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## **Jordan devoted to Mary, the Mother of God**

Reading his Spiritual Diary, I discover that our Venerable Founder felt like – and was indeed – a good son of Mary, and a faithful disciple-brother of the Divine Savior. Since I first read the Spiritual Diary when I became a Salvatorian, I have always been struck by Father Jordan's thoughtful, loving and trusting devotion to Mary, and by his tender, colloquial and deep way of speaking to her:

*"Oh Mary, Oh Virgin, Oh Mother of God, Oh my Mother and Queen!"* (SD I/196).

*"Oh Mary, Mother of God! Powerful Virgin, intercede for me!"* (SD II/27).

*"Oh Mary, Mother of God and my Mother, intercede for me!"* (SD II/46).

*"Oh Mother of God! My Mother! Mary!"* (SD II/49).

*"Oh Mary, help me on your feast day!"* (SD II/69).

*"Oh Virgin Immaculate, pray for me!"* (SD II/72).

*"Oh powerful Virgin, raise up new apostles! Immaculate Virgin of Loreto, Mother, arise! You are my hope!"* (SD II/98).

*"Oh Mary, Mother of God, my Mother, my protectress, my hope! Oh Mother, I am yours!"* (SD II/110).

*"Oh Mother of God, help me! Be my strong helper! See, I am yours!"* (SD II/117).

*"Oh Mother of God, accept me under your maternal patronage and be my Mother!"* (SD III/9).

*"Oh Mary, Mother of God, help! Oh Mary, Dei genitrix, Theotokos!"* (SD IV/38).

Father Jordan knew that Mary was a powerful protector of his foundation because she is the Mother of the Savior. She bears clear witness to Apostolic life, and her testimony becomes a source of new Apostles.

Personally, this devotion and intercession prayer that Father Jordan felt and practiced so deeply, motivates me to be a good son of Mary, venerating her spiritual maternity and her inspiring way of teaching the Gospel as part of her Apostolic service aimed at proclaiming the Kingdom. I also feel called to venerate Mary as a holy woman of our race and of our people, who experienced the difficulties and sufferings of her time, and became an example and source of hope. She models that kind of faith that absolutely relies on God, Lord of history. She is a beloved spiritual mother that walks beside me in my path as a Salvatorian religious.

*Fr. Juan Carrasquilla SDS*