

The Angel of the Delta, The Bread Woman of New Orleans, The Celebrated Margaret of Tully, Margaret of New Orleans, Mother Margaret, these are all titles for a remarkable woman, who was considered by countless thousands of all creeds to have been a living Saint. A woman of unsