square, what did you feel?"

Opus Dei (English) · Juan Jiménez Vargas: the Dream Came True Fragments of History, episode 7

Read a transcript of the podcast

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**Episode 8: The Minerva Publishing House**

The Minerva publishing firm (1943-1946) was the first cultural initiative begun by faithful of Opus Dei. It was launched with great enthusiasm, under the direct encouragement of Saint Josemaría. The historical researcher Mercedes

Montero recounts the origin and evolution of this project.

Read a transcript of the podcast

Opus Dei (English) · The Minerva Publishing House Fragments of History, episode 8

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**Episode 9: 3 Short Stories about the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross**

Gerona, Hinojosa de Jarque (Teruel) and Santa María de Luneda (Pontevedra) are the starting points for three hitherto unknown testimonies of dedication to others. The historian Santiago Martínez brings us an account of three early members of the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross — founded by Saint Josemaría in 1943 — to which more than 4,000 clerics around the world belong today.

Read a transcript of the podcast

Opus Dei (English) · 3 Short Stories about the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross Fragments of History, episode 9

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**Episode 10: St. Josemaria's Letters**

Luis Cano works at the Saint Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer Historical Institute in Rome. In late 2020, he published a critical study of four unpublished letters that the founder wrote to members of Opus Dei past, present and future. This is a translated adaptation of an interview he gave on this volume of work.

Read a transcript of the podcast

Opus Dei (English) · St. Josemaria's Letters Fragments of History, episode 10

Listen to the original series of podcasts in Spanish: *Fragmentos de historia*

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