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Juan Hurtado, 65; was ex-priest whose efforts supported Latino causes

By Leonel Sanchez
STAFF WRITER

Juan Hurtado, who championed Latino causes as a priest in Logan Heights in the 1970s and 1980s, has died of cancer. He was 65.

He died Oct. 19 at San Diego Hospice after a yearlong battle with colon cancer.

In recent years he worked at San Diego State University, where he trained bilingual teachers. Mr. Hurtado left the priesthood in the 1980s, married and moved to Chula Vista.

He was born in Anaheim and was ordained a priest in New York in the late 1950s. He came to San Diego in the late 1960s, where he became one of the church's main links to the Latino community.

As director of the Office of Ethnic Affairs for the San Diego Catholic Diocese in the 1970s, Mr. Hurtado led church efforts to improve the quality of life in Latino neighborhoods by opening up more educational and employment opportunities for their residents.

His office also helped Mexican-American students write grant proposals to obtain federal funding for Chicano studies.

The son of migrant workers, Mr.

Hurtado marched with the late farm labor leader Cesar Chavez and considered it a high point in his life.

"During this time he was very happy," said his sister Ruth Requejo.

In a 1970 interview with the *San Diego Evening Tribune*, Mr. Hurtado said that the more involved he became in people's material needs, the more spiritual he became.

"The more you see the plight and frustration of people, the more insight it gives you on how you can do something about it," he said.

Known fondly as "Father John" by people in the community, Mr. Hurtado helped found the Padre Hidalgo Center in Barrio Logan in the 1980s. The center trains Latinos to be leaders in their parishes. About half of the Catholics in San Diego County are Latino.

Mr. Hurtado is survived by his wife, Paula, and his sisters and brother: Ruth Requejo, Angie Jara, Esther Suarez, Frances Conant and Ray Hurtado.

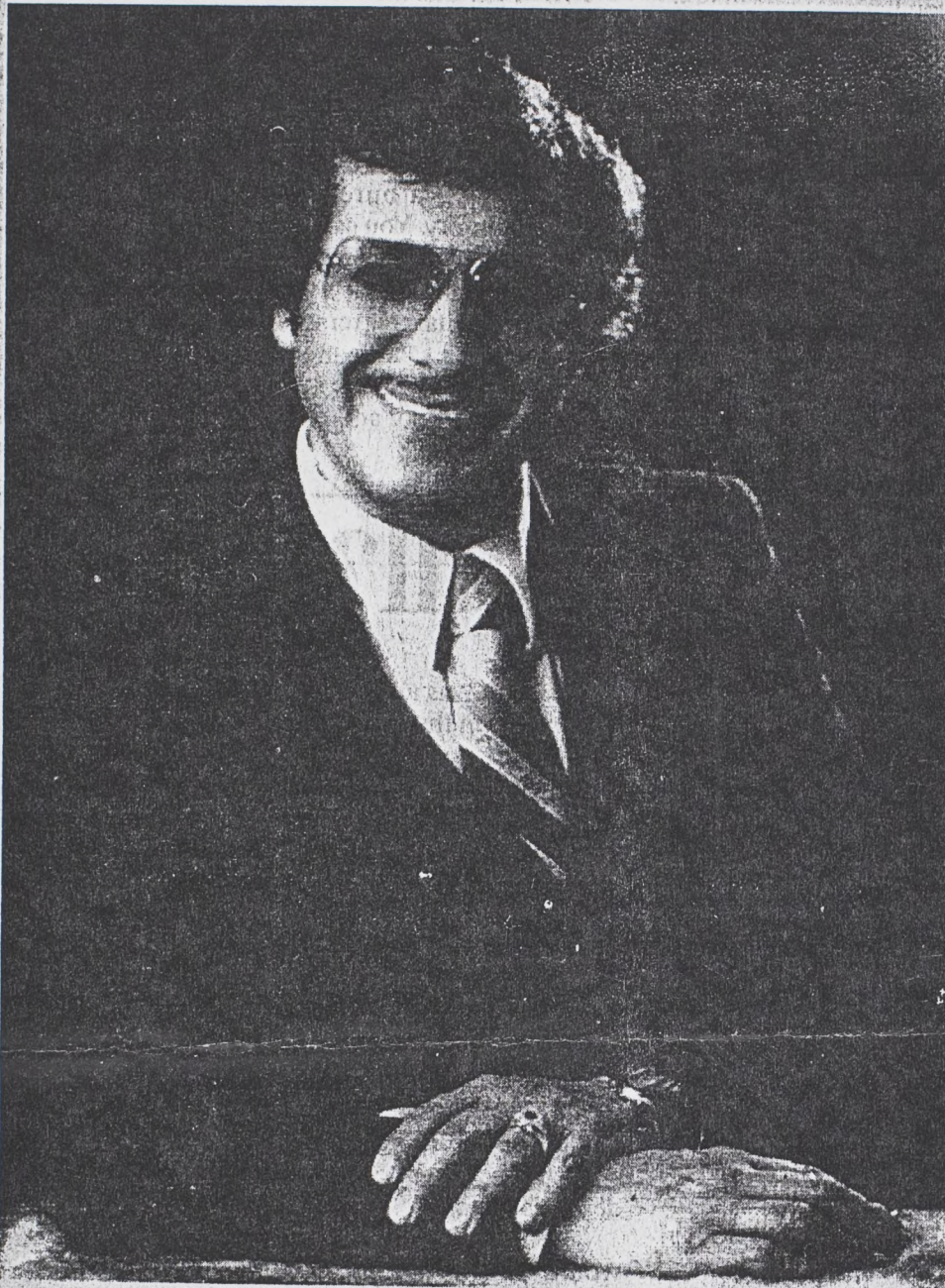
A memorial Mass will be celebrated at 7 p.m. today at St. Joseph Cathedral, 1535 Third Avenue. A reception will follow at St. Joseph Hall.

