

90th anniversary of the martyrdom of Blessed Juan María de la Cruz, SCJ

23 August 1936/2026

**Blessed Juan María, you who were a simple man,
we ask you to accompany us on our journey.
You did not seek to be a hero or to hold power;
you simply wished to remain faithful to Jesus until the end.
You accepted your fate with profound peace,
for you knew that your life was in God's hands.
It is that very trust that we ask of you today
so that we may face our difficulties with calm.
Look with special affection upon the young people
who feel the call to serve others.
You, who protect Dehonian vocations,
grant us the clarity needed to discover
God's will for each of us.
Do not let fear or doubts hold us back;
help us to see that giving our lives is worthwhile.
Grant us a courageous heart like the one you had,
capable of saying 'yes' joyfully and unconditionally.
Teach us all to repair the pain of the world,
by offering love where others offer only indifference.
Be our friend in heaven and our example,
so that we may never grow weary of following Jesus. Amen.**

