

# Models of Faith



## Venerable Pauline Jaricot

Marie Pauline Jaricot was born and baptized on July 22, 1799. She was the last child of seven born to Antoine and Jeanne Jaricot in Lyons, France. Lyons was an industrial city that became famous for its silk factories. Members of Pauline's family were middle class silk merchants. While the early years of her childhood were marked by the exclusive society life of Lyons, something would happen that would open her heart to the whole world. Pauline suffered a bad fall at age fifteen. Not long after that, her beloved mother died. It took Pauline many months to recover, emotionally and physically. When she did, she resumed her social life, but with less delight than before. Her heart, she wrote at this time, was "made for the whole world." "If only I could love without measure," she observed, "without end."

She began to long to help the mission territories in China and the United States, a desire nurtured by her brother Phileas, who was preparing for the priesthood and who told Pauline all about the work and witness of missionaries. Pauline saw this as her vocation—to become a missionary of the love of God. She came to believe that "to truly help others is to bring them to God."

While at prayer, eighteen-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 mission territories—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.

So she came up with a plan to support missionaries. She gathered workers in her family's silk factory into "circles of ten." Everyone in the group pledged to pray daily for the mission territories and to offer each week a sou, the equivalent of a penny. Each member of the group then found ten friends to do the same.

Even in the face of opposition from parish priests in Lyons, Pauline remained steadfast. Within a year, she had five hundred workers enrolled; soon there would be two thousand.

Pauline's successful efforts were of primary influence behind the formation of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. She was "the match that lit the fire."

By 1922, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith became Pontifical, with their headquarters moved to Rome, under the direction of the pope. With the first one hundred years of its existence, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith sent some \$7 million in help to the young church in the United States.

## INSTRUCTIONS

To earn this patch, learn about Venerable Pauline Jaricot. Although you may want to add this page to your journal/scrapbook, you do not need to write out the answers. If you are working together as a group or troop, have discussions and/or group activities. If you are working

individually, include your family. If you are an older girl or boy, learn about Venerable Pauline Jaricot and teach younger children.

Once earned, you may place this patch in the appropriate location on your uniform. Once you have learned about

Pauline Jaricot, your leader, advisor, or parent may order the patch for you by visiting the website, [www.catholicreligiousrecognitions.org](http://www.catholicreligiousrecognitions.org), and clicking on the link to the NFCYM Online Store.

## LEARN AND TAKE ACTION

### Missionary Discipleship

As baptized Catholics we are all called to live as missionary disciples. What is a missionary disciple?

- A person who knows and loves Jesus and shares the Good News of his love with the world—both far and near.
- A person who cares for all of God's children with prayers, actions, and sacrifices. This means all both young and old.

Pope Francis reminds us of this wonderful gift when he wrote "Baptism makes us 'missionary disciples' within the communion of the Church each one of us becomes a missionary disciple" (*Evangelii Gaudium* 120).

Missionaries are not just those who are called to travel to mission territories, frequently among the poorest of the poor, to bring the Good News with their actions, words, and prayers.

Pauline Jaricot lived her missionary discipleship to the fullest while never leaving France. God calls all Christians to live as missionary disciples all the time, wherever we are, to all people both known and unknown.

- How can you live your missionary discipleship with and for those around you?
- How can you live your missionary discipleship with those in mission territories?

### A Woman of Prayer

Shortly after the foundation of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, Pauline established the Association of the Living Rosary; again, her method was to form "circles" which would reach out to form new groups. Pauline believed in the power of prayer.

- What are some of your favorite prayers?
- Ask your parents and or grandparents to share their favorite prayer with you.

### Create Your Own Activity

Venerable Pauline Jaricot is rightly admired for her vision, heart, and dedication in creating the plan to support missionaries which grew into the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. This model of faith recognized that she was called to do something that was new and different in order to meet the needs of the missions.

Digital discipleship is a new vehicle to continue the work of Pauline. Download the Pontifical Mission Societies app MISSIO (available on all platforms). Through Missio, users like you, can learn about the "who," "what," "how," and "wow" of missionary works around the world.

On Missio, you can find a project focused on education, health care, water, or many other human concerns. Through this outreach, project leaders—often local priests, religious and lay leaders in these mission countries—accompany the suffering and marginalized, offering spiritual comfort and support. You can support these projects by creating an activity to raise financial help, by sharing the project with friends through social media, or by organizing an event or other action in your community.

### For All

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith is one of four societies which make up the Pontifical Mission Societies; another is the Missionary Childhood Association. In 1843, Pauline's friend Bishop Forbin-Janson shared his dream of helping the children of the Missions and with Pauline's encouragement the Missionary Childhood Association was born.

- Research, with an adult, the Missionary Childhood Association.
- What is its motto?
- Who does it help? How?

### Older Girls

Research the Society for the Propagation of Faith in the United States.

In its first hundred years of existence, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith sent some \$7 million in help to the young church in the United States. Today, just one diocese in the United States remains dependent on help from the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, still benefiting then from the vision of Pauline Jaricot. Which is it?

- Who is one of its best known former national directors?
- He created the World Mission Rosary. What is its significance? How is it different from other rosaries?

Catholic Identity Patch Program is a project of the NCCGSCF and NFCYM.