OBITUARY

FATHER JUAN HURTADO

Born: December 13, 1930
Anaheim, California

Died: October 19, 1996
San Diego, California



It is with deep sorrow that we report the death of Father Juan Hurtado of cancer on Oct. 19, 1996. A former Diocesan Priest of the Diocese of San Diego, Father Juan Hurtado is fondly remembered by his parishioners for his priestly dedication to the care of their souls and by his devotion to their earthly needs and welfare.

Father Hurtado, one of 300 Mexican American Priests, serving in the North American Catholic church in 1973, chose to follow in the footsteps of Padre Hidalgo y Castillo, who fought for independence for the Mexican people from Spain and joined the PADRES (Para derechos religiosos, educativos y sociales). In the following decades they struggled to gain respect for the Hispanic Americans that constituted 25% of the Roman Catholic Church, at that time, in this country. He soon became its Vice-President. It was a courageous step for a young Priest who had been ordained in 1949.

Father Hurtado gained the love and respect of the Mexican community when he joined a group of Chicanos and fought to establish the Padre Hidalgo Center in the middle of Logan Heights in the middle '80s. This was the first such center in the entire diocese. His reward from his church was approbation, exclusion, and punishment from his Bishop.

Father Hurtado joined in the struggle to force the appointment of Aux. Bishop Gilberto Chavez to the San Diego Dioceses. Joined by Chicanos they protested and eventually forced Bishop Maher to accede to their demands.

His efforts in behalf of his people on the streets of San Diego, Chula Vista, National City and Riverside made him a hero in our eyes. He dared to confront the monolithic Catholic hierarchy and demand representation. For his efforts he lost his church and was forbidden to carry out his priestly duties.

After attempting for over eight years to gain back his rights to a Priestly vocation and being denied, Father Juan Hurtado finally gave up his vows and made the decision to marry. He then went to work at San Diego University where he spent the rest of his remaining years teaching and educating the young Chicanos and Chicanas of the future. He might have put on a suit and tie, but to all of his compatriots in the struggle for justice he always remind "Father Juan Hurtado".

Father Juan Hurtado was preceded in death by his Father Manuel, his Mother Viviana Lopez Hurtado and by a brother Jess Hurtado. He is survived by his Sisters and brother: Ruth Requejo, Orange county, Angie Jara, Anaheim, Esther Suarez, San Diego Frances Conant, San Francisco, and a Brother Ray Hurtado, Santa Ana.

A Memorial Mass will be held Oct. 28, 1996, at 7:00 P.M. at St. Joseph Cathedral, 1535 Third Avenue, San Diego. Father Juan Hurtado was cremated and his urn will be buried in el Pantheon de Tijuana in accordance with his wife's wishes. Bishop Gilbert E. Chavez will officiate. A reception will follow the Mass at the St. Joseph Hall.

*Gracias Father Juan for all your sacrifices
in the name of our people!*

EULOGY:

1. SISTER SARA MUERRIETA

2. HERMAN BACA

3. DAN MUNOZ

4. RICHARDO FLORINO

5. FRANCES CONANT }
RUTH REQUEJO }

Sister of Juan

MISA DE RESURRECCION
MASS OF RESURRECTION

MISA CANTADA POR EL CORO DE LA PARROQUIA DE NUESTRA SENORA DEL SAGRADO CORAZON

PRIMERA LECTURA: This will be read in English

ISAIAS 25, 6-8 La Cena De Los Justos

Yavé de los Ejército prepará para todos los pueblos, en este cerro, una comida con jugosos asados y buenos vinos, un banquete de carne y vinos escongidos. En este cerro quitará el vino de luto que cubria a todos los pueblos y la mortaja que envolvía a todas las naciones. Y así destruirá para siempre a la muerte. El Señor Yavé enjugara las lágrimas de todos los rostros; devolvera la honra a su pueblo, y a toda la tierra, pues asi lo ha determinado Yave.

