

## The Cause of Fr. Louis Querbes

As early as 2004, Philippe Cardinal Barbarin, Archbishop of Lyons, encouraged the Clerics of St. Viator (Viatorian Community) to undertake the process for the canonization of its founder, Fr. Louis Querbes. The levels of sanctity leading to canonization in the Roman Catholic Church are: *Servant of God*, *Venerable*, *Blessed* and *Saint*. A diocesan tribunal, appointed by Cardinal Barbarin in 2005, began the process by conducting studies on the life, writings and ministry of Fr. Querbes to determine the holiness of his priestly ministry and the theological soundness of his conferences and sermons.

Following three years of study, the tribunal favorably concluded its research into the holiness and the ministry of Fr. Querbes. On May 25, 2007 Cardinal Barbarin declared Fr. Louis Querbes, *Servant of God*. His Cause was then forwarded by Cardinal Barbarin to Rome.

At present, his Cause is under consideration by the Sacred Congregation for Saints to determine his personal sanctity. Some of this Roman effort will be new and other studies will confirmed the prior judgment. This process has steadily moved forward until the present. It is within the competence of the Sacred Congregation for Saints to recommend the title *Venerable*. If so, the ceremony ordinarily takes place in the home diocese of the person honored. For Fr. Querbes that would be the Archdiocese of Lyons. A proven miracle is necessary for *Beatification* and an additional miracle is required for *Canonization for Sainthood*. Both titles, *Blessed* and *Saint* are conferred by the pope in public ceremonies at St. Peter's Basilica.



Vatican Website

[www.vatican.va/roman\\_curia/congregations/csaints/index.htm](http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/csaints/index.htm)