



For immediate release

Thursday, 26 May 2022

“You shall be my witness”: Catholic Mission celebrated the beatification of Pauline Jaricot.

On Sunday, May 22, Pauline Marie Jaricot was raised to the order of Blessed in the French city of Lyon, where she was both born a wealthy heiress and died poor, having embraced not material but spiritual wealth in the love of God.

The beatification took place in the Eurexpo Exhibition Hall in Lyon, with almost 12,000 people, including over 500 priests gathering to celebrate Pauline, an extraordinary woman who devoted her life to the work of Mission as one of the founders of the organisation today known as Catholic Mission. The beatification was presided over by Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, the prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, at the direction of Pope Francis.

Founder of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, one of the works of Catholic Mission, Pauline was a person of great faith, bold courage and generous creativity. She inspired this great work of global mission.

“Pauline dedicated her life to the mission, to the service of the poor and to prayer,” wrote Pope Francis in the letter read during the beatification.

The wondrous cure of Mayline Tran, a young French girl, was the first miracle that paved the way for the recognition of Pauline as blessed.

At the age of 3, Mayline severely choked on food, which resulted in her body being deprived of oxygen. Mayline suffered a heart attack and fell into a coma. Once the Students from the Catholic school that Mayline attended heard of Her dire situation they organized a prayer novena asking for Pauline’s intercession for her healing.

Mayline’s recovery was medically inexplicable. She did not suffer any disability or side effects and made a full recovery. It was deemed by a panel of experts as a medical miracle. This event led the family to embrace the love of God and return to their faith.

Fr Brian Lucas, Catholic Mission National Director who attended the beatification and met Mayline and her family said, “It was particularly inspiring to hear her father explain how the experience of the miracle led him to be baptised and how much the faith and love of those close to his family had grown.”

In an expression of her faith and gratefulness, the procession was led by Mayline, who presented Pauline’s wooden cross and the relic of Pauline’s heart onto the altar.

The beatification of Pauline Jaricot marks a key milestone in her journey to become a Saint. Another miracle needs to be recognized by the Church as another significant step in the process of her cause for Canonization.

It has also been an occasion to focus on the immense work of mission that Pauline has inspired over the last 200 years that has witnessed God’s mission of love for humanity and creation.

ENDS

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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. 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 act for those on the margins. Catholic Mission has offices in 27 Australian dioceses.