

Mother Teresa's path to sainthood

The canonization of Mother Teresa marks the culmination of several steps that can take centuries but, in her case, have been hastened to a mere 19 years

Sep 5, 1997: Mother Teresa, born as **Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu** on August 26, 1910, dies from heart attack

"SAINTHOOD CAUSE"

- **Oct 1997:** Archbishop **Henry D'Souza** of Kolkata petitions Vatican to waive usual delay of five years after death before initiating beatification process
- **Jul 1999:** Diocesan inquiry into "saint of the gutters" starts to gather eyewitness accounts attesting to Mother Teresa's virtuous life
- **Aug 2001:** Report on "reputation of sanctity" delivered to Vatican's **Congregation for the Cause of Saints**



FIRST MIRACLE

- **Oct 2002:** Congregation approves report of miracle attributed to Mother Teresa – overnight recovery of Indian woman suffering from stomach cancer after prayers to Mother Teresa in 1998, on first anniversary of nun's death
- **Dec:** After consulting panel of doctors, Vatican judges cure to be result of Mother Teresa's supernatural intervention



BEATIFICATION

- **Oct 19, 2003:** More than 250,000 people crowd into St. Peter's Square as **John Paul II** proclaims Mother Teresa blessed – just six years after her death

SECOND MIRACLE

- **Dec 2015:** **Pope Francis** clears way for Mother Teresa's canonization by approving decree recognising second miracle attributed to her intercession with God – healing of Brazilian man who recovered from severe brain infection in 2008



CANONIZATION

- **Sep 4, 2016:** Mother Teresa made saint in ceremony expected to draw hundreds of thousands of pilgrims to Rome