

FEBRUARY 24, 1921  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
EPISCOPAL ORDINATION OF  
BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO, SJS FOUNDING FATHER



*To a people lost on life's journey,  
Without a shepherd's care,  
Half dead in tired repose,  
For a lack of will to care.*

*Silvano Carrillo saw only Jesus,  
As he gazed into each person's eyes,  
He gave to each God's sacramental touch,  
And soothed the painful sighs.*

*For those who see the world groan in pain,  
The sight is unbearable to endure!  
Silvano Carrillo gives the love of God,  
And provides us with the cure.*

*by Dennis Jacobelle*

## THE LIFE OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO: EARLY CHILDHOOD



**S**ilviano Carrillo was born in Patzcuaro, Michoacan (Mexico) on May, 4, 1861.

He was baptized the day after his birth at the *Nuestra Señora de la Salud* church.

**I**n 1871, he entered the seminary and studied his first year of Latin.



## THE LIFE OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO: SEMINARY AND ORDINATION

**I**n 1872 his family moved to Guadalajara, where he continued his seminary studies.



**T**o help his family financially to pay for his studies, he painted and sold small religious portraits.

**H**e was ordained to the priesthood on December 26, 1884 and served for a short time at the Church of La Soledad and Parroquia de Jesús



## THE LIFE OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO: PASTOR AND MINISTRY

**I**n 1885, he was sent to Cocula,  
Jalisco as pastor.



**H**e built the church of San Pedro and  
worked tirelessly hearing confessions,  
preaching, and taking care of the poor.

## THE LIFE OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO: PASTOR - SERVING AND PROMOTING VOCATIONS

**O**n July 16, 1895, he was assigned as Pastor in Zapotlan el Grande, Jalisco. He was a great promoter of the Holy Eucharist, the Blessed Virgin Mary—whom he loved tenderly, and St. Joseph, the parish patron saint.



**D**uring the natural disasters of an earthquake (June 7, 1911) and a volcanic rain (Jan. 20, 1913), Father Silviano proved to be a true priest of Christ making present to the people the love of God.

## THE LIFE OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO: TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE AND THE SJS

On July 18, 1901, a thief broke into the parish Church and stole the ciborium (a sacred vessel) which contained consecrated hosts.

This act served as a call of the Holy Spirit to found a religious Congregation for women whose members would be dedicated to loving and adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and making Him known and loved through Catholic education for children and youth.



On November 25, 1904, the Congregation of *Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament* (“*Siervas de Jesus Sacramentado*”) was born.

## THE LIFE OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO: CONTINUING MINISTRY DESPITE PERSECUTION

**F**ather Silviano used journalism to take the Good News to all the corners of his parish. Among the outstanding newspapers he wrote were the Union Católica (Catholic



Union) and La Luz de Occidente (The Light of the West) in which he defended the truths of the Catholic Church against anti-clerical laws. During the religious persecution which began in 1914, he was severely persecuted and he had to remain in hiding for more than two years.

**I**n November 1916, he was named Canon Regular to the Cathedral of Guadalajara, Mexico. The Founder exemplified well the Eucharistic spirituality which was to be the inheritance of the Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament.

## THE LIFE OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO: APPOINTED BISHOP BY POPE BENEDICT XV



**H**is Holiness Pope Benedict XV appointed Silviano Carrillo the fifth Bishop of Sinaloa. His Episcopal ordination took place on February 24, 1921, in Guadalajara, Jalisco.

**A**s bishop and shepherd of Sinaloa, he began a Christian renewal centered in the Eucharist. He reopened the diocesan seminary and he gave fatherly care to the seminarians.





THE LIFE OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO:  
GOD CALLS BISHOP SILVIANO TO HIS ETERNAL REST

**B**ishop Silviano's pastoral work lasted only six months. After a brief illness which quickly and mysteriously became life threatening, God called him to participate in His eternal happiness on September 10, 1921, in Culiacan, Sinaloa (the See of his diocese).



**S**ilviano Carrillo, Bishop of Sinaloa, as faithful servant, continues praising God with his words which were the expression of his life:

*“Blessed Be God”*

## THE LEGACY OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO: THE EVOLUTION OF THE SJS



- ✝ Father Silvano Carrillo was ordained to the Priesthood on December 26, 1884. He was a parish priest in Jalisco, Mexico who believed in Catholic education at a time when regional governments in Mexico had banned the church from the educational system.
- ✝ In 1901, a thief broke into Father Silvano's church, and stole the ciborium, the sacred vessel that contains the consecrated hosts. Convinced that the crime was an act of ignorance, he was determined to bring God's word to all, especially through Catholic education.
- ✝ On November, 25, 1904, Father Silvano founded *The Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament* – in Spanish, *Siervas de Jesus Sacramentado*, or SJS – to overcome that ignorance. The sisters have a dual mission: daily adoration of the Holy Eucharist and religious education of children and youth.
- ✝ During the Christian Persecution in Mexico, the sisters were expelled from their convents, and their schools were taken over by government officials. Forced into hiding, Father Silvano continued to lead the community. In 1916 the sisters moved their mother house to Guadalajara.
- ✝ In 1921, Father Silvano was named the fifth bishop of Sinaloa by Pope Benedict XV; he died later that year, but the order continued to grow and eventually spread throughout the state of Jalisco and into other parts of Mexico.
- ✝ Because of continued religious persecution, the order expanded its ministry to the United States, sending sisters to Chicago and Oklahoma City in 1924.

# THE LEGACY OF BISHOP SILVIANO CARRILLO: THE SISTERS PERSEVERE AND GROW TO CARRY ON THEIR MISSION INTERNATIONALLY



- ✝ In 1927, the sisters moved to California to establish their first school in the United States, and opened their doors in Calexico to students from kindergarten to 3rd grade.
- ✝ In 1929, two additional schools opened in San Diego and Los Angeles, expanding the curriculum to include music, drawing, painting, sewing and arts and crafts as well as religious education. Schools in San Ysidro and El Centro followed.
- ✝ In 2006, the order's first province outside of Mexico, the Province of the Immaculate Conception, was established as a canonical entity with headquarters in Bonita, California.
- ✝ Today, The Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament are active in the United States in the Dioceses of Sacramento, Monterey, Fresno, San Diego and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.
- ✝ There are 9 religious communities in California and 5 are located in the Diocese of San Diego where the sisters have served more than 110,000 students for more than 85 years.
- ✝ The Sister Servants' international community is also present in 71 Catholic schools in 15 states in México and schools in Guatemala, Chile, and a large mission in Peru.