

Bishops' Office for United States Visitors to the Vatican

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**APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20008-3687
TEL. 202/333-7121 -FAX 202/337-4036**

A request for a Papal Blessing, in the form of a printed certificate, should be addressed to Christophe Cardinal Pierre Apostolic Nuncio, at the above address.

The request must include:

1) A 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. The request should be on the parish letterhead and have the parish seal.

- (a) In the case of a wedding, both parties should be Catholics. (For anniversaries, it is sufficient that one of the members is Catholic.)
- (b) For priests, parishes, associations or organizations, the request should be presented by the Diocesan Bishop.
- (c) For religious, the request should come from their superior.

2) The following information must be clearly typed or written in capital

letters:

- (a) the name(s) of the people to receive the blessing
- (b) the occasion to be celebrated (such as weddings, anniversaries of a special nature -25th, 50th, 60th-, special Birthdays -80th, 90th, and so on-religious profession, baptisms, first communions, confirmations). A general blessing for no specific occasion may also be requested.
- (c) the date of the occasion
- (d) if a wedding, the name of the church and its city and state
- (e) the diocese to which the person(s) to receive the blessing belongs
- (f) the address to which the document is to be mailed

3) An offering of \$35.00 is customary and should be made by check or money order, payable to the Apostolic Nunciature.

All requests should be presented in writing. Please allow a minimum of two to three weeks. Requests by fax should be followed by the original hard copy by mail, indicating that it has already been faxed. Requests by e-mail are not acceptable.