



# SERVANT OF GOD, MARIA KAUPAS

## BIOGRAPHY IN BRIEF AND TIMELINE OF CAUSE FOR BEATIFICATION

- 1880 January 6 Casimira Kaupas is born in Ramygala, Lithuania
- 1902 October 27 Casimira Kaupas begins training with Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, Ingenbohl, Switzerland
- 1905 November 2 Casimira and two companions, Judith Dvaranauskas and Antanina Unguraitis, begin religious training with Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Scranton, Pennsylvania
- 1907 April 19 Pope Pius X approves establishment of the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Casimir
- 1907 August 30 Profession of Mother Maria Kaupas, Mother Immaculata Dvaranauskas, and Mother Concepta Unguraitis
- 1907 October 7 First school opens at Mt. Carmel, Pennsylvania
- 1909 Most Reverend E. J. Quigley, Archbishop of Chicago selects site for Motherhouse in Chicago
- 1911 Motherhouse in Chicago is dedicated.  
St. Casimir Academy opened in the Motherhouse.
- 1913 Mother Maria Kaupas is elected first Superior General of Sisters of Saint Casimir
- 1920 Mother Maria and four sisters establish a foundation of the Sisters of St. Casimir at Pazaislis, outside of Kaunas, Lithuania
- 1928 Mother Maria assumes Holy Cross Hospital, Chicago, Illinois
- 1932 Villa Joseph Marie High School for Girls in Holland, Pennsylvania opens
- 1933 Lithuanian Government bestows highest decoration, the Order of the Grand Duke Gediminas, upon Mother Maria, in recognition of her work for the Lithuanians in America
- 1933 Mother Maria is diagnosed with cancer
- 1937 The Congregation's apostolate broadens to non-Lithuanian parishes with the opening of two schools in New Mexico
- 1940 April 17 Mother Maria dies at the Motherhouse surrounded by her Sisters
- 1943 Archbishop Samuel Stritch of Chicago grants imprimatur for prayer of beatification for Mother Maria Kaupas.

- 1980 John Cardinal Cody of Chicago receives permission from the Sacred Congregation for the Causes of Saints to prepare materials for the beatification process
- 1986 June Maria Kaupas named "Servant of God"
- 1996 March Introduction of the Cause of Beatification of Maria Kaupas in Rome
- 1999 May Exhumation of Maria Kaupas from St. Casimir Cemetery in Chicago, Illinois. Her blessed remains were placed in a newly built white carrera marble sarcophagus in the SSC Motherhouse Chapel. Some of the marble used for this was initially part of the altar railing in the Motherhouse chapel which was removed during an earlier renovation. The altar railing gates which were removed at the time contained the symbol of the lily, sword and crown done in mosaic.
- A pictorial mosaic on the wall above provides a beautiful enhancement for Mother Maria's sarcophagus. It depicts Mother Maria's mission and charisma, leading all people through the Sisters' various ministries to Our Lord and Our Lady to whom she had great devotion. The tower of the Motherhouse is set in the upper right corner along with the tower of Pazaislis in Lithuania – the two foundations she had established. The waves represent the ocean she had crossed to come to America and to return to Lithuania to establish the Congregation.
- 2000 February Sister Margaret Petcavage, SSC Vice - Postulator for the Cause of Mother Maria, completes the 972 page "Positio," that represents the heroic and virtuous life of Mother Maria
- 2000 October "Positio" is printed. The Relator General, Rev. Ambrose Eszer, O.P., writes a wonderful presentation for the beginning of the book. Many of his comments indicated he certainly supported the beatification of Mother Maria. The "Positio" is sent to the Promoter of Faith for further investigation.
- 2001 October Chicago's Francis Cardinal George presents the "Positio" to His Holiness, John Paul II, while attending the Synod of Bishops in Rome. At dinner with His Holiness, Cardinal George presented the "Positio" bound in white satin, and explained it to be the heroic virtuous story of Mother Maria Kaupas. All through the lunch the Pope had the book with him and talked about how happy he was about this Lithuanian woman, Mother Maria Kaupas, who went to America.
- 2009 October The Sisters of St. Casimir receive a letter from the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome saying the "Positio" on the heroic, virtuous life of Mother Maria Kaupas had been unanimously approved by the nine theologians designated for its review.
- 2010 May The Congregation for the Causes of Saints sends word to the Sisters of St. Casimir that the Commission of Bishops had also given a unanimous positive vote regarding the "Positio." The Commission's results will be presented to His Holiness, Benedict XVI. Upon receiving the Pope's approval, Mother Maria will be named "Venerable".

*Next, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints will review the documents containing information about a proposed miracle through the intercession of Mother Maria. After careful examination of this material, and should it receive approval by the three Rome physicians assigned to this task, Mother Maria will be proclaimed, "Blessed."*