

25th GENERAL CHAPTER
Phase I - 2016



Copiosa Apum Fum Redemptio
To Preach the Gospel Ever Anew

**REPORT OF
THE POSTULATOR GENERAL
TO
THE 25TH GENERAL CHAPTER**

(OFFICIAL TEXT)

Over the past seven years, the Postulator General has worked to achieve the beatification of the six Redemptorist Martyrs of Cuenca; to obtain the Decree of the Holy Father regarding the heroic virtues of three Redemptorists (Janauschek, Pelagius, Losito), thus concluding the phase concerning the legal investigation into the life, virtues and reputation of sanctity of those concerned; and to begin the Cause of Canonization of a Slovak confrere of the Greek-Catholic rite (Mastiliak).

During the same period, two [ordinary] processes regarding a miracle as well as a Supplementary one were held, the preparation of the position regarding the virtues and eventual miracles of other active causes went ahead, and, in consultation with experts of the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints, various cases of presumed miraculous cures attributed to our candidates were examined.

Finally, after a long journey, it was possible to bring about the promulgation of the Decree on the heroic virtues, and the Cause for the beatification, of Maria Celeste Crostarosa, Foundress of the Redemptoristines. Her beatification will almost certainly be celebrated in 2016

Below is presented a chart of the Causes of Canonization currently being treated by the Office of the Postulator General, outlining the developments from 2009 up to the present (May 2015).

STATE OF THE VARIOUS CAUSES

1. THE "BLESSED"

In each case, a miracle is required for the cause to proceed to canonization.

1. Blessed **PETER DONDERS** (1805-1887), professed priest [Netherlands].

In recent years there has been significant interest in this cause, particularly in the Netherlands and Surinam. Currently investigations of some cases of healing are under way to assess their extraordinary nature in view of the requirement of a miracle for the process of Canonization.

2. Blessed **KASPAR STANGGASSINGER** (1871-1899), professed priest [Germany]

3. Blessed **GENNARO MARIA SARNELLI** Gennaro (1702-1744), professed priest [Italy].

4. Blessed **FRANCIS XAVIER SEELOS** (1819-1867), professed priest [USA].

2009 - V - 19: The Process, was opened in the Diocese of Baltimore (USA), regarding the alleged miraculous healing from cancer of the esophagus attributed to the intercession of Blessed Francis.

2010 - IX - 30: The closing of the Diocesan Process regarding the miracle.

2010 - X - 8: The promulgation by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints of the Decree opening the [Congregational] process regarding the miracle.

Since the person healed died of pneumonia four years after the disappearance of the tumor, it was not possible to ascertain definitively that the healing was complete and lasting.

At the moment we are gathering the documentation relating to two cases of alleged miraculous cures attributed to the intercession of Blessed Francis.

BLESSED MARTYRS - GREEK CATHOLIC church

5. Blessed **MYKOLA ČARNECKYJ** (1884-1959), Bishop, Apostolic Exarch of Volyn 'and Pidljashja, martyr [Ukraine].
6. Blessed **VASYL VELYČKOVSKYJ** (1903-1973), bishop of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, martyr [Canada].
7. Blessed **ZYNOVIJ KOVALYK** (1903-1941) professed priest, martyr [Ukraine].
8. Blessed **IVAN ZIATYK** (1899-1952), professed priest, martyr [Ukraine].
9. Blessed **METODIJ DOMINIK TRČKA** (1886- 1959), professed priest, martyr [Slovakia].

