

PRESS RELEASE
BEATIFICATION OF PAULINE JARICOT

For immediate release

Missio is very excited for the upcoming beatification of one of our founders, Venerable Pauline Jaricot, on 22 May 2022 in Lyon, France. This will be a day of prayer and celebration for the global Missio family, and the whole Church.

Pauline Jaricot

Born in 1799, Pauline Jaricot was a remarkable young lay woman with formidable faith. Through her resolution and strong beliefs, she founded Missio's Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF) aged just 23 years, which makes her one of Missio's founders.

The England and Wales branch of the APF was formed in 1825 and Pauline's legacy continues here today through the Red Box scheme, which is a partnership between Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries.

Pauline Jaricot had a passion for helping to support missionaries around the world. She believed that if we all give a little and pray a little, we can share God's love throughout the world. You can find more details of Pauline's life, and download resources to celebrate this wonderful occasion with your parish, school or community at missio.org.uk/pauline

The journey to Sainthood

Pauline Jaricot was recognised as *Venerable*, meaning that it was recognised that she lived a virtuous life, in 1963 by Pope John XXIII. It is an important initial step towards being recognised as a Saint in the Catholic Church.

Beatification is the second major stage. For this step, a miracle through the candidate's intercession must be recognised.

In Pauline's case this happened in May 2012. A three-and-a-half-year-old girl named Mayline, from Lyon, choked on food and suffocated. Unable to resuscitate her, doctors explained that she was 'brain dead' and that she would die in the next few weeks.

Upon hearing the news, pupils and parents of Mayline's school decided to ask for Pauline Jaricot's intercession by praying a novena for Mayline's recovery. At the same time, as Mayline lay in a coma hooked up to a feeding tube and respiratory machines her parents had begun looking for a child-sized coffin.

Soon afterwards the doctors were surprised to confirm that Mayline's condition had changed – indeed, she was coming back to life. Mayline was released from the hospital in December, fully healed.

Doctors have been unable to explain the change in her health. Mayline's parents are convinced of the intervention of Pauline Jaricot. A diocesan enquiry occurred in 2019, where a medical board validated the miracle of healing, and the theological commission certified the intervention of Pauline Jaricot in the full recovery of little Mayline.

Mayline's miracle has led to Pauline Jaricot's Beatification. For the final step, *Canonisation*, a second miracle will need to be recognised.

A worldwide celebration

Because Pauline Jaricot is such an important figure in the global Missio family, celebrations, masses and events will be happening around the world to mark her beatification, which coincides with the 200th anniversary of the APF.

In England and Wales, Missio will be holding special Masses throughout the year across the dioceses. You can find details of these at <https://missio.org.uk/mission-masses-and-events/>

Missio is filled with joy at this special event, which recognises a woman who has shown us that small and simple initiatives, which bring people together in prayer and faith, really can change the world.

Missio: today, tomorrow, together

As the Pope's official charity for world mission, Missio enables Catholics in England and Wales to live out the call received at Baptism: to share God's love across the world.

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Notes to editors:

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Please get in touch with Michelle for more information and hi-res images.

Missio worldwide supports every mission diocese overseas (1,070) until they are self-sufficient.

Missio ignites God's love by helping missionaries to work alongside communities globally that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief.

Sometimes this need might be very specific: a motorbike for a priest to celebrate Mass in remote villages; a simple community hall so people can gather together; vaccinations to protect vulnerable children. Whatever our missionaries need to help them share the joy of the Gospel, Missio strives to provide it.

We are proud to be the Pope's charity for world mission.

By supporting Missio, you play a valuable part in creating a vibrant Catholic Church for the future.

By volunteering, raising or donating funds, and by praying with children, grandchildren or students, YOU make our mission possible.

Together we are enriching today's global Catholic community.

Together we are training tomorrow's generation of priests and sisters.

Together we are giving hope to the world's poorest children.

Together we are Missio.