O Sacred Heart of Jesus! Remember the consecration that President Gabriel Garcia Moreno made to Thee of his Republic; of the enthronement of Thy sacred image in his presidential home; and of his blood shed to seal his unshakeable adherence to Thee and to Thy vicar, the Pope. And grant us the canonical glorification of such an exemplary ruler, that men powerful in deeds and words may rise up for the cause of religion and country. And finally grant us the particular grace which we ask of Thee, according to Thy good pleasure. Amen

Ask for a particular grace and end with a *Glory be to the Father*.

The preceding prayer has been approved not only by the bishops of Ecuador, but moreover by the bishop of Pasto in Columbia, by the bishop of Santiago in Chile, by the bishop of São Paulo in Brazil, by one of the bishops in Argentina, through the action of Father Hervé Le Lay, and by a bishop of Scotland, through the action of Mr. Hamish Fraser.



Garcia Moreno with the Decree of Consecration of Ecuador to the Sacred Heart -1874

What are the conditions that the Church requires for giving the title of martyr to a heroic Christian?

The canonical conditions are three: real and voluntarily accepted death of the victim, unless God prevents it miraculously; that the tyrant or perpetrator of the death caused it unjustly; and that the reason for sacrificing the victim be the hatred of God, of the Church, of the true religion, or some Christian virtue, or the rights and prerogatives of the Church.

Were these conditions verified in the death of Garcia Moreno?

He knew very well that they were trying to kill him as a victim and he was preparing himself for the sacrifice: "The enemies of God and of the Church can kill me, but God does not die. I am going to be assassinated, I am happy to die for the faith."

Who killed Garcia Moreno?

There can be no doubt that the Masonic lodges and other enemies of the Catholic religion killed him.

Why did they assassinate him?

Because they were seeing in him a model of a Catholic ruler.

How did Pius IX and Leo XIII judge the death of Garcia Moreno?

Pius IX said, "Garcia Moreno fell under the steel of the assassin, a victim of his faith and of his

Christian charity." And Leo XIII, "He fell under the steel of the wicked for the Church."

Does this mean to say that Garcia Moreno did not have any faults or defects?

Not at all, since even the great saints have their faults, and for this reason they do penance.

How do martyrs wash away their sins?

By shedding their blood for the love of God; so much so that, perfectly purified, they immediately go up to paradise.

Who still hates Garcia Moreno?

The Freemasons, the Socialists, and the enemies of the Church and of the homeland; also some badly influenced Catholic, imbued with prejudices, who do not know the hero.

Are there some people who reverence and love him very much?

All Catholics and the best people of Ecuador; and likewise all good people outside of Ecuador, with rare exceptions.

Can one implore the Divine favor and ask for miracles through the intercession of Garcia Moreno, by making use of his image or of his relics?

Yes, but only in private; and in the event of obtaining them, it is fitting that it be reported in detail to the ecclesiastical authorities for consequent purposes. God is accustomed to glorify His servants in this way.

Father Ricardo Vásquez S.J.