BLESSED MARTYRS OF CUENCA [Spain]

10. Blessed **JOSÉ JAVIER GOROSTERRAZU JAUNARENA** (1877-1936), professed priest, and FIVE COMPANIONS - MARTYRS:

Blessed **CIRIACO OLARTE Y PÉREZ DE MENDIGUREN** (1893-1936), professed priest;
 Blessed **GOÑI MIGUEL ARIZ** (1902-1936), professed priest;
 Blessed **JULIÁN POZO Y RUIZ DE SAMANIEGO** (1920-1936), professed priest;
 Blessed **PEDRO ROMERO ESPEJO** (1871-1938), professed priest;
 Blessed **VÍCTOR (VICTORIANO) CALVO LOZANO** (1896-1936), professed lay brother

- 2011 - VI - 11:** The Congress of Theological Consultors on the martyrdom of the six Servants of God. The Congress ended with a unanimous positive vote
- 2012 - XI - 6:** The Ordinary Congregation of Cardinals and Bishops on the Affirmation of martyrdom. The Ordinary ended with a unanimous positive vote.
- 2012 - XII - 20:** Benedict XVI authorized the promulgation of the Decree affirming Martyrdom.
- 2013 - X - 13:** Beatification celebration in Tarragona (Spain), presided over by the Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. During the celebration, 522 martyrs killed in the years 1936-1939 were beatified.

In collaboration with the Province of Madrid a folder with the approved portraits of the six new blessed was commissioned .

The resultant product has the same layout as the folders printed in the past of other Redemptorist saints and blessed.

2. The “Venerable”

In the following cases a miracle is required to proceed to the beatification phase.

11. Venerable **GIUSEPPE ARMANDO PASSERAT** (1772-1858), professed priest [France].

12. Venerable **MICHELE DI NETTA** (1787-1849), professed priest [Italy].

13. Venerable **ALFREDO PAMPALON** (1867-1896), professed priest [Canada].

14. Venerable **GUGLIELMO JANAUSCHEK** (1859-1926), professed priest [Austria].

2013 - IV - 24: The Congress of Theological Consultors on the life, virtues and reputation of sanctity of the Servant of God. The Congress ended with a unanimous positive vote.

2014 - IV - 15: The Ordinary Congregation of Cardinals and Bishops regarding the Affirmation of virtues. The Ordinary ended with a unanimous positive vote.

On the afternoon of the same day, Pope Francis authorizes the promulgation of the Decree on the heroic virtues, declaring Fr. Janauschek “Venerable.”

15. Venerable **PELAGIO SAUTER** (1878-1961), professed priest [Brazil].

2008 - XI - 4: Closure, in the Diocese of Goiânia, of the supplementary process regarding an alleged miraculous healing attributed to the intercession of the Servant of God.

2008 - XI - 18: The promulgation by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints of the Decree opening the supplementary process regarding the presumed miraculous healing.

2010 - X - 29: The Promulgation by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints of the Decree of Validity of the Acts of the supplementary process.

2012 - VI - 27: Two Medical Experts, appointed by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, deliver their opinions regarding the alleged miraculous healing.

Both Experts express a negative opinion, and conclude that, in the light of the documents collected, the healing is to be considered explainable according to current scientific knowledge.

In the light of new investigations, work begins to review the case of healing by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

2013 - II - 14: A Congress of Theological Consultors on the life, virtues and reputation of sanctity of the Servant of God.

