



St. Manuel Moralez

Born: 8 February 1898 at Mesillas, Zacatecas, Mexico

Died: shot by firing squad on 15 August 1926 in the mountains near Chalchihuites, Zacatecas, Mexico

Canonized: 21 May 2000 by Pope John Paul II during the Jubilee of Mexico.

Also known as Manuel Morales, Emmanuel

Additional Memorial 21 May as one of the Martyrs of the Mexican Revolution

Manuel entered the seminary in Durango, Mexico, but had to leave to help support his impoverished family; he remained a lifelong layman. Married, and the father of three. Secretary of the publication *Leon XIII*. Secretary of the Circle of Catholic Workers. Member of Catholic Action (ACJM). President of the National League for the Defense of Religious Liberty (LNDLR). On 29 July 1929, a LNDLR meeting drew a crowd of over 500. Morales spoke, emphasizing the peaceful, non-political aims and methods of the group. A few days later a group of soldiers gathered up the LNDLR officers, and announced they were taking them to the state capital to explain their position to government officials. After leaving town, the soldiers stopped the cars and accused the prisoners of plotting armed revolt against the government. Manuel was offered freedom if he would acknowledge the legitimacy of Manuel Calle's anti-religious government; he declined. Martyr.