

The Guild for Dorothy Day

Her Life

Dorothy Day's life, which began in Brooklyn in 1897, was a journey toward the fulfillment of Christ's commandment that we love one another. The *Sermon on the Mount* characterized her work with the poor on New York's Lower East Side, and her founding of Catholic Worker Houses of Hospitality, farming communes, and retreat centers. It also found expression in her practice of nonviolence and solidarity with workers and the poor. For Dorothy Day, to be a Christian meant not only participation fervently in the prayer and liturgy of the Church, but also finding Christ in others. Her pilgrimage ended at Maryhouse in New York City on November 29, 1980, where she died among the poor.

The Cause

In March of 200, John Cardinal O'Connor announced the approval of the Holy See for the Archdiocese of New York to open the Cause for the Beatification and Canonization of Dorothy Day. With this approval, Dorothy Day was given the title of Servant of God. Edward Cardinal Egan is continuing the efforts for her canonization.

The next step toward sainthood is beatification. Beatification allows a person to be honored by a particular group or region. In order to beatify a candidate, it must be shown that the person is responsible for a posthumous miracle. To be considered a saint, there must be proof of a second posthumous miracle.

The Guild

In order to assist the process of canonization, a Dorothy Day Guild has been established. Its purpose is to spread the word of her life, work, and sanctity: to identify the growing devotion for Dorothy Day by Catholics and non-Catholics; and to document her ability to intercede for people in need of God's healing mercy and assistance.

Selected Readings

The Long Loneliness: the Autobiography of Dorothy Day. San Francisco, Harper & Row, 1997 c. 1952.

Loaves and Fishes. San Francisco, Harper & Row, 1983 c. 1963.

Therese. Springfield, IL., Templegate, c. 1979.

Dorothy Day, Selected Writings: By Little and By Little. Ellsberg, Robert (ed.). Maryknoll, NY, Orbis Books, c. 1992.

Meditations/Dorothy Day. Vishnewski, Stanley (ed.). NY, Paulist Press, c. 1970.

Prayer Request

If you have received a favor through Dorothy Day's intercession, please contact Lourdes Ferrer at (212) 371-1000, ext. 2474 or George Horton at ext. 2480. Or write to us at The Guild for Dorothy Day, 1011 First Avenue, Room 1287, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Prayer for the Intercession of Servant of God Dorothy Day

*God our Creator,
your servant Dorothy Day exemplified the
Catholic faith by her conversion,
life of prayer and voluntary poverty,
works of mercy, and
witness to the justice and peace
of the Gospel.*

*May her life inspire people
to turn to Christ as their Savior and guide,
to see his face in the world's poor and
to raise their voices for the justice
of God's kingdom.*

*We pray that you grant the favors we ask
through her intercession so that her goodness
and holiness may be more widely recognized
and one day the Church may
proclaim her Saint.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.*