



VENERABLE SERVANT OF GOD

## **Msgr. Joaquim Alves Brás**

### **PRAYER**

O God, One and Triune, you gave to your priest and servant Joaquim Alves Brás the grace to live the priesthood in the love of the Holy Trinity as an untiring apostle of the Christian family in order that all families may imitate the virtue of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Send forth his witness as a model to the whole Church so that in the image of the Triune God, the apostolic zeal to the Christian Family may grow in the love for our sisters and brothers most in need.

We beseech this grace through the intercession of your servant Joaquim Alves Brás, according to your will, O Lord, for the Glory of Your Name.

*with ecclesiastical approval*

*Msgr. Joaquim Alves Brás was born on March 20th, 1899 in Casegas (Portugal). On the same day of his birth he was baptised and was ordained to the presbyterate on July 19th, 1925.*

*In 1932 he began his foundation for the protection of young girls named "Obra de Santa Zita", the following year he founded a Secular Institute "Cooperators of the Family" and in 1960 a movement for a Christian "focolare".*

*His exemplary priestly life in ecclesial work promoting the christian family merits that he be recognized as an "apostle of the Christian family in Portugal".*

*Endowed with great interior strength, in his practice of virtue, in going to the aid of those most in need, his constant desire was to identify himself with Christ. The Eucharist was the centre and root of his zeal for the Glory of God. He nourished a profound devotion to the Most Holy Virgin Mary. In prayer and in penance he would find the joy and strength for his extraordinary apostolic activity. Always devout and obedience to the Holy Father and Bishops, his life was a continual witnessing of love for the Church. His foundation's motto rings out like an invitation to live according to the Gospel: "Hand at work and hearts to God".*

*He died in an atmosphere of holiness in Lisbon on March 13th, 1966. The process for his beatification is presently underway.*

*Information about graces received by anyone through the intercession of this Servant of God may be sent to the following address:*

**Postulazione:** Mons. Arnaldo P. Cardoso

Via Nicolò V, 3 – 00165 ROMA Tel. 0039/06/390901

**Vice Postulação:** Maria de Fátima C. Baptista

Rua de Santo António à Estrela, 35 – 1399-043 Lisboa

Tel. 21-3942420 – E-mail: [mons.alvesbras@netcabo.pt](mailto:mons.alvesbras@netcabo.pt)