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Opus Dei lead faithful to live ordinary lives

Archbishop Thomas Collins presided at a solemn Mass, Jan. 15, at St. Andrew's Church to celebrate the centennial of the birth of Blessed Josemaria Escriva, founder of the Prelature of Opus Dei.

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Along with the archbishop, Father Vic Perron and visiting Opus Dei priest, Father Joseph Soria of

Toronto, who celebrated the Mass, more than 200 adults and children prayed for the forthcoming canonization of Blessed Escriva.

In his homily, Collins said "We are all called to be spiritual seekers and adventurers in the world."

As spiritual adventurers, everyone is called, not to be afraid, but to be fearless in seeking the spirit of sanctity like Blessed Escriva, the archbishop said.

"We have to trust in the spirit of God speaking to us through the Holy Gospel and in the Holy Eucharist," Collins said.

Sanctity in the ordinariness of things is the charism of Opus Dei. This attracted Opus Dei member Paula Rebstock of St. Agnes Parish to become active in the group.

Opus Dei gave her the spiritual support that she needed to be able to do what she was doing before, but "this time, doing it for the love of God" to sanctify her work.

"When I do my work, I try to do it well and I try to do it for the love of God."

Founded on Oct. 2, 1928, Opus Dei has 80,000 members from every continent. Its headquarters are in Rome.

The aim of Opus Dei is to contribute to the evangelizing mission of the Church by promoting a life fully consistent with Christian faith in the middle of ordinary circumstances of life.

To reach this goal, the prelature offers spiritual formation to its members.

Soria said, "Sanctification of ordinary life, ordinary work and ordinary circumstances: ordinariness is our charism."

Renato Gandia // Western
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