SALMO RESPONSORIAL

This will be read in English

Salmo 63, 2-3. 3-4. 5-6. 8-9.

R. De Ti Tiene Sed Mi Alma.

Señor, tú eres me Dois, a ti te busco, mi alma tiene sed de ti, en pos de ti me carne desfallece cual tierra seca, sedienta, sin agua.

R. DE TI TIENE SED MI ALMA

Yo quiero contemplarte en el santuario para admirar tu gloria tu poder. Pues es mejor tu amor que la existencia tu alabanza mis labios contarán.

R. DE TI TIENE SED MI ALMA

Podré así bendecite mientras viva y levantar mis manos en tu Nombre. Como de carne sabrosa me hartaré, te elogiare con labios juilosos.

R. DE TI TIENE SED MI ALMA

Pues tú fuiste un refugio para mí y me alegre a la sombra de tus alas; Mi alma se estrecha a ti con fuerte abrazo encontrando su apoyo en tu derecha.

R. DE TI TIENE SED MI ALMA

SECOND READING

This will be read in spanish

1 John 3, 1-2

WE SHALL SEE HIM AS HE REALLY IS.

See what love the Father has bestowed on us in letting us be called children of God! Yet that in fact is what we are. The reason the world does not recognize us is that it never recognized the Son. Dearly beloved, We are God's children now; what we shall later be has not yet come to light. We know that when it comes to light we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

This is the word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

Then the king will say to those on his right "My father has blessed you! Come and receive the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world was created.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA.

MISA DE RESURRECCION
MASS OF RESURRECTION

Gospel:

Mateo 5, 1-12

LAS BIENAVENTURANZAS

Jesús, al ver a toda esa muchedumbre, subió al monte. Allí se sentó y sus discípulos se le acercaron. Comenzó a hablar, y les enseñaba así: "Felices los tienen espíritu de pobre, porque de ellos es Reino de los Cielos!" "Felices los que lloran, porque recibirán consuelo." "Felices los pacientes, porque recibirán la tierra en herencia. Felices los que tienen hambre y sed de justicia, porque serán saciados. Felices los compasivos, porque obtendrán misericordia. Felices los que trabajan por la paz, porque serán reconocidos como hijos de Dios. Felices los que son perseguidos por causa del bien, porque de ellos es el Reino de los Cielos. Dichosos ustedes cuando por causa mía los maldigan, los persigan y les levanten toda clase de calumnias. Alégrese y muéstrense contentos, porque será grande la recompensa que recibirán en el cielo. Pues bien saben que así trataron a los profetas que hubo antes que ustedes.

HOMILY: (Please be seated)

Oracion De Los Fieles
General Intercessions

God, the almighty Father, raised Christ his Son from the dead; with confidence we ask him to save his people, living and dead.

Our brother Juan was given the promise of eternal life in baptism; Lord, give him communion with your saints for ever.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

Tú que lloraste por la muerte de lázaro, enjuga nuestras lágrimas.

R. Escuchanos, Señor.

Tu que llamaste a los muertos a la vida, dale a este hermano Juan la vida eterna.

R. Escuchanos, Señor.

We pray for Juans wife Paula, his brothers and sisters, their relatives, for all who were close to him and good to him.

R. Lord, hear our prayers.

We pray for all who have gathered here to worship in faith; Lord, make us one in your Kingdom.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.



Remembrance of
Padre Juan Hurtado
"El Padre del Pueblo"



Born: Dec. 13, 1930

Died: Oct. 19, 1996

Most mortals pass their life in relative obscurity — like shooting stars in the sky. They may shine momentarily but soon like a flash across the sky they are gone, into the deep darkness of space. At other times certain mortals are destined, by God's will, to shine with a brilliance during their existence on earth bringing life, hope, and meaning to those who happen to fall within their sphere of influence. Such a man was Father Juan Hurtado.

At best it is only possible to encounter and know one aspect of the total man. Some of us were lucky to know him as a loving, caring parish priest. He was truly a man who deeply cared for the souls of those entrusted to him. He was the living embodiment of what the Catholic Church should be ... a manifestation of God's love for humanity. Father Juan was deeply moved by the suffering of his parishioners. Though mostly poor they were rich in love for their God and Church. Their devotion was unquestioned.

It pained Father Hurtado to see the members of his Parish suffer the deprivations laid upon them by a society that seemed to care little for them.

