

PAPAL BLESSING APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The request for a Papal Blessing, in the form of a *printed certificate*, should be placed in a letter addressed to:

Most Reverend Pietro Sambì, Apostolic Nuncio
Apostolic Nunciature
United States of America
3339 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-3687
202-333-7121

Enclose the following with your request:

- 1) A written recommendation from a parish priest of the person(s) to receive the blessing, or from a priest familiar with the person(s), attesting to his/her/their good standing in the Catholic Church. In the case of a wedding, both parties should be Catholic.

A sample letter from your parish priest is enclosed with this Application Process.

- 2) The **contents of the blessing**, clearly printed, including:
 - The name(s) (typed or written in capital letters) of the people to receive the blessing;
 - The occasion to be celebrated, (birthday, wedding, ordination, wedding anniversary, etc.). Anniversaries should be of a special nature, such as 25th, 50th, 60th. Birthdays should also be special, such as 80th or 90th, and so on;
 - The date of the occasion;
 - If a wedding, the name of the church, and its city and state.
- 3) An offering of \$20.00, by check or money order, made payable to the "Apostolic Nunciature."

Please indicate the address to which the document should be sent, as well as the Diocese to which the person(s) to receive the blessing belong.

If you prefer a *handwritten* blessing on parchment, you should request it directly from Rome. Mail all the above information to:

Servizio Assistenziale del Santo Padre,
00120 Vatican City State, Europe

The customary offering is \$45.00, payable to the *Servizio Assistenziale del Santo Padre*. Please be informed that it takes at least two or three months.

SAMPLE LETTER

_____ date

Dear Archbishop Sambini:

I am a priest of the parish of _____ located in
(Name of parish)
_____, in the Diocese of _____
(City) (State)

I hereby attest that _____, who is receiving
(Name of person)

the Papal blessing, is a member of my parish and a Catholic in good standing.

May I respectfully recommend that a papal blessing be arranged as requested.

I also attest that, should the papal blessing be sought on the occasion of a wedding, both parties are Catholic and the marriage is valid according to the Catholic Church.

Sincerely yours,

(signature)

****PARISH SEAL****

Please mail the blessing to the following address: