



## «To die with Him»: the Spanish Legion parades through Málaga, between faith and eternal oath to the Christ of the Good Death

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Málaga is not just a city in celebration. It is an open-air theater where faith, national identity, and military spirit merge into a single, powerful representation. On Holy Thursday, the scene is all theirs: **the legionnaires of the Spanish Legion**.

Amid applause, shouts, and an almost feverish anticipation, the Legion made its entrance into the city as per tradition, marching compactly to the plaza de Fray Alonso de Santo Tomás. Here, hundreds of people welcomed the soldiers with an energy that goes beyond folklore: it is emotional participation, it is belonging.

### The Christ of the legionnaires

At the center of it all is Him: the Christ of the Good Death, a spiritual and identity symbol of the Legion. Not just a simple sacred image, but a moral reference, a fixed point for those who have chosen a life of discipline, sacrifice, and risk.

Since 2000, He has been officially the protector of the Legion, but the bond goes much further back. **Every year, His transfer and subsequent procession represent one of the most intense moments of the Andalusian Holy Week.**

The night before, something extraordinary was already in the air. People camped in front of the Congregation of Mena just to secure a front-row seat. A scene that tells much more than a thousand words: the tradition is not only alive, it has become a mass phenomenon.

“This is starting to surpass us,” admitted those who have lived this reality for decades. And it is not an exaggeration. Participation grows year after year, transforming a historical event into an almost epochal appointment.

## **“The bridegroom of death”: when the square becomes a single voice**

The legionnaires arrived by sea, aboard the amphibious transport ship Galicia (L51), then headed towards the heart of the city. A perfect choreography, marked by the rhythm of cornets and drums, accompanying every step with military precision.

**It is not just a march: it is a language. It is the way the Legion communicates what it represents.**

The most powerful moment comes when the first notes of *The bridegroom of death* resound. It is no longer just a song: it is a collective rite.

Hundreds of people, civilians and military, sing together. One voice, one breath. It is here that the distance between the people and the Armed Forces completely disappears.

There is no spectacle, there is participation. There is no audience, there is community.

## **A symbol that withstands time between tradition, institutions, and identity**

Civil, military, and religious authorities were present at the ceremony. Among them was the bishop of Málaga, who emphasized how that Christ “is not just a sculpture, but a presence that speaks and supports.”

Words that perfectly capture the essence of the event: it is not just religion, it is not just tradition. It is something deeper, touching identity, memory, and belonging.

**In an era where everything changes rapidly, the Legion in Málaga represents one of the few certainties left.** A rite that renews itself every year, but maintains its strength intact.

It is the demonstration that some traditions not only endure but become stronger. Because they speak a universal language: that of honor, sacrifice, and faith.

And when the square shouts “¡Viva España! ¡Viva la Legión!”, it is not just enthusiasm. It is identity.

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