

**Media Release: Official announcement of the beatification of Pauline Jaricot**

Fr Brian Lucas, National Director of Catholic Mission, has welcomed with great joy the announcement of the beatification of Pauline Jaricot, the founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Pope Francis has appointed Cardinal Luis Antonio Gokim Tagle, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples to preside over the beatification ceremony of Venerable Pauline Jaricot in Lyon on May 22, 2022.

Fr Brian says it is very fitting that Pauline Jaricot's beatification will occur during year marking the 200th anniversary of the foundation of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

"As a laywoman committed to supporting the missionary activities of the church, she reminds us that holiness is not confined to those in holy orders or members of religious congregations."

"Through her vision and energy, she established a network of prayer and support which continues to this day so that local churches in solidarity can assist those missionary churches that are in need, due to persecution, minority status, or lack of material resources."

"As we journey to the formal beatification ceremony in Lyon on 22 May 2022, we pray that her spirit will continue to enliven the Church in Australia to a true missionary outreach."

Pauline-Marie Jaricot (1799-1862), foundress of the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith, and known in Australia as Catholic Mission, was declared Venerable on February 25, 1963, by Saint John XXIII. On May 26, 2020, Pope Francis authorised the publication of the decree recognizing the miracle attributed to her intercession opening the path to her beatification.

The miracle approved by the decree of Pope Francis took place in 2012, on the 150th anniversary of Pauline's birth. Three-year-old Mayline Tran became unconscious due to suffocation caused by food. The little girl, hospitalised, was considered dead, but the family refused to stop artificial life assistance and began a novena to Pauline Jaricot. Shortly thereafter, the little girl woke up and, against all hope, completely recovered.

The beatification ceremony will take place during the General Assembly of the national directors of the Pontifical Mission Societies which has been relocated from Rome to Lyon where Pauline lived.

Learn more about the work of missionaries around the world, responding to a call from Pope Francis, inspired by Acts 4:20: “For we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard”, in stirring message that we are still here still serving global communities: [www.catholicmission.org.au/wearestillhere](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/wearestillhere)

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**About Catholic Mission**

Catholic Mission is the Australian agency of the Pontifical Mission Societies – the Catholic Church’s global organisation dedicated to continuing Jesus Christ’s mission in the world: that all may have life to the full. Founded in Sydney in 1847, Catholic Mission contributes funding and project support to critical church-run initiatives in Africa, Asia, Oceania, and South America. These include spiritual formation, pastoral care, education, health, sanitation and agricultural programs. Here in Australia, we form people to go out and be missionary in their professional and personal lives; to pray, advocate and take action for those on the margins. Catholic Mission has offices in 27 Australian dioceses.