- The Congress, while ending with a unanimous positive vote, recorded a positive vote with reservation by one of the nine Consultors. They call for further archival documentation, designed to lead to a deeper awareness of the virtuous acts of the Servant of God, and the drafting of a documented biography that satisfies the demands of historical criticism.
- 2014 - III - 25:** The responses of the Postulator are accepted by the Consultor theologian, who changed his vote from positive with reservation to positive.
- 2014 - XI - 4:** Ordinary Congregation of Cardinals and Bishops on the Affirmation of his virtues. The Congregation expressed a unanimous positive vote.
- 2014 - XI - 7:** Pope Francis authorized the promulgation of the Decree regarding the heroic virtues, declaring Fr. Pelagius “Venerable.”
- 16. Venerable MARIA CELESTE CROSTAROSA** (1696-1755), professed religious, foundress of the Order of the Most Redeemer [Italian].
- 2011 - X - 10:** A request for the opening of the Diocesan Process regarding an alleged extraordinary healing attributed to the intercession of the Servant of God.
- The above process took place in the diocese of Foggia from 4 January to 23 July 1987 and concerns the healing of a perforated and badly infected ear.
- 2012 - V - 11:** A Congress of Theological Consultors concerning the life, virtues and reputation of sanctity of the Servant of God.
- The Congress, while ending with a unanimous positive vote, recorded reservations on the part of some Consultors. They requested a study clarifying the mystical experience of the Servant of God; a deeper study of the religious-historical context of the period in which she lived; an updated bibliography to include the documents and studies published since 1996, the year of completion of the Position regarding her virtues, up to the present time and, finally, an updated report on her reputation for sanctity as attested over the last decade.
- 2012 - IX - 15:** The responses of the Postulator were accepted by the theological consultors, who changed their vote from positive with reservations to positive.
- 2013 - V - 7:** Meeting of the Ordinary Congregation of Cardinals and Bishops concerning the Affirmation of her virtues. The meeting ended with a unanimous positive vote.
- 2013 - VI - 3:** Pope Francis authorized the promulgation of the Decree regarding the heroism of her virtues, declaring Maria Celeste Crostarosa “Venerable.”

2013 - XII - 6: The Congregation for the Causes of Saints promulgates a Decree declaring the validity of the legal acts of the process on the miracle.

2015 - II - 19: Meeting of the Medical Council regarding the alleged miraculous healing. The Congress ended with a unanimous positive vote.

The Congregation for the Causes of Saints decided that the Congress of Theological Consultors were to meet on June 9, 2015 to discuss the position regarding the eventual miracle.

If the Consultors, as is hoped, express a positive vote, there will be an Ordinary Congregation of Cardinals and Bishops. If the voting in this instance is also positive, the Pope will authorize the promulgation of the Decree affirming the miracle, thereby opening the way to proceed to the rite of beatification that probably will take place in Foggia in 2016.

3. Servants of God

17. Servant of God **FRANCISCO BARRECHEGUREN MONTAGUT** (1881-1957), professed priest [Spain].

It is expected that the case will proceed to the theological analysis of virtues.

18. Servant of God **ANTONIO LOSITO** (1838-1917) professed priest [Italy].

2014 - V - 15: The Congress of Theological Consultors regarding the life, virtues and reputation of sanctity of the Servant of God. The Congress ended with a unanimous positive vote.

The Congregation for the Causes of Saints has decided that the Ordinary Congregation of Cardinals and Bishops will meet on September 22, 2015. If on this occasion a positive opinion is given, the Pope will authorize the promulgation of the Decree regarding the heroism of his virtues, to declare Fr.. Losito "Venerable."

19. Servant of God **BERNARD LUBIENSKI** (1846-1933), professed priest [Poland].

It is expected that the case will proceed to the theological analysis of his virtues.

20. Servant of God **VITOR COELHO DE ALMEIDA** (1899-1987), professed priest [Brazil].

From 2010 to 2014, in the Diocese of Aparecida, the supplementary process regarding the writings of the Servant of God took place.

2014 - XI - 8: The promulgation by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints of the Decree opening the supplementary Process regarding his writings.

Pending the Decree on the legal validity of the acts of the process and the appointment of the Relator of the Cause, we are already working on the preparation of the position regarding his virtues.

At the same time, we are analyzing the documentation related to three alleged miraculous cures attributed to the intercession of the Servant of God, to determine if they can be considered inexplicable according to current scientific knowledge, and so meet the criteria for a miracle.

21. Servant of God **ISIDORO FIORINI** (1867-1956), professed priest [Italy].

We are working on drafting of the position regarding his virtuous life.

22. Servant of God **GIUSEPPE LEONE** (1829-1902), professed priest [Italy].

We are working on drafting of the position regarding his virtuous life.

