

Update on *The Cause for Fr. Patrick Ryan, Servant of God, a Model of Charity in Action.*

You may have seen even in the secular news recently the interest in the Cause of Father Patrick Ryan, the Servant of God. I wanted to bring you up to speed on his Cause. There are many aspects to a Cause for Sainthood.

- One is the **Historical Commission**, who will be producing a report concerning his life and all information known about the Servant of God. This Commission has been diligently at work since 2016 and are nearing the completion and submission of their report.
- Second, there will be a **diocesan inquiry**, which will use this report to conduct an investigation, the result of which will be sent to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome. It is assumed that this will take place this fall, into the spring, hopefully with 2020 being a goal for concluding the diocesan phase.
- Third, the **process of moving his mortal remains** from the current location of Mount Olivet Cemetery to the new sepulcher to be installed inside the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul. We have done preliminary studies of his current grave and did not find a vault, which necessitates our proceeding to an archaeological excavation of his remains. This is going to prolong the process longer than we had anticipated; however, we still hope to move his remains into the church sometime this fall.
- Fourth, **inquiries into the reports of miracles** associated with Father Ryan's intercession: Each report will be evaluated initially to determine the merit of pursuing it further. For each case that merits further inquiry, a procedure is in place to discern certain criteria. If those criteria are met, the miracle is sent to Rome for verification.

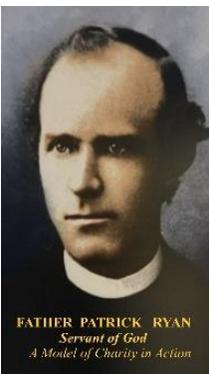
It is an honor that our Cause is the first of its kind in the states of Tennessee and Kentucky (Province of Louisville). As our Diocesan phase of the cause is entering a more mature phase, the following major expenses are emerging:

Submission of the report prepared by our Historical Commission to the Vatican and eventual review by Pope Francis to determine whether to elevate Fr. Ryan from *Servant of God* to *Venerable*. **Cost: ~\$20,000**

Submission of any Diocesan-reviewed potential miracles to the Vatican. The first verified miracle may result in his elevation to *Blessed* and the second verified miracle may result in elevation to *Saint*. **Cost: ~\$21,000**

Exhumation of his mortal remains from Mount Olivet Cemetery, which will be transferred to a tomb installed for him at the Basilica. **Cost: *Unknown***

Both the prayers and support of our parishioners are needed for this cause to continue moving forward. In addition to your regular commitment to the parish offertory, please consider making a single or recurring contribution through WeShare (available through our website or myParish app "Online Giving"), or by check to the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, designating in the memo field: The Cause for Fr. Ryan. Thank you!



Heavenly Father,
who inspired the Servant of God, Father Patrick Ryan, former pastor of this parish, to be a model of charity in action during the yellow fever epidemic of 1878, grant, we beseech you, that his heroic charity be recognized by Your Church, and that he be elevated to the full honor of sainthood. May we, too, be inspired by his example to that same measure of charity toward all our brothers and sisters in need. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

Amen.

Rev. J. David Carter