

# Pope approves canonization of Blessed Henry Newman on Oct. 13

Pope Francis will declare Blessed John Henry Newman, the 19th-century British cardinal, a saint Oct. 13.

The British theologian will be canonized during a Mass at the Vatican along with a Swiss laywoman, an Indian nun, an Italian nun and a nun known as the "Mother Teresa of Brazil."

The date for the canonization Mass was announced July 1 during an "ordinary public consistory," a meeting of the pope, cardinals and promoters of sainthood causes that formally ends the sainthood process.



Blessed John Henry Newman Catholic News Service

Cardinal Newman's canonization also comes as [Newman Theological College in Edmonton celebrates its 50th anniversary](#).

While the details are still being finalized, NTC is planning an open house Oct. 9 and an alumni reunion next summer and to commemorate its 50th anniversary.

The college's lecture series, including the annual Anthony Jordan Lectures, this year will focus on topics directly related to Cardinal Newman.

Born in London in 1801, John Henry Newman was ordained an Anglican priest in 1825. He later founded the Oxford Movement, which emphasized the Catholic roots of Anglicanism.

After a series of clashes with Anglican bishops made him a virtual outcast from the Church of England, he joined the Catholic Church at the age of 44 and was ordained a Catholic priest in 1846. Pope Leo XIII made him a cardinal in 1879

while respecting his wishes not to be ordained a bishop.

A theologian and poet, he died in 1890 and his sainthood cause was opened in 1958. Pope Benedict XVI beatified him in Birmingham, England, in 2010.

The others who will be declared saints are:

– Blessed Dulce Lopes Pontes, who was a member of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception.

Born in 1914, she was known to Brazilian Catholics as Sister Dulce, the mother of the poor. She founded the first Catholic workers' organization in the state of Bahia, started a health clinic for poor workers and opened a school for working families. She created a hospital, an orphanage and care centers for the elderly and disabled.

She was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by then-President Jose Sarney in 1988. St. John Paul II, who called her work "an example for humanity," met her in 1980 during his first trip to Brazil and, returning in 1991, he visited her in the hospital. She died in 1992 at the age of 77 with tens of thousands attending her funeral and even more gathering for her beatification in 2011.

– Blessed Marguerite Bays, a laywoman from Switzerland known for her spirituality in the face of great physical suffering and for bearing the stigmata of Christ. She died in 1879.

– Blessed Josephine Vannini, co-founder the Daughters of St. Camillus, who served the sick and elderly. She died in 1911.

– Blessed Mariam Thresia Chiramel Mankidiyan, the Indian founder of the Sisters of the Holy Family, who died in 1926.