



International Community of the Divine Savior

General Committee

www.laysalvatorians.org • office@laysalvatorians.org

February 20th, 2021

Remarks about the beatification ceremony of Fr. Francis Jordan

Dear sister and brother Lay Salvatorians,

As you know, the ceremony of the beatification of our venerable founder Fr. Francis Jordan will take place on May 15, 2021. We have received many requests for information about attending the beatification in Rome, Italy. We at the GC see it as our duty to remind Lay Salvatorians that the CoVid19 pandemic is not conquered or ended. We still have restrictions for traveling and the possibility exists of surprise closed borders for areas that become a quarantine area. If you plan to travel to Rome, we ask you to take this into account. Infection or re-infection with one of the new virus variants cannot be ruled out either.

Based on this knowledge, we are unable to recommend a trip to Rome at this time. It's really a pity and we are very sorry, but the health and welfare of all has to have absolute priority in these times. In addition, many renowned experts in the fields of virology and epidemiology strongly advise against non-essential travel.

Meanwhile we found information on the website of the Vatican that some other planned ceremonies of beatification were cancelled, but the beatification of Fr. Francis Jordan was **not** on the list as of today. The ceremonies that do take place will require the many restrictions: limited access, valid CoVid test, distance between the attendees, mouth-nose-mask (FFP 2), etc.

We also know that the Salvatorian Fathers and Brothers (Society of the Divine Savior) plan to establish a live stream on the internet, so anyone interested may watch the ceremony. More information in detail will follow when it is available.

We all are suffering with this reality because the beatification has been in our dreams for a long time. But we would not be Salvatorians if we would not take on this challenge as a sign. In most of our hearts Fr. Francis Jordan already has his holy place. So we must focus on how we could celebrate this in unity but diversity. We are sure that when the pandemic is over, we will find ways and possibilities to organize post celebrations. Meanwhile it is up to each of us to use the tools of the internet and modern communication to share our joy and thanks.

At this point we want to remind you to make a short video with your group, or only from yourself, with your cellphone. Sing, dance or express your joy, your thanks as you like. Upload it to a platform on the Internet (e.g. YouTube, etc.) and send us the link **before May, 10th**. We will collect and publish these on our UPDATE blog on the ICDS website, → www.laysalvatorians.org/update

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Let's make an agreement to not be discouraged. "By all ways and means" is our order!
Stay well and healthy, and united in thoughts and prayer!

With our best wishes

the members of the General Committee of the ICDS

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christian Patz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Mr. Christian Patz
President of the ICDS

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anne Cullender". The signature is more stylized and less legible than the one on the left, with a large loop at the end.

Mrs. Anne Cullender
Secretary of the ICDS