

# Roland Joffé and St Josemaria Escriva

Roland Joffé, scriptwriter, director and producer of movies.

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Roland Joffé is the scriptwriter, director and co-producer of the forthcoming film *There be dragons*, which features St Josemaria, founder of Opus Dei, as one of the main characters.

Born in Kensington, London, on November 17, 1945, Joffé has

directed many films including *The Mission* (1984), *The Killing Fields* (1986) and *City of Joy* (1992). The following are some of things Joffé said about St Josemaria, which have been published in various press articles around the world over the past months.

**Reuters (UK), 4.11.2009:** “One of the things that impressed me a lot about Josemaria was the fact that he saw that saintliness didn’t require that you withdraw into a religious order, it didn’t require that you become a priest. But actually saintliness, saintly acts, could be performed by perfectly ordinary people in their everyday lives, which at the time was a very radical idea.”

**Escribiendo Cine (Argentina), 26.08.2009:** “To begin with I wasn’t at all sure how to tackle it. I started thinking about the subject, and turning it over. And I thought it was

very interesting just what sanctity means for all of us, because it's not an outdated subject in itself. Then what seemed a very interesting idea to me was Josemaria's choice, his view of life: that all human beings can be saints."

**Deutsche Presse-Agentur (Germany), 25.08.2009:** "Josemaria had to make very difficult decisions in a very difficult context. He accepted diversity at a time when people were supposed to show their political position. I wanted to highlight Josemaria's idea of finding the meaning of life in the things of every day."

**La Nación (Argentina), 30.08.2009:** "Josemaria believed something incredible: that any, and I mean any human being has the potential to be a saint. He also felt that that path to God could be found in daily life, ordinary life. And that's something

that when you think about it, it's very liberating.”

## **Rome Reports, News Agency (Italy), 3.09.09: Watch the video**

- For further details see the film website *There be dragons*
- A live Press Conference transcript about “THERE BE DAGONS”, a film directed by Roland Joffe (October 29th, 2009)

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