

Que Viva Monseñor Romero! Que Viva!

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That was one of the most popular phrases used by the Salvadoran crowd that were in St. Peter Square to cheering for their new saint to become: Oscar Arnulfo Romero.

October 14th is here, it was a beautiful morning, the weather was a little cool for a typical Salvadoran who is only use to the tropical warm weather. However the energy and warm of the people kept us all together. Octavio Duran, OFM and I, arrived to St. Peter few minutes before 5am. By them there were a multitude of people waiting and cheering for their new saint to become. The Salvadorans where right in the front line. After introducing ourselves, we were able to stay and be part with the people from El Salvador.

They said there were more than three thousands people that came straight from El Salvador, without including the large number of Romero supporters that arrived from all over the world. After going through the check-point we were able to find a good spot. We were sitting right after the concelebrantans group.

The liturgy was solemn and extraordinary prayerful. The Sunday's readings for the 28th of the Ordinary time fit perfectly to the occasion and Pope Francis took the opportunity to make the right connections. In resume, Pope Francis, made mention in connection to the gospel reading; that each of the Newly named Saints had done whatever was in each of them part to enter into the eternal life. The Pope made specific mention of now, St. Pope Paul VI and St. Romero. The crowd were prayerful, solemn, and keep the right respect to the celebration. Some people said, that there were more than 70 thousands people in St. Peter Square and I may believe them, there were a big crowd and that day everyone one were a winner.

The more than twenty hours journey from Chicago to Rome, between flying and connection flight, gave me the opportunity to prayer and to think about my personal connection with Romero. My personal journey with Romero go back since the moment I was born. I was born a day after Romero died.

My journey with Romero is more than almost twenty hours flight and My journey with Monsenor Romero go back to the moment I was born. long journey for me, after missing my original flight. I flew from Chicago to Istanbul, after a four hour waiting I flew to Rome. I finally arrived to Rome Saturday at midnight on Roman's time. Thank God and Octavio Duran, who was already there, has all the logistic of the event's details already prepared for me.

There were seven people canonized to the sainthood and there were people cheering for each of them, but there were something special about Romero, that I felt that the whole entire El Salvador were there. The emotion was great and keeping in my the struggles that Romero had going through to get to this point, put tears on my eyes. For me, the whole celebration was a

great prayerful moment keeping a mind the number of people that have been a great influence in teaching me about Romero, his work and his passion for those who was oppressed. I will like to thank God for this opportunity to be part of this great event and to help me to keep Romero's memories alive in my life. I also will like to thank the friars of Holy Name Province for the fraternal financial-fraternal support to allow me to be part of this event.

!Que viva San Monsenor Romero!