God knew that his servant on earth was hurting. He brought peace to his soul and brought him a message "Serve in my name the poor, the meek, and the powerless. My will shall be done through your works in their behalf." From that moment Father Juan Hurtado knew what he had to do.

In his last dying days, Father Juan Hurtado, who was abandoned by his church, and ostracized by his fellow priests, whispered quietly ... "God's will has been manifested."

You may have left this earth with all its problems, Father Juan, but you will continue to live in our hearts and souls. We will remember your sacrifices for 'Nuestra Gente' till our dying days and will pass on the "Leyenda of Father Juan Hurtado"... So our children and their children will know that God has not forgotten us.

"Descanse en Paz" God will Keep you Close

STZUGLE

HISTORICAL - NO ONE ^{WILL CHANGE}

BARCELONA, HINALGO, MORELOS,
MARTINEZ,

SOME PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY
THAT WILL NOT FORGET WHAT YOU
DID, & WE WILL NOT ALLOW
THOSE

BEFORE PADRES THERE WAS CAT
FR LA RAZA

DIED AS AN OUTCAST

JOSE MARIA MORELOS

ANTONIO JOSE MARTINEZ

1847 - LEV 2000 INDIANS &

MEX. IN REVOLT

Francisco PÉREZ BARCELONA DE

LA CASAS WHO ABOLISHED IT

Slavery in 1550

I WANT THANK THE HUERTAS
FAMILY, ~~FATHER~~ H. WIFE PAULA
SISTER MAZ. CASAS, SISTER SARA
& BISHOP CHAVEZ FOR GIVING ME
THE HONOR OF SAYING A FEW
WORDS ABOUT FATHER J. HUERTAS.

I WANT TO TALK, I WANT TO
TALK ABOUT FATHER AS I KNEW
HIM. THE FATHER HUERTAS THAT I
KNEW WAS NOT A PRIEST, BUT ^{MAN OF THE PEOPLE} A
POLITICAL ACTIVIST A MAN OF THE
STREETS, WHERE THE PEOPLE WERE.

AND IF I AM GOING TO TALK ABOUT
PADRE H. AS I KNEW HIM, I HAVE
TO TALK ABOUT HIM IN TERMS OF
^{THE} HISTORY & STRUGGLE OF HIS PEOPLE.

~~BECAUSE OF IT~~ & THE MEXICAN PEOPLE
IT IS LIKE BARTOLOME DE LAS CASAS
WHO LED THE STRUGGLE TO ABOLISH
THE SLAVERY OF INDIANS IN 1550

+ JOSE MARIA MORELOS

CURA MIGUEL HIGALDO WHO LED

THE STRUGGLE FOR MEXICAN IND. IN

THE 1800'S, + ~~HERE~~ ^{HE CHANGING} IN THE U.S.

~~PREST~~ PREST LIKE ANTONIO JOSE

MARTINEZ WHO LED 2,000 MEXICAN +

INDIANS IN REVOLT AGAINST THE

SPANIARDS AFTER THE U.S./MEXICAN

WAR + MORE RECENTLY PREST LIKE

~~THE~~ THE "TORTILLA PREST" FATHER

VICTOR SALAZAR, FATHER X WERE

THEY FOLLOWED HIS DICTATES + THE

KNOWLEDGE + CHOOSE TO SIDE WITH THE

POOR, THE OPPRESSED + POWERLESS

+ LIKE THE OTHER PREST WHO

STRUGGLE ^{FOR THEIR PEOPLE} PAID THE PRICE, ~~WHEN~~

THE GOOD BOOK SAYS THAT A MAN

SHALL BE KNOWN BY HIS DEEDS + NOT

HIS WORDS. THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE TO

JUDGE FATHER HUAT. BY, WHEN ^{WE} ~~IF~~

LOOK AT BISHOP CHAVEZ, A PERSON

OF M/A WE LOOK AT HIM WITH A

SENSE OF PEACE, ACCOMPANIED +

WITH A FEELING THAT WE BELONG IN
THIS SOCIETY, WHEN I LOOK AT
BISHOP CHAUZ, I SEE FT H.
~~I OTHERS WHO STRUGGLE BECAUSE~~
I KNOW WHEN I FIRST MEET
FT H. ¹⁹⁷⁰ IN THE STREETS THAT
WE ^{DO} ~~HAD~~ NOT HAVE A B. CHAUZ
TO LOOK AT WITH PRIDE, AND FEELING
OF A BLOND. SMILE, & THAT FEELING
OF BELONGING IN THE WHOLE U.S.

