

WORLD & NATION

Vatican confirms popes' fall beatification date

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican has confirmed that Pope Pius IX and Pope John XXIII will be beatified in a Sept. 3 ceremony, along with three other churchmen.

Archbishop Jose Saraiva Martins, prefect of the Congregation for Sainthood Causes, made the announcement Feb. 7 as he presided at a memorial Mass on the anniversary of Pope Pius' death.

Pope Pius, who reigned from 1846 to 1878, convoked the First Vatican Council, solemnly declared the dogma of Mary's Immaculate Conception and led the church during the rocky period in which the papacy lost its temporal control over Rome and the papal states.

Pope John, pontiff from 1958 to 1963, convoked the Second Vatican Council and presided over its first sessions. He wrote the landmark social encyclical, "Peace on Earth."

An Irish Benedictine abbot, the French founder of the Marianists and an Italian archbishop will be beatified along with the two popes during the September Mass, a congregation official said Feb. 8.

Benedictine Abbot Joseph Columba Marmion was born in Dublin in 1858 and

served as a pastor and seminary professor in Ireland before entering the Benedictines in Belgium in 1886. He was a well-known spiritual writer, focusing on Christ. Marmion Abbey in Aurora, Ill., is named after the abbot, who died in 1923.

Father William Joseph Chaminade was born in Perigueux, France, in 1761 and was ordained a priest in 1785. Exiled to Spain during the French Revolution, he had a vision of a new religious order dedicated to and inspired by Mary's example of service. He founded the Society of Mary after returning to France. A community was established in Dayton, Ohio, in 1849, the year before Father Chaminade's death.

Archbishop Tommaso Reggio of Genoa, Italy, was the founder of the Sisters of St. Martha. He died in 1901 at the age of 83.

The Congregation for Sainthood Causes also confirmed Feb. 8 the list of those who will be included in the two other beatification ceremonies on Pope John Paul II's Holy Year calendar.

The pope will beatify martyrs March 5 including: Sister Maria Stella Mardosewicz and 10 other Holy Family sisters killed in what is now Belarus in 1943; Father Andrea de Soveral and two dozen other priests and laypeople killed in

Brazil in 1645; Father Nicholas Kitbarrung, a Thai priest who died in prison during World War II; Peter Calungsod, a lay Filipino catechist killed in 1672 in Guam; and Andrew, a lay catechist killed in Vietnam in 1644.

At an April 9 ceremony, he will beatify Colombian Father Mariano Euse Hoyos, who died in 1926; Mother Elisabeth Hesselblad, the Swedish woman who re-es-

tablished the Bridgettine Sisters in the early 1900s; Mother Mariam Theresia Chiramel Mankidiyan, who founded southern India's Congregation of the Holy Cross in 1914; Redemptorist Father Francis Xavier Seelos, a German missionary to the United States in the mid-1800s; and Anna Rosa Gattorno, who founded the Daughters of St. Anne in Italy in the 19th century.



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