

Blessed Pauline Jaricot

Foundress of the Society for
the Propagation of the Faith
Beatified May 22, 2022



Pauline's Vision for the Missions

One day while at prayer, 18-year-old Pauline had a vision of two lamps. One had no oil; the other was overflowing and from its abundance poured oil into the empty lamp. To Pauline, the drained lamp signified the faith in her native France, still reeling from the turbulence of the French Revolution. The full lamp was the great faith of Catholics in the missions – especially in the New World. By aiding the faith of the young new country of the United States of America, Pauline knew that seeds planted would grow and bear much fruit.

Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Pauline came up with a plan to support missionaries. She gathered workers in her family's silk factory into "circles of 10." Everyone in the group pledged to pray daily for the missions and to offer each week a sou, the equivalent of a penny. Each member of the group then found 10 friends to do the same. Within a year, she had 500 workers enrolled; soon there would be 2,000. This work continued to grow, officially becoming the Society for the Propagation of the Faith on May 3, 1822. From the start, Pauline knew the Society must be for all the missions of the world.

By 1922, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith became Pontifical, with their headquarters moved to Rome, under the direction of the Pope.

Today, the Society continues to support the Church's over 1,100 mission dioceses in their evangelizing work.

Heart of a Missionary Film



Learn more about Blessed Pauline's life and legacy through this inspiring film at www.BlessedPauline.org

