

# Mother Teresa takes first steps to sainthood

The process of beatification has begun for Mother Teresa of Calcutta – the Albanian nun who spent her life caring for the dying in India's slums – with an inquiry into her life and holiness. Despite the waiving of the customary five-year period after death for the process to begin, it is likely to take many years before she is declared a saint

## The path to becoming a saint

### 'Ordinary inquiries' into life of Mother Teresa

Held by Archbishop of Calcutta to ensure:

1. Reputation for a life of **sanctity and miracles**
2. Subject is not focus of worship
3. Written/spoken views (i.e. recorded interviews) not contrary to faith or morals

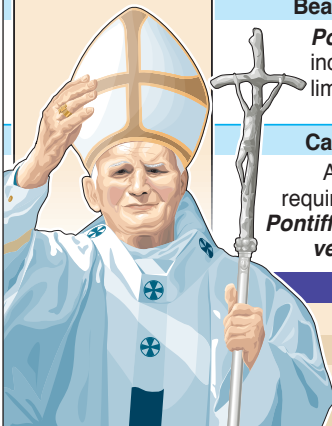


Diocesan report sent to **Congregation for the Causes of Saints** (appointed by the Church) in Rome. Nine Vatican theologians examine proof of heroic virtue.

If **Congregation** votes in favour, **Pope** decrees Servant of God '**Venerable**'

### Sanctity

Life of heroic virtue – theological (faith, hope, charity) and cardinal (prudence, justice, fortitude, temperance)



### Apostolic inquiries

Bishops outside Rome asked for proof of sanctity and miracles.

**Pope** and **Congregation** vote on reports

### Beatification (*Blessed*)

**Pope** gives permission to include in public worship, e.g. limited to a particular Mass

### Canonization (*Saint*)

Another miracle is required after beatification.  
**Pontiff commands universal veneration of Saint**

### Miracles

For beatification, a miracle, verified after death and proven by canonical investigation – involving qualified physicians – is required



### Cost of sainthood\*

Beatification	\$20,000
Canonization	\$30,000
Vatican ceremony	\$43,000
Total	\$93,000

\*Expenses for canonization of Anthony Maria Zaccaria and Peter Fourier in 1913