

# **Silva**

# **Laicization**



CONGREGATIO  
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00120 Città del Vaticano, 17 December 2009  
Palazzo del S. Uffizio

226/2009 - 30952

Prot. N.

*Atque respondens tua reverentia habet nos scire.*

MSPS		
PECIA 6/11		
PROT. N. 226/2009 - 30952		
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CONFIDENTIAL

Very Reverend and Dear Father,

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith received your correspondence regarding the case of the Rev. Fidencio Simón SILVA FLORES, a priest of your Institute, who has been accused of sexual abuse of minors. The cleric has been absent from your Institute since 2002 and is presently a fugitive in Mexico.

This Dicastery, after a careful and attentive study of the facts presented, and in light of the faculty granted to this Congregation by the Supreme Pontiff to dispense from Article 17 of the *motu proprio Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela* requiring a penal judicial process, decided, on 16 October 2009, to support your request that the above mentioned religious be dismissed from the clerical state *ex officio et pro bono Ecclesiae*.

In an audience granted on 11 December 2009, the Holy Father decreed that the Rev. Rev. Fidencio Simón Silva Flores is dismissed *ex officio et pro bono Ecclesiae* from the clerical state, and is, moreover, released from all obligations of the Sacred Priesthood, including that of celibacy. Any censures, under which he may be labouring, are remitted by this Decree. You are kindly asked to *make every effort* to inform Mr. Silva Flores of this grave decision according to paragraph 7 of the enclosed decree. A signed and notarized copy of the Decree should be returned to this Dicastery at your earliest possible convenience. /..

(Enclosures)

Very Rev. Domenico Di Raimondo, M.Sp.S. *Superiore Generale*  
Ave. Universidad, 1702, C.P. 21.984  
04010 México, D.F.  
MESSICO

Furthermore, taking into consideration the affirmative vote of your Council and the support of this Congregation, the Holy Father has confirmed the dismissal of the Religious from your Institute. In keeping with the norms of your Constitution, you are also requested to inform Mr. Silva Flores of this confirmation.

Given the seriousness of this matter, the United States Bishops Conference and the Episcopal Conference of Mexico, as well as the Provincial Superiors of your Institute should be promptly notified about Mr. Silva Flores' canonical status.

Grateful for your assistance in this sensitive matter, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Card. Levada".

William Cardinal LEVADA

*Prefect*



CONGREGATIO  
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

050130 Cita del Vaticano.  
Palacio del S. Ufficio

MSPS		
FORMA E/R		
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9 de julio de 2009

PROF. N.º 226/2009 - 29521

*Con respeto para todos los miembros*

CONFIDENCIAL

Reverendo Padre Superior:

Ha sido recibida su carta del 20 de mayo de 2009 acerca del caso del Rev. Fidencio Silva Flores, SMPS.

El propósito de la presente es informarle que el número de Protocolo asignado a este expediente es 226/2009. Dicho número de Protocolo ha de ser indicado siempre en todas las futuras comunicaciones sobre el mismo caso.

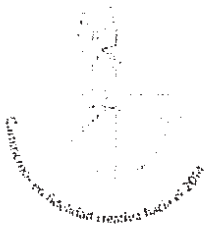
Este Dicasterio le informará oportunamente acerca del desarrollo del proceso y de su eventual resultado.

Me valgo de la presente ocasión para saludarlo cordialmente en Jesucristo,

Mons. Damiano MARZOTTO

*Subsecretario*

Al Reverendo Padre  
P. Domenico DI RAIMONDO, MSPS  
*Superior General*  
Av. Universidad 1702  
Barrio de Santa Catarina  
04010 MÉXICO, D.F.



Misioneros del  
Espíritu Santo  
Superior General

México, D.F. Mayo 20, 2009.

S.E.R. Mons. Luis Francisco Ladaria Ferrer, s.j.  
Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe  
Secretario  
Roma, Italia.

Excelencia:

Pido al Espíritu Santo, casi en vísperas de Pentecostés, que lo llene de sus dones y de su alegría para que lleve adelante la delicada misión que el Santo Padre le ha confiado.

Siguiendo las indicaciones que su Excelencia tuvo a bien darme durante la entrevista que me concedió el 20 de noviembre pasado, quiero entregar ahora la documentación relacionada con el P. Fidencio Silva Flores, msps, acusado en la Arquidiócesis de Los Ángeles, California, U.S.A., de 15 casos de abuso sexual a menores.

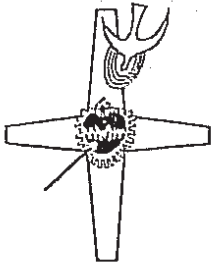
Juntamente con la documentación correspondiente, estoy entregando a su Excelencia *el apéndice n. 1*, en el que he intentado narrar, del modo más exacto posible, los diferentes momentos y las distintas circunstancias relacionadas con el caso; y *el apéndice n. 2* que es una tabla en la que se enlistan todos los documentos presentados.