IN 1970 WHEN I MEET HURTADO
THERE WAS NOT ONLY NO ^{CHICAN} BISHOPS,
BUT THERE WAS NOTHING, NO ^{CHICAN} POL
NO, CHICAN JUDGES, NO CHICAN
PRINCIPAL, NO CHICAN COUNSELOR, IN
THE SCHOOLS, NO CHICAN ATTORNEYS IN
THE COLLEGES, ~~THERE ONLY THING~~
~~THAT THERE WAS,~~ WAS IT FELL
BACK IN THE 70 WE AS A
PEOPLE DIDN'T EVEN EXIST AS A
PEOPLE TO POLITICIAN, TO THE CHURCH
TO THE PSC TO SUPPORT AMERICAN

SOCIETY ~~WHERE~~ WE WERE KNOWN AS
THE SILENT ~~MAJORITY~~ ^{MINORITY}, THE FORGOTTEN
MINORITY. THAT IS THE POLITICAL
CLIMATE IN WHICH I FIRST
MEET FATHER H. I REMEMBER
THE FIRST TIME THAT I MEET
FR. H. IT WAS ON THE
STREET OF L.H. WHERE ^{WE} CHICAGO
ACTIVIST HAD TAKEN OUT

(1) THE COMMUNITY CENTER ~~WHERE~~
BOBBY IS A HEALTH CENTER I FOUND
IT STRANGE TO SEE A MAN OF THE CLERGY

LOW TALKING TO P. H. I KNOW
THAT FR. H. FIRST HEARD THE CRIES
OF HIS PEOPLE ~~WHERE~~ CHICAGO GEORGS
~~WERE~~ LIKE CATH. POL LA RAZA ^{WHO}
~~WERE~~ ^{WERE} ~~DRIVEN~~ ^{DRIVEN} OUT BY THE POLICE FOR
WERE PROTESTING THE RACISM &
DISC. IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

NOTES ON I REMEMBER HIM AT
THE TAKE OVER OF THE ~~CENTRAL~~

CULTURAL, THE TAKE OUT ~~OF~~ OF
C. PACE, AT THE BOYCOTT DEMOST
AT SAFEWAY MARKET IN N.C, I
REMEMBER WHEN THEY ARRESTED C. CHAVEZ
WE HAD A DEMOS. AT SAFEWAY +
THEY WERE WREST + TAKEN PAST
GILBERTO CHAVEZ SAUCE MASS FOR
AT ST. ANTHONY'S HALL FOR THE
RELEASE OF C. CHAVEZ. I REMEMBER
IN 1972 AT WUSTARO JOINING WITH
US TO PROTEST BEFORE THE S.J. CITY
THE S.D. POLICE CHIEF RAY HOBBLE.

READ ARTICLE

I REMEMBER IN 1973 MARCH
IN N.C. WITH THE POOR PEOPLE
MARCH TO SAVE THOSE HOME + CHURCH
ST ANTHONY BECAUSE THE CITY
OF N.C. WANTED TO BULLDOZE
100'S OF HOME IN ORDER TO
MAKE ROOM FOR BUSINESSES + CARLTONS

1975

IN 1975 FOUGHT WITH US
TO END POLICE BRUTALITY
IN N.C. WHEN ^{N.C.} POLICE SHOT
A 19 YRS OLD LUIS TATO RUCZY
FOR SUPPOSELY STEALING A ~~BOOK~~
PURSE WITH \$1.19. FT HURSTON
MARCHED WITH 2,000 PEOPLE
TO CITY HALL

I WANT TO THANK
THE HURTADO FAMILY,
HIS WIFE PAULA, SISTER
MARG. CASTRO, SISTER SARA
MUCO. & ONCE AGAIN
B. CHAVEZ FOR GIVING
ME THE HONOR OF SAYING
A FEW WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE
ABOUT FR. J. HURTADO. I
TODAY I WANT TO
TALK ABOUT THE FATHER

H. THAT I KNEW.

I FIRST KNEW FT. H

NOT A ~~P~~ PRIEST, BUT A

POLITICAL ACTIVIST, A

MAN OF THE STREET, WHERE

THE PEOPLE WERE, I THINK

IF I AM GOING TO TALK

ABOUT FT. H THAT I KNEW

I HAVE TO TALK ABOUT

HIM IN TERMS OF THE

HISTORY & STRUGGLE OF

HIS PEOPLE, THE MEXICAN/CHICANO
PEOPLE, FATHERS LIKE
BARTOLOME DE LAS CASAS WHO
LED THE STRUGGLE TO ABOLISH
THE SLAVERY OF INDIANS IN
MEXICO, CURA MIGUEL HIDALGO
& CURA JOSE MARIA MORELOS
WHO LED THE STRUGGLE
FOR MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE
& CHICANO PRIEST LUIS
ANTONIO JOSE MARTINEZ WHO

Left 2,000 Indians & Mexicans

in revolt against the

U.S. after the U.S./Mexican

war in 1850 & more

Recently Father Victor

Saldini the farm worker

chose to

priest follow his dictates

& conscious & chose to

side with the poor, the

oppress & the powerless, and

like those other priest

WHO STRUGGLED FOR THESE

PEOPLE PAID THE PRICE,

THE GOOD BOOK SAYS

THAT A MAN SHALL BE

KNOWN NOT BY HIS WORDS

BUT BY HIS DEEDS. DEEDS ~~LIKE~~

~~WHEN~~ THAT WHEN WE

SEE BISHOP CHAVEZ ^{A DEEDS OF} _{MIN} &

WE ALL

GET A FEELING OF PRIDE

A SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT AND

A FEELING THAT WE ALSO

BELONG IN U.S. SOCIETY.

