

Update from the Postulator's Desk

Advent and Christmas greetings to one and all from the Postulator's desk here in Ballyphehane, Cork City. I am aware that there has been a passage of time since my last communication with you all, but be assured that I have been actively 'on the job'!

Where are you and what are you doing?



These are the two much asked questions that I receive. In response to the first, I am in Ireland since 2023. My community base is Ashbrook Gardens, Portlaoise. Since March 2024, I commute to Presentation Convent, Ballyphehane, where the desk for the work of the Postulator was established by the last CLT.

What are you doing?

Alongside working away here in the office, in the past year I have been out and about, responding to various requests, working steadily in the ongoing promotion of the Cause of Venerable Nano Nagle. You will recall how in my first eNews communication, 2020-2021, I used the image of a bird with two wings to reflect how I understood my role as Postulator on behalf of the Congregation. The first wing relates to *the ongoing promotion to the Cause of Venerable Nano Nagle* and the second to *actively working on the process of Nano Nagle's Cause* which is contingent on news of a significant *alleged miracle*.

Waiting in Hope

While it is true to say that there are *many great favours* attributed to the intercession of Venerable Nano Nagle, we continue to await the news (*from any part of the world*) of an *alleged miracle*.

Should such news arrive, it is important that the Postulator is informed and that all relevant data and material pertaining to the alleged miracle are carefully recorded and communicated to the Postulator. It will be the responsibility of the Postulator, in conjunction with the Bishop of the Diocese, where the alleged miracle occurs, to ascertain if it deems investigation toward the possible Beatification.

However, the next stage will only commence if the alleged miracle fulfils the required criteria cited in the process for Beatification. It must be *instantaneous, spontaneous and complete*. Such an alleged miracle effectively leaves physicians without a scientific or natural explanation to what has occurred.

Record Keeping Regarding Campaign of Prayer

Accurate record keeping is vital especially to this stage of the process. May I appeal once again that the requests from various quarters for a campaign of prayer through the intercession of Venerable Nano be thoroughly documented by a designated person among the group who initiate the campaign of prayer.

The records should include *when* the campaign of prayer began, *who are the body of praying*; the prognosis and diagnosis of the sick individual; and the *ongoing observation of any progression* towards healing which occur over this period. This data will be vital in any future situation.

I cannot highlight enough the importance of recording and forwarding to me data on *favours received*. These favours, provide a solid basis in showing how devotion to Venerable Nano is ongoing. In any future exploration of Nano's Cause, for example, should we get word of an alleged miracle, and the opening of an Enquiry of Investigation; all such record keeping will be vital to the progression of her Cause. Failure to have the adequate data may result in the Cause not moving forward.

I request that you forward any such recording to the Postulator's email postulator@pbvm.org so that they can be kept on file. Thank you!

Making Nano Known and Loved

From 2023 onwards, requests and invitations keep coming in diverse ways. These requests offer opportunities to spread the spirit, energy, passion and commitment of Nano Nagle and her relevance to our time as we work towards her Beatification.

The following offer some brushstrokes of the requests I have received and the work I engaged with preparing and presenting to Radio audiences, Podcasts, Global Sisters Report, Nano's Echo and multiple zooms.

Unit Leaders Worldwide

In response to the request of the CLT to offer an update of the history of the Cause of Nano and what is involved in the Cause that we Presentation Sisters officially engaged in since 1979; an explanation of what's involved in the process and the role of Postulator.

The focus of this zoom was to offer all our Sisters/colleagues/Friends of Nano and associates an accurate understanding of the Cause in order that they be ably equipped to respond to questions that would come their way from people.

I was able to follow up with community groups both by zoom and being physically present.

Upland, California and Dubuque, Iowa

It was a great pleasure to be present via zoom with the Friends of Nano, Upland, CA. It was impressive to listen as they recounted how they meet early every morning while their children are in school. The engagement of the teaching staff and students of Upland school was indeed uplifting. I listened with appreciation as senior students shared their lantern work at home and in their neighbourhood.

A further source of joy was the invitation to facilitate two online zooms with the American Conference of Presentation Sisters, Dubuque in October and November 2024. The focus was on the *Spirituality of Venerable Nano and the History and Update of the Cause*

These zooms were part preparation for the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the foundation of Dubuque, whose roots are Mooncoin. It was wonderful that they opened it to the wider members of the Conference of Presentation Sisters and associates, which was a real privilege.