Teniendo en cuenta el material a mi disposición, los diálogos realizados con personas cercanas al asunto, las consultas realizadas con el Consejo de la Provincia Cristo Sacerdote y con mi propio Consejo, soy de la opinión que el P. Fidencio Silva Flores, msps, deba ser dimitido de la Congregación y del Estado Clerical.

Excelencia, con profunda pena, dejo en manos de la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe el caso de nuestro hermano pidiendo al Señor que los llene de su Espíritu.

Su hermano,

  
P. Domenico Di Raimondo, msps  
Superior General



MISSIONARIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
CHRIST THE PRIEST PROVINCE

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May 24, 2010.

S.E.R. Cardinal Francis George, OMI  
President  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
3211 Fourth Street N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20017

Your Eminence:

May the Holy Spirit grant you His peace and strength to continue serving the People of God in the United States.

This is to convey to you that "The Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith (...) after a careful and attentive study of the facts" presented by me, as Supreme Moderator of the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit, "and in light of the faculty granted to this Congregation by the Supreme Pontiff to dispense from Article 17 of the *motu proprio Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela* requiring a penal judicial process, decided, on 16 October 2009, to support your request that the above mentioned religious (Fr. Fidencio Simón SILVA FLORES) be dismissed from the clerical state *ex officio et pro bono Ecclesiae*".

In sending this notice, I intend to comply with a further provision presented in the above quoted letter: "Given the seriousness of this matter, the United States Bishops Conference (should be promptly notified about Mr. Silva Flores's canonical status".

Dear Cardinal George, may the Virgin Mary be always with you.

Fraternally yours,

Fr. Domenico Di Raimondo, msps  
Former Superior General

Please send further correspondence to:

Fr. Fernando Torre Medina Mora, msps  
Superior General  
Ave. Universidad 1702

Col. Santa Catarina. Delegación Coyoacán  
México, D.F. 94010  
MEXICO

9712 Cima Place Garden Grove, CA 92641  
Tel. (714) 534-5376 - Fax: (714) 534-5184



Office of the President

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3100 • FAX 202-541-3166

Cardinal Francis George, OMI  
Archbishop of Chicago

June 9, 2010

MSPS		
FICHA G/R		
24/06/2010		
PROTOCOLO		
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Fr. Fernando Torre Medina Mora, msps  
Superior General  
Missionaries of the Holy Spirit  
Ave. Universidad 1702  
Col. Santa Catarina. Delegación Coyoacán  
México, D.F. 94010  
MEXICO

Dear Father Torre,

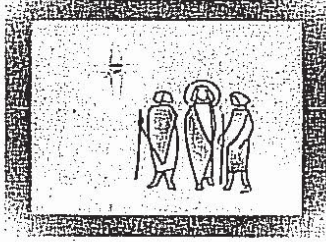
I write to acknowledge the letter of May 24 of this year sent to me by Father Domenico Di Raimondo concerning the dismissal from the clerical state of Fr. Fidencio Simón Silva Flores.

I am always sorry to hear difficulties among priests, especially when they result in dismissal. Still, I am very grateful that, at the direction of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit would alert the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to this situation. It is helpful for us to be made aware of any concerns about priests so that we can respond quickly and appropriately if any question arises about them.

I will keep you and the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit in my prayers. I ask for your prayers as well.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Francis Cardinal George, OMI  
Archbishop of Chicago  
President



CHRIST THE PRIEST PROVINCE  
FR. DOMENICO DI RAIMONDO, MSPS

MEXICO, D.F. 13 DE MAYO, 2010

S. E. R. Carlos Aguiar Retes  
Presidente  
Conferencia Episcopal Mexicana  
México, D.F.  
MEXICO


Estimado Don Carlos:

Recibe un saludo afectuoso y mis mejores deseos de que el Señor te llene de su Espíritu en este Pentecostés para que puedas llevar a cabo la misión que te ha confiado en alegría y paz.

Siguiendo nuestra conversación telefónica de hace unos días, te estoy enviando la notificación formal de la dimisión del Estado Clerical y del Instituto de los Misioneros del Espíritu Santo del P. Fidencio Simón Silva Flores, que fue acusado de abuso sexual a menores.

De esta manera cumplo con lo que el Cardenal William Levada, Prefecto de la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe, expresa en su carta fechada el 17 de diciembre, 2009: «dada la seriedad del asunto, se debrerá notificar a la Conferencia Episcopal de México (...) sobre el estado canónico del Sr. Silva Flores».

Querido Don Carlos, que la Santísima Virgen te lleve siempre en su corazón maternal.  
Tu hermano,

  
Domenico Di Raimondo, mspms

c.c.p. P. Fernando Torre Medina Mora, mspms

Misioneros del Espíritu Santo - Casa Provincial Misioneros del Espíritu Santo  
9792 Oma Place - Garden Grove, CA 92841 - USA