



***Ancient Order of Hibernians
in America
Division 5, Suffolk County, NY***

January 1, 2019

Prot. N. Var. 4482/97

To: His Eminence Archbishop Giovanni Becciu, Prefect
Congregation for Causes of Saints
Piazza Pio, XII, 10, 00193
Rome, Italy

From: John W. Fahey

Subject: Irish Hunger Martyrs, 1845-1851. Prot. N. Var. 4482/97

Dear Archbishop Becciu,

We are sending more material in support of the "Irish Hunger Martyrs, 1845-51". Enclosed are 625 additional signatures in support of beatification for the Irish Hunger Martyrs. This brings the total number of signed supporting documentation for the cause to over 28,000, when you include what has already been sent to the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints.

In addition to the support documentation that has been sent, we have a blog which you can review at: <https://irishhungercomm.wordpress.com/>. There you will find extensive research and information that details the sacrifice and suffering of these martyrs who died as a result of not renouncing their Catholic faith. The Catholic Church did not record the names of the victims because so many were dying. We have sent names from official inquest records. There are also names from parishes recorded in Census of Deaths reports requested by Church authorities. These names are in previous information sent.

Over 1 million of the Faithful had to watch their families perish through a slow starvation process during this man-made famine. Much food was exported while they and their children were starving. They were offered food if they changed their Faith. Parents had to watch their children die slowly on a daily basis and deal with their own suffering. Their physical pain and mental anguish deserves recognition.

The Irish people have been persecuted for their Catholic Faith for centuries. The Penal Laws were one of the most anti- religious acts ever recorded. Their sons and daughters have spread the Faith all over the world as missionaries and immigrants. This beatification would honor the Irish people and renew their Faith today.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Fahey, A.O.H., Division 5,
7 Cedar Road, Mastic Beach, NY 11951

The following are remarks recently submitted by people who signed the petition for the Beatification of The Irish Hunger Martyrs 1845-51. These signatures were sent to Rome to be added to the previously submitted signatures. We have now over 28,000 voices documenting support of our cause.

No question they died for their faith, may the church honour them. -J.O., Harpenden, UK

We will never be starved of our Faith. -D.D., Galway, Ireland

Please do the proper, honorable thing...for all Humanity, for, we are ALL one species...we are Human after all. -S.F., Ontario, Canada

Through no fault of their own these littlest martyrs paid the ultimate price at the hands of tyrants. We are not to judge or condemn that is for Jesus Christ to do. It is a mysterious part of God's plan, we will all have our hour. -K.M., Wytheville, VA

Not a better cause that I know of... -T.G., Swansea, IL

We hold this to be the truth. -D.C., Winter Haven, FL

God Bless. -R.C., Churchville, PA

This was targeted austerity. -K.J., Plymouth, YK

I will pray for the Universal Beatification of the Blessed Irish Hunger Martyrs. -K.S., Alberta, Canada

They stood up for the faith and took death over leaving the faith. God Bless them! -W. & P. S., Barberton, OH

For those who did not take the soup. -K.O., Darwin, Australia

I am hoping our new Pope will consider these Martyrs as Saints among us. -M.R., Fairfield, NJ

It is only right and proper that those people be recognized for their sufferings. -J.K., Clonmel, Co Tipperary

Before the British army began to use force to strip Ireland of its food-crops, the British gov't enacted a law allocating food rations for Ireland's hierarchy's bishops and priests out of what the army was escorting to the ports for export. -C. & M. F., Chicago, IL

God bless them. -J.P.M., Belfast, Ireland

What's holding them up; should be done by now. -P.H., Ramsey, Isle of Man

True Martyrs, yet those who can still hide the facts & fail to own the problem & honor the dead as should be! Shame! -B.P., Victoria, Australia

May God have mercy on Mr. Charlie Trevelyan's soul, who devised and enforced the great hunger upon the innocent Irish; May God grant the wisdom of our Roman Catholic Magisterium to acknowledge these facts. -J.C., Bronx, NY

These blessed Irish souls are in the hands of a just and loving God. The Vatican will never go against the present political powers in honoring these victims of state sponsored oppression. Nevertheless, it is honorable to try and keep their memory alive. Go raibh Maithili agat. -E., Sedona, AZ

Love thy enemy but never trust the British, ever!!! -J.D., Quebec City, Canada

Most deserving. -D.F. Oak Lawn, IL

Bravo! I am with you! My family members died in Skibbereen in 1846 & later. Survivors came to America. They remained Catholic, of course. God bless you. -E.S., Sun Valley, CA

When I look at the face of my little 8 year old laughing boy, with red hair and big blue eyes I can't imagine a little one like him being forced to suffer such a death and his poor parents helpless to save him. It was truly a genocide. May God comfort them and erase the pain of their horrors and have mercy on the souls of those responsible especially the penitent among them in Jesus Christ's name I pray. -K.M., Wytheville, VA

I was raised Catholic by a mother who descended from Irish Catholics who were forced to flee Ireland, including a great, great grandfather whom family members insist served in the British military while actually a spy for Ireland. I do deeply admire those who suffered and died for their faith and am proud to join my name with others on this petition being sent to Rome! -B.H., Middletown, OH

A very worthy cause. -D.M., Hanover, PA

Straight to the point and well written! Why can't everyone else be like this? Good luck. -L., Jensen

It is only right that those who chose death rather than renounce their faith should be without question Beatified. There is no greater sacrifice than to give one's life for one's religious convictions. -S.G., Wexford, Ireland

The truth must come out. -K.O., Gunnison, Utah

Bless the martyrs, my ancestors, they are truly saints. Their sacrifice is incredible. -P.S., Charlottesville, VA

Please give Universal Beatification to these Irish Martyrs in recognition of their faith, sacrifice and devotion to the Catholic Church. -U.O., Huntingdon Valley, PA

It was so wrong of what the Catholic people had to endure just to survive. My grand-dad and his family were one of the families that endured such horrors of hunger and losing everything. They did make their way to the USA except one sister that was left behind so they wouldn't lose their land and started their new lives here. These Martyrs deserve to be honored for their faith and sacrifices. -P.T., Butler, NJ

They were tortured and died for their faith. They should be eligible for Sainthood. -M.M., Dunedin, FL

"May the Lord have mercy on their souls." -B., Castlebar, Ireland

Approve it, American in support of this petition 100%. -D.G., Norton, MA

I will pray and ask the Irish Hunger Martyrs to intercede for me and all those of Irish heritage to return to their fervent Catholic faith. -K.M., Duryea, PA

After reading information about the so-called famine I realize the cruelty that took place and that the Irish Catholics were the target. I hope that these people are recognized for what they endured. God rest their souls. -J.R., Racine, OH

Please beatify these holy men and women asap...God bless and thank you, beloved Pope. -J.Y., Kenai, Alaska

I am Irish. My relatives came to America from Ireland. I will pray. -J.H., Harrisonville, MO

These are all true statements that Ireland was starved by the English, all because the Irish stayed Catholic. -T.B., Palmyra, NJ

Please consider those who gave their lives for the faith. -G.A., Pueblo, CO

Truly, a people worthy of the Lord's Love!!! -M.W., Blairsville, GA

It is time the world recognized the suffering of the Irish during this dark time. -C.K., San Francisco, CA

The Blessed Irish need to be recognized by the church for their sacrifices. -K.K., Alexandria, VA

God Bless the Irish! -M.C., Howell MI

Please give these amazing Martyrs a Universal Beatification for sacrificing their lives for their faith. -E.R., Eldersburg, MD