Face-to-Face Encounters: NL, UK, IRL

Alongside the zoom presentations were the face-to-face presentations. These afforded the opportunity to meet and interact with Sisters and Friends of Nano in Newfoundland, England and Ireland. People were energised and amazed as they come to a new understanding and correct knowledge of what is involved in the process towards the Beatification and Canonisation. Personally, I am helped knowing that the issue of the Cause is being clearly understood and that people can in any future situation speak with confidence, competency and accuracy about this important aspect.

Secondary Schools – Religion Exam



Religion as an exam subject offered further invitations to work with two of our Presentation Secondary Schools, so I visited 6th year Theology students in Scoil Chríost Rí, Portlaoise and Leaving Certificate students taking Religion as an exam in Presentation Secondary School Listowel. Both groups chose the topic of

Religion and Gender and inherent question as part requirement – taking Nano Nagle as their subject.



Postulator's Convention and Audience with Pope Francis

As Postulator, I attend the annual three-day Convention for Postulators which is held in Rome at the Augustinian Institute, close to the Basilica of St Peter's. This year's theme was *Non c'è amore più grande* (There is no greater love. Jn. 15). Over three hundred Postulators were in attendance daily. As a body of Postulators, we are granted an Audience with Pope Francis the day after the conclusion of the Convention.

Thursday, 14 November was the third occasion for me to have the privilege of meeting Pope



Francis in person. Once again, I brought an image of Nano Nagle and spoke to it. Pope Francis was deeply engaged and looked at me and said, *This is the woman*, I responded, *Yes, Papa Francesco, this is the woman*. He also requested prayers saying, *I need them very much*. The following day when visiting the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints, one member of the Dicastery re-iterated to me the importance of the Congregation

working on a miracle. Perhaps 2025 will be an auspicious year for us when the Lord may use his Venerable Nano as an instrument of his healing grace to our world!



Irish Ambassador to the Holy See

I availed of my visit to Rome to reconnect with the Irish Ambassador to the Holy See, Ambassador Frances Collins. She is very proactive in her position and is presently working with her team in preparing an event for next October focussing on the contribution of the Irish Women Founders in furthering the Cause of Education in Ireland. More anon!



Fanning the Flame, July 2024

In Fanning the Flame, July 2024, the CLT urged Sisters to communicate with me about favours received through the

intercession of Nano. They also encouraged communities to *call on Anne to update their respective communities, Friends of Nano, students or any other groups on the cause of the Beatification of Venerable Nano Nagle. That will enable the whole Presentation Family towards advancing Nano's Cause for Beatification.*

As we move ever closer to this extraordinary milestone of grace, what a powerful energy it would be if *as a Congregation mindfully committed again to galvanise our energies of faith, hope and trust towards furthering the Cause of Nano Nagle's Beatification.*

If I could be of Service in any part of the world, I would willingly do all in my power.

In April 2024, I was working in Ballygriffin with a group of Principals from the Nagle Education Alliance of Australia (NEAA), who had come to Ireland on pilgrimage. This encounter with them resulted in two formal invitations to engage with a wider network of staff, student body, Sisters and associates in Iona College, Perth and to be one of the three keynote speakers in attendance at the NEAA Conference, Melbourne in 2025. I view these requests as further opportunities in my role as Postulator to do all that I can do to advance the Cause of Venerable Nano Nagle and to engage with a wider and more diverse audience as we anticipate the 250th anniversary of our Congregation on 24 December 2025.

Beatification requires evidence and the approval of a miracle through the intercessory power of Venerable Nano Nagle, so what can we do to further this stage?

- ♦ Continue the great work that you are already doing to promote devotion to her.
- ♦ Continue to hold her up as a model of a woman who dared to give all and risk her life for God's world.
- ♦ Continue the ministry of Prayer through the intercession of Nano Nagle (while we have other favourite Saints that we admire and pray to, the Dicastery's advice is prayer solely through Nano especially in a very significant need such as healing for a seriously ill person).
- ♦ Continue to intercede with the Lord that if it is his desire and will for his glory, Nano Nagle may be his instrument of healing grace and grant us the required miracle that will move forward the Cause of her Beatification and eventually Canonisation.
- ♦ Continue to carefully RECORD any campaign of prayer through Nano's intercession. Such records are vital and invaluable towards any future investigation of an alleged miracle.
- ♦ Continue to record any FAVOURS that you learn of which are attributed solely through Nano's intercession. **Every little piece of information is significant.**

Please so not hesitate to contact me if I can be of service to you. My email address is postulator@pbvm.org and my mobile phone number is +353 86 893 2401.

Kind regards,

Anne.