WHEN I SEE B. CHAVEZ

I SEE FT HUERTADO BECAUSE

I KNOW THAT WHEN I FIRST

MEET FT. HUERTADO IN 1970

ON THE PICKET LINE, THERE

WAS NO MEXICAN BISHOP OR

BISHOPS IN THE ENTIRE U.S.

IN FACT IN 1970 THERE WAS

NOT ONLY NO MEXICAN BISHOPS

BUT FOR THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY

HAD NOTHING, IN 1970 WHEN
FR HUSTADO HEARD THE
CRIES OF HIS PEOPLE LIKE
CATH. POR LA RAZA WHO
WERE BEING DRAGGED OUT OF
THE CHURCH BY THE L.A.P.D
FOR PROTESTING ^{THE} RACISM
& DISC. WHICH ~~HE~~ EXISTS
& CONTINUES TO EXIST
THERE WAS NO CHICANO JUDGE
NO CHICANO POLITICIAN, NO

CHICAGO COURSEWORK IN THE
SCHOOL, NO CHICAGO STUDENT
IN THE COLLEGES. IN FACT
IN 1970 WE AS A PEOPLE DID
NOT EVEN EXIST AS A PEOPLE
TO THE POLITICIANS, POLICY
MAKERS, PSYCHOLOGIST, TO U.S. SOCIETY
WE WERE KNOWN AS THE
"SILENT" MINORITY, THE
FORGOTTEN MINORITY. THIS IS
THE POLITICAL CLIMATE

THAT EXISTED WHEN I
FIRST MET FR HUCTADO
IN 1970, ~~ON THE STREET~~
I REMEMBER WHEN I
FIRST MET THINKING THAT IT
WAS STRANGE THAT A PRISON
WOULD BE THERE. THE ISSUE
THAT WE WERE FIGHTING THEN
WAS THE TAKE OVER THE
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE WHICH
TODAY IS A HEALTH SERVICES
CENTER

LATER ON I REMEMBER

SEE HIM + SISTER SISTA

M AT

- (1) THE TAKE OVER OF THE
CENTRO CULTURAL
- (2) CHICAGO PARK
- (3) SAFEWAY
- (4) ARREST C. CHAVEZ -
PT HUERTAS, + PADRE CHAVEZ

~~1972~~ 1972

CITY HALL - CHIEF HUBLE

READ ARTICLE

1973

MARCHING WITH OT. NC.

1975

LUIS TATO RIVERA

2,000 TO CITY HALL

1977

KKK

1978

PROP. 13

SEE ARTICLE

I

WE REMEMBER

The Fr. Hurtado I knew was a political activists....He joined with us in a historical struggle...

We look back today and because of Fr. Hurtado we can feel a sense of pride, accomplishment, and of acceptance by this society when we look at Bishop Gilberto Chavez.

Back in the 70.s there was no such person as Bishop Chavez....we or I remember Fr. Hurtado from what he contributed to our history and what was accomplished. Because of his training by the Catholic Church ...he was in conflict much like Padre Hidalgo, Morales, Martinez, and most recently Father Saladini. Who chose to follow the dictates of their conscious and paid the price.

Like these other priests, Fr. Hurtado heard the cries of his people, saw the conditions that his people lived under and finally took that step that put him on the side of poor, the oppressed, and powerless...In 1970 ...there was nothing but oppression, repression, racism, and discrimination. There were no bishops, no politicians, no PHd's that we could turn to...At that historical time, is when Fr. Hurtado heard the cries of his people...including the cries of Los Catholics de la Raza, that were being drugged out of the catholic churches by the police being beaten and abused ...and were ignored by their church leaders. This happened in Los Angeles later it was to happen in San Diego. He made his decision that he could not stand by and see his peopled oppressed in that way.

