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Perth sister's voice in JP II beatification ceremony

Published: May 04, 2011



Image from The Record report

A young Australian sister who founded a religious congregation focused on the charism and spirituality of Pope John Paul II proclaimed the second reading at his beatification Mass in Rome on Sunday, reports *the Record*.

Sr Bernadette Pike, 32, said she has been "blessed" to be able to attend the ceremony and do the reading after being contacted by the postulator's office for the cause of the late Pontiff.

Her voice was also heard by the over one million people in St Peter's Square for the event - and the millions more watching the event around the world on TV - as she provided English translations of instructions to the congregation during the Mass.

Sr Bernadette, born Clare Pike, completed a law degree at Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia, before spending time in Religious Orders in Poland to train to be a Mother Superior of the Missionaries of the Gospel (MG).

Perth Archbishop Barry Hickey, vice president of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, approved the MGs' provisional statutes in 2007, when Sr Bernadette enrolled as a postulant.

"Please pray that God helps me with my nerves in front of that huge crowd which includes the Pope," Sr Bernadette posted on her Facebook page on April 30.



The MGs are "contemplative-active missionaries" who, through "being a sincere gift of self", according to Vatican II document *Gaudium et Spes*, strive to help others encounter Christ, recognise and bring to fruition their dignity and develop their relationships with God and others and help build community.

"We believe that through John Paul II, our Lord was teaching us a way of responding to the problems of modern society, that He is calling the whole Church through us, to consider a special way of 'being with' people and with God that opens, transforms and unites hearts to Christ," Sr Bernadette told *the Record*.

FULL STORY

[Perth Sister hits the world stage in Rome \(The Record\)](#)

PHOTO CREDIT

Image from The Record report

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1. Thank you, CathNews, for this article. I was watching it and heard the Aussie voice, I wanted to know who she was. Now that I do, I just what to say well done to Sister Bernadette. God Bless you..

Posted By: Pat

2. Having meet Sr Bernadette several times, I couldn't think of a more worth candidate for this privilege. Well done, Sister; you did us Ozzies proud. I will continue to pray that you receive many vocations to your beautiful new order. God Bless.

Posted By: Fr Grace

3. I must say that I had never heard of St Bernadette previously, but I am now happlily intrigued by her story. I'll be watching the progress of her order with interest and praying for all of them.

Posted By: pei

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