

The Road to Sainthood and the Canonization Process

All Christians are candidates for sainthood. At one time only martyrs were considered for sainthood. However, since about the fourth century, all people who lived lives of great charity and held Christian heroic virtues worthy of imitation have been candidates for sainthood.

The canonization process consists of three steps. A pope has the ability to waive the requirement of a miracle being required prior to a martyr's beatification, but one is required before canonization.

Venerable – this is the title given to a deceased person formally recognized by the pope, after review from the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, as having lived a life of heroic virtues or martyrdom.

Blessed – once it is established that the individual has met the requirements and is considered a Venerable, to be beatified and recognized a Blessed, one miracle must be acquired through the candidate's intercession. This is a lengthy process of scrutiny.

Saint – in order to be made a saint, canonization requires that a second miracle take place after the beatification.

Four stages in the process to Sainthood

Stage One: Examining the Life of the Candidate for Sainthood

For a candidate's cause for sainthood to begin, five years must pass from the time of their death. This allows time to provide greater objectivity in evaluating the case. The waiting period is not mandatory and can be dispensed by the pope which is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

The cause for sainthood is started by the local bishop where the candidate died. Often this bishop will consult with his fellow bishops to solicit their opinions on the merit and timeliness of introducing the cause. Once the decision to proceed is made, the local bishop asks the Vatican to open the investigation. Once permission is granted and an investigation is opened, a 'nihil obstat' is obtained from the Holy See and a diocesan tribunal is set up. Witnesses are then called to recount concrete facts regarding the Christian virtues which made the candidate an outstanding role model of the faith. In addition, all documents written by and about the candidate are gathered and examined and the general public is petitioned asking for anyone with knowledge of the candidate to come forward.

Stage Two: Congregation for the Causes of Saints

Once the diocesan investigation has concluded, the documentation is sent to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome. Here a public copy of the information is put together which summarizes the heroic exercise of virtue or martyrdom of the individual. This summary then is examined by nine theologians who give their vote. If the majority of theologians are in favour, the cause is passed on for examination by the Congregation's cardinals and bishops. If their judgment is favourable, the prefect of the

Congregation presents the results to the pope, who gives his approval and authorizes the congregation to draft a decree. At this stage the candidate becomes "Venerable".

Stage Three: Beatification

For a Venerable to become a beatified "Servant of God", a miracle must be attributed to his/her intercession. The required miracle must be proven through the appropriate canonical investigation following a similar procedure to that for heroic virtues. If authenticated, a decree is granted. Once the two decrees are granted (regarding the heroic virtues/martyrdom and the miracle) the Holy Father decides on beatification, giving the candidate the title "Blessed". This title allows for limited public veneration, often limited to the diocese, region, or religious community in which the Servant of God lived.

Stage Four: Canonization

For canonization another miracle is needed, attributed to the intercession of the Blessed and having occurred after his/her beatification. This miracle is verified in the same way as done for the beatification. Canonization is required for the public veneration in the Universal Church and with canonization, the Blessed acquires the title of Saint.

Congratulations & Thanks!



Congratulations to GINA HICBAN who won \$75.00 in the 50/50 draw (license # M722135) held on July 26 at the Salesianfest.

Gina graciously donated her winnings to St. Benedict's. All proceeds to support the St. Benedict Parish Building Fund.

Thanks to all who supported the draw!

An Invitation to Catholic Marriage Encounter Weekend September 13 – 15, 2013

The BLD Marriage Encounter Weekend is your opportunity to rediscover the joy and excitement in your marriage. It is an opportunity to look carefully and deeply into your relationship with each other and with God.

Fr. Dominik Mbah, MSP
Mount Mary Immaculate Retreat Centre, Ancaster, ON
Sponsored By:
BLD (Bukas Loob sa Diyos) Covenant Community

For details, call Nini 416-671-9886 or Richie 416-567-5555

Civic Holiday Schedule

Monday August 5

- no 8:00 am Mass this day
- 9:30 am Morning Prayer in Chapel
- 10:00 am Mass

Parish Office Closed

THANK YOU!

On behalf of the campers and staff we take this opportunity to thank you, parishioners, supporters, and friends of SummerDaze for your prayers and support during this camp season.



We had a blast celebrating our 25th year of SummerDaze and look forward to the next 25 years and beyond.

Please continue to keep our campers and staff in your prayers and again, THANK YOU.

The SummerDaze Admin Team 2013
Follow us on Twitter: @salesianYMTO

St. Benedict Parish Capital Campaign

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN / OUTSTANDING DEBT
as at July 7, 2013 **\$199,284.28**

LESS LOAN REPAYMENT **(\$ 3,503.00)**

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN / OUTSTANDING DEBT
as at August 1, 2013 **\$195,781.28**

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

SUNDAY OFFERING **\$7,601** AVERAGE ENV DONATION **\$14.27**

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING (PAG) MONTH OF JULY 2013

SUNDAY OFFERING	\$1,687.65
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN OFFERING	\$ 178.00
SHARELIFE	\$ 83.00
TOTAL	\$1,948.65

Thank you for your ongoing generous support!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, August 5

8:00am Cancelled
10:00am Living Intention for Anna Maria Tuzi by family

Tuesday, August 6

10:30am Mass at Kipling Acres
7:30pm Mario & Osvaldo D'Andrea by Aldo & Marisa
Anna Mariani by Aldo & Marisa
Elda Pernia by Bernadette Morgan
Domenico Cafiero by Angelo & Grace Cafiero

Wednesday, August 7

8:00am Gabriele DiCintio by Terri, John, Andrew & Lauren

Thursday, August 8

8:00am For Special Favours Received from
Our Lady of the Snow by Theresa

Friday, August 9

8:00am Living Intention for Mary Browning
by Joseph & Josephine Muscat & family

Saturday, August 10

8:00am David Cecavac by family
5:00pm Clarence Grostate by Jackie Halge

Sunday, August 11

8:00am Maria Hubert by Bzoma family
9:30am Marino Moras by Moras family
9:30am For the People
11:00am Maria Dos Anjos & Jose Sequeira by Delcine



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD, ESPECIALLY:
JEAN HELEN WOJCIK

Catholic Missions in Canada/ Scarborough Foreign Mission

Next weekend's second collection is the annual diocesan collection for Catholic Missions in Canada/Scarborough Foreign Mission. Special envelopes are in the pews today. Sunday envelope users are strongly encouraged to enter their envelope number in the space indicated.



The faith community of
St. Benedict welcomes

**Nicole Asuncion &
Isabelle Alleluia**

May you always walk in the
footsteps of the Lord.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

We are in need of a bicycle for an adult male.

Thank you for your continued
and generous support.

Call Josephine Muscat at
416-743-3830 ext 3.