Servants of God - MARTYRS OF MADRID [Spain]

23. Servants of God P. **VICENTE RENUNCIO TORIBIO** (1876-1936), and 11 COMPANIONS - MARTYRS:

Servant of God **ANTONIO GIRÓN GONZÁLEZ** (1871 - 1936), professed priest;

Servant of God **DONATO JIMÉNEZ VIVIANO** (1873 - 1936), professed priest;

Servant of God **CRESCENCIO ORTIZ BLANCO** (1881 - 1936), professed priest;

Servant of God **ÁNGEL MARTÍNEZ MIQUÉLEZ** (1907 - 1936?), Professed priest;

Servant of God **JOSÉ MARÍA URRUCHI ORTIZ** (1909 - 1936), professed priest;

Servant of God **BERNARDO (GABRIEL) SAIZ GUTIERREZ** (1896 to 1936), professed lay brother;

Servant of God **JOSÉ JOAQUÍN (PASCUAL) INSAUSTI ERVITI** (1902-1936), professed lay brother;

Servant of God **NICASIO PÉREZ DEL PALOMAR QUINCOCES** (1859 - 1936), professed lay brother;

Servant of God **GREGORIO ZUGASTI FERNÁNDEZ** (1884 - 1936), professed lay brother;

Servant of God **ANICETO LIZASOAIN LIZASO** (1877 - 1936), professed lay brother;

Servant of God **RAFAEL (MÁXIMO) PEREA PINEDO** (1903-1936), professed lay brother;

2010 - III - 24: The promulgation by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints of the Decree concerning Validity of the Acts of the Diocesan Process.

2010 - VI - 4: Appointment of the Relator of the Cause by the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints.

We are working on the drafting of the position regarding martyrdom.

24. Servant of God **ROMAN BAKHTALOV'S'KYJ** (1897-1985), professed priest [Ukraine].

25. Servant of God **JÁN IVAN MASTILIAK** (1911-1989), professed priest [Slovakia].

2015 - I - 31: In the Archeparchy of Prešov (Slovakia), the diocesan process examining the life, virtues and reputation of sanctity of the Servant of God has begun.

26. Servant of God **MARCEL VAN** (1928-1959), professed lay brother [Canada - France]
Currently, legal clarifications are underway to allow the Diocesan Process to begin.

27. Servant of God **GIOVANNI BATTISTA STOEGER** (1810-1883), professed lay brother [Austria]

Research is ongoing of the historical documents necessary for the study and drafting of the position regarding his virtues.

28. Servant of God **ROSARIO ADDUCA** (1793-1860), professed lay brother [Italy]

The cause is stalled because it lacks the research of historical documentation necessary for the study and drafting of the position regarding his virtues.

29. Servant of God **EMMANUELE RIBERA** (1811-1874), professed priest [Italy]

The cause is stalled because it lacks the research of historical documentation necessary for the study and drafting of the position regarding his virtues.

30. Servant of God **VITTORIO LOIODICE** (1834-1916), professed priest [Italy]

The cause is stalled because it lacks the research of historical documentation necessary for the study and drafting of the position regarding his virtues.

31. Servant of God **MARIA CONCEPTION BARRECHEGUREN GARCIA (CONCHITA)** (1905-1927), lay [Spain]

It is expected that the case will proceed to the theological analysis of the position regarding his virtues.

At the same time, the documentation relating to an alleged miraculous healing attributed to the intercession of the Servant of God is being analyzed, to determine if it can be considered inexplicable by current scientific knowledge, so as to meet the requirements of miracle.

32. Servant of God **ANTONIO SOLARI** (1861 to 1945), lay [Argentina]

The position regarding his virtues is currently being drafted.

THE OPENING OF NEW CASES

MANUEL GIL DE SAGREDO (1908-1952), professed priest [Spain].

Currently steps are being taken to collect the necessary documentation and to create the appropriate conditions in order to proceed with a process in the Diocese of Granada.

P. Antonio Marrazzo, CSsR

(The original text is in Italian.)