It was at this time, that I first met Father Juan Hurtado...I found it strange to see a man of the cloth join with us at the take over of Neighborhood House....this was not a popular movement even among our own people. We were organized, condemned disrespected for during to stand up against an oppressive system...We derived morale support from seeing a Chicano Priest out there with us...it was as powerful as having a banner of the Virgin Guadalupe with us...for this he begin to be ostracized....Later he was there joining with us at the take over of the Centro Cultural by the Community and the Toltecas...he knew the symbolic importance of our community having its own cultural outlet. Later I saw him at the boycotts of the Safeway stores in 72 in support of the farm workers...he was not alone anymore walking and protesting with him was Sister Sara Murietta, who is here with us tonight. You must remember that at that time the institutionalized Catholic Church was opposed to Cesar Chavez and helping the farm workers.

I remember him with the poor people marching and protesting to save their homes and church, St. Anthony's, in National city...he sided with the people. The city of National City didn't care about the human cost involved in bulldozing hundreds of homes in order to put in a few junkyards, and car lots on the Westside.

The year was 1972, the issue of immigration was surfacing, the

San Diego police Department under the leadership of Police Chief Ray Hoobler, began to assume the role of "la migra" needless to say without any federal authority whatsoever. He authorized his officers to stop Mexicans either legal or illegal there was no way to tell the differences...acting much like Hitler's Nazis, they raided our churches, seek alleged aliens... after chicanos leaders appeared before the S.D. city council, Fr. Hurtado, representing Padre Hidalgo Center, stated that the Church community was greatly disturbed and angered at the full Gospel Mission Church, the SDPD entered the church stopped the religious services and begin to look for brown looking individuals. The "raid" resulted in the arrests of 7 or 8 persons, who were subsequently deported to Mexico. Hurtado in one of his strongest condemnations said for the world to hear "In allowing his police department to seek and seize illegal aliens in churches..." in doing so he violated the sacred privacy of churches and presented a very serious threat to freedom of worship...once again his Church, was strangely silent of this abuse of its Mexican parishioners.

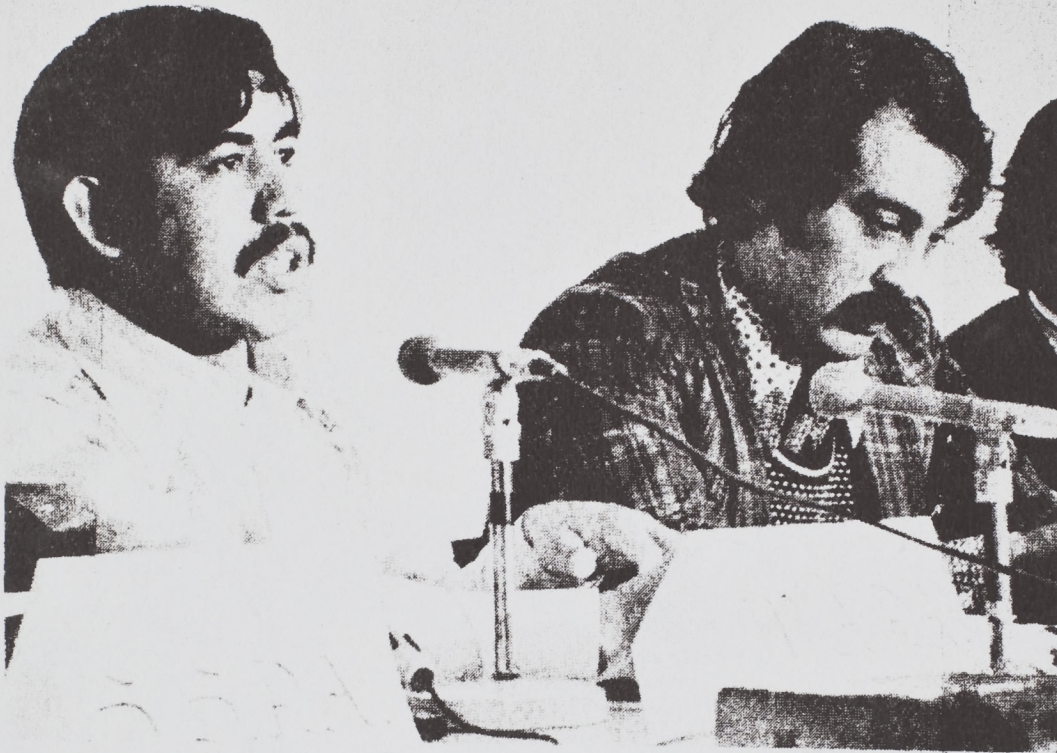
In 1975 Fr. Hurtado fought with us against the most unpopular issue, at least in the White community, POLICE BRUTALITY in 1975 when the police in National city shot a 19 year old Puerto Rican in the back for allegedly stealing purse that contained a \$1.19. Luis Tato River was killed by the racist actions of a White Cop working for a police force that acted as a occupying force in National city. Two thousand people marched to condemn this brutal slaying of a young man, that was seen as totally unwarranted...Among those leading the march was Father Juan Hurtado. Once again their church was silent. Once again, the church gave tacit approval by their silence that IT WAS OK TO BEAT AND KILL MEXICAN AMERICANS.

