

# BEATIFICATION OUTREACH REPORT

## September 19, 2017

---

### April Activities

On April 1, 2017, Sister Jeanne Marie Toriskie gave a tour of the Heritage Hall of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, and the chapel of Our Lady of Victory Motherhouse to the Madonna Foundation scholars, high school students who have received scholarships from the Sisters to help these female students attend Catholic all-girls high school in the Chicagoland area. The Heritage Hall tour focused on the life and ministerial legacy of Mother Theresa, while the chapel tour included a prayerful visit to her sarcophagus.



On April 23, 2017, St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, the home parish of Mother Theresa, celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of founding. A featured part of the celebration included the blessing of a newly hand-carved statue of Mother Theresa and its placement within the church. Franciscan Sisters of Chicago in attendance at the event were: Sisters Joella Bielinski, Lois Marie Rossi, Emilie Marie Lesniak, and Jeanne Marie Toriskie. The pastor of St. Stanislaus Kostka, Rev. Anthony Bus, C.R., had a special medallion cast for the occasion. The medallion featured an image of the church on the front side, and an image of the new statue of Mother Theresa on the obverse. The Sisters were

delighted to receive the bronze commemorative medallion by mail on April 29, 2017.



## June Activities

With the popularity of websites to research one's family genealogy and with increased computer skills in the retired population in the United States of America, the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago have experienced for the first time requests from distant relatives of deceased Sisters seeking to know more about their family members. This has created an opportunity to introduce these family members to the Heritage Hall and to the life and legacy of Mother Theresa, whose religious congregation these family members had joined in a life-long vowed commitment. Tours were given by Sister Jeanne Marie to the Gorski family representative on June 5<sup>th</sup> and to the Jagiello family representative on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

On June 21<sup>st</sup> Sister Jeanne Marie gave a multi-media presentation of the life and charism of Mother Theresa to the several Associates who work at St. Joseph Village of Chicago, a sponsored ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, at the request of Dan Lunney, D.Min., the coordinator of Pastoral Care. Afterwards the group toured Heritage Hall and the chapel niche housing the sarcophagus of Mother Theresa. Each participant signed the guest book and received a gift bag filled with material and prayer cards regarding Mother Theresa. The tour was so well received that additional tours are being planned for the fall so that other Associates who missed this June tour would not miss the opportunity for this experience.

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Death of Venerable Mary Theresa Dudzik

In anticipation of the 100<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Mother Theresa which will occur on September 20, 2018, Sister Jeanne Marie has designed a series of monthly guides to help prepare for this day. Each guide includes an historic image from the life of Mother Theresa, an excerpt from her *Chronicle* detailing a spiritual challenge that she encountered, a quotation in which she gives her response to the challenge, together with reflection questions and suggested activities which bring her spiritual treasures to current application of life 100 years later. The Franciscan Sisters of Chicago invite all to use these guides found on their website, <http://www.chicagofranciscans.org>. The pastors at St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish (Rev. Anthony Bus, C.R. at the home parish of Mother Theresa) and St. Rene Parish (Rev. Thomas Bernas at his parish, due to his role as a member of the Archdiocesan Tribunal for her Cause) are making these guides available to their parishioners as inserts to their Sunday bulletins from September 2017 through September 2018. Sister Diane Marie Collins who works in campus ministry is using these guides with the students at the University of Illinois Chicago campus. The guides are also being used at all the facilities of Franciscan Ministries, the corporate sponsored ministries of the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago, through their Pastoral Care Departments.

## Ongoing activities

### Monthly Beatification Masses

Masses for the Cause of Beatification for Venerable Theresa Dudzik were offered at 9 AM at Our Lady of Victory Motherhouse in Lemont, IL by Fr. Tom Bernas on the following dates:

- February 18, 2017
- March 18, 2017

- May 20, 2017
- June 17, 2017
- July 15, 2017
- August 19, 2017
- September 16, 2017

These dates are scheduled for the third Saturday of each month so that those devoted to Mother Theresa's Cause can easily remember them and attend the Mass. The Sisters serve the participants a light brunch following the Mass.

On those same dates St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish in Chicago offers its 4pm Mass for the intention of promoting the Cause. At the conclusion of the Mass the entire congregation recites the Beatification Prayer.

Publicity ads for both venues are placed monthly in the *New World*, the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic newspaper.

### Website Promotion of the Cause

The **websites** devoted to the Cause of Venerable Theresa Dudzik continue to be open to the worldwide public. They are:

- <http://www.mothertheresadudzik.com/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cause-for-Beatification-of-Mother-Mary-Theresa-Dudzik/10150108119000019>

### Mother Theresa League and Guild

From January 1, 2017 to September 19, 2017 beatification petition envelopes have brought in \$671 from 29 donors. Membership dues have brought in \$1,130.51 from 102 memberships.

### Spiritual Enrollment Cards

Since February the spiritual enrollment cards have garnered \$1,530 from 101 donors.

### Inquiries and prayer requests from the Portal

#### Relic/Information Requests:

##### March 2017

Rev. Dawid Tyborski from **Poland** requested holy relics, holy cards and material about Mother Theresa Dudzik. Vicki sent out material on Mother Theresa Dudzik including the novena pamphlet, handmade medallions and a large pamphlet summarizing the life of Mother Theresa Dudzik. Rev. Tyborski was advised that these are not relics.

##### April 2017

Charles Pangilinan from the **Philippines** requested information on Mother Theresa. He wanted handmade

medals. Vicki sent material on Mother Theresa Dudzik and advised him that these are not relics.

### **May 2017**

Dennis Gabriel Tinambunan from **Indonesia** requested relics. Vicki sent out material on Mother Theresa Dudzik including the novena pamphlet, handmade medallions and a large pamphlet summarizing the life of Mother Theresa Dudzik. He was informed that these are not relics.

### **August 2017**

Fernando Paul Castro from the **Philippines** requested prayer cards, relic cards and other devotional materials. Vicki sent out material on Mother Theresa Dudzik including a novena pamphlet, handmade medallions and a large pamphlet summarizing the life of Mother Theresa Dudzik. He was informed that these are not relics.

Ronel C. Guinto from **Philippines** requested information on the life of Mother Theresa Dudzik. Vicki sent out material on Mother Theresa Dudzik including a novena pamphlet, handmade medallions and a large pamphlet summarizing the life of Mother Theresa Dudzik. He was informed that these are not relics.