In 1977, when our community on both sides of the border was being threatened by the announcement by they KKK (KU KLUX KLAN) Fr. Hurtado marched led his people in prayer giving them spiritual strength in their protest march with chicano leaders from through out the United States and locally (such as Burt Corona, Corky Gonzalez and 10,000 people rallied at the U.S- Mexican border stating publicly that we would not stand by quietly and allow a known racist bigoted organization state that they were going to patrol the border as a pseudo INS force.

In 1978, in St Anthony's church hall, where the Tato Rivera march first originated, he once again provided the support, guidance and his prayers giving support to Chavez and the farm workers who were fighting to get PROP 14 passed (the initiative that established the Labor Relations Board that today protects the farm workers of California).

This is the Father Hurtado that I knew Fr. Hurtado was a man of conscious, of great empathy, courage, kindness, a great warrior like Hidalgo, Morales,I had the privilege of knowing Fr. Hurtado and the good fortune of speaking with him when he confronted what would be his greatest adversary... cancer. several

HE
was 746
0214 016
CHAVEZ was
silence



ANGRY CHICANOS Herman Baca of the Mexican-American Political Assoc. (left) and Luis Natividad of the Chicano Federation answer questions from the press at a news conference held to discuss their demands that San Diego Police Chief Ray Hoobler be fired.

Chicanos urge City to fire police chief

The Ad Hoc Committee on Chicano Rights has called on "the San Diego City Council to 'fire' San Diego Chief of Police Ray Hoobler."

This most recent action by the Chicano organizations was prompted by the Police Department's ever-mounting "violations of civil and constitutional rights of Mexican-Americans through the apprehension of illegal aliens," stated their press release.

Herman Baca, Director of the Mexican-American Political

Association (MAPA) declared last Thursday in his address to Mayor Pete Wilson and the City Council.

"We are here today not to beg not to ask ... but to demand" the firing of Chief Hoobler. "You have

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6-20-73
View Point

Chicanos urge city

(Continued from page A - 2)

unified us"... by assaulting us, Baca exclaimed.

Mayor Wilson's reply to Baca was given in a motion to the City Council. "I move to refer this to the City Manager and the City Attorney ... so the policy of the city can be clearly explained." Wilson added that Baca could meet with the city officials if it is his desire to do so.

At the Chicanos' press conference, the director of MAPA said he would discuss with the Ad Hoc committee whether or not to meet with the city officials. But "under no circumstances" would they rescind their demand that Hoobler be fired; even if Hoobler declares a "hands-off policy" as did County Sheriff Duffy.

Hoobler's most recent memorandum, dated May 17, "clarifying" the Police Department's policy on illegal aliens stated that "officers should not go out of their ... routine duties ... to look for violations of federal alien laws."

When asked if Baca felt this "clarification" in actuality changed the Department policy, he answered a definite "No" saying they were just words; their actions do not follow that policy.

Father Juan Hurtado, representing Padre Hidalgo Center at the conference, declared that the Church Community is also "greatly disturbed and angered" by the Police Department's action.

Last Wednesday, June 13, "there was a calculated police raid at the full Gospel Mission Church on 441 Fifth Ave. They entered the Church, ... stopped the religious service and began to look for brown looking individuals..." Father Hurtado stated. The "raid" resulted in the arrest of "seven or eight" and their sub-

sequent deportation to Mexico.

"In allowing his police department to seek and seize 'illegal aliens' in Churches," Hurtado said, Hoobler has done the following:

1) violated the sacred privacy of churches

2) aroused an angered community

3) presented a very serious threat to freedom of worship

4) ventured on a very dangerous course that might ... lead to a class suit against the City of San Diego."

Chief Hoobler told of his knowledge of the Church incident: "A citizen flagged down one of our patrol cars," the Chief explained telling them that a group of aliens had entered the Rescue Mission (Gospel Mission Church). The officers subsequently entered the Church and apprehended suspects who were later found to be in this country illegally.

The action, Hoobler stated, "was not self-initiated," took place in the course of their routine duties and therefore was within the frame-work of the Department's policy. He added that he does not know of 2 cases which one of his men initiate results in the apprehension of an illegal alien.

Asked to comment on the Chicano's demand that he be fired, Hoobler stated "I serve at the will and pleasure of the City Manager. ... if in the performance of my duties I fail to live up to" the ideals of the City Manager, it is entirely possible that my service would be terminated.

Yet the Chief did not believe he would be fired because of his Department's policy on illegal aliens. His policy, he stated, was approved by the U.S. Justice Department and by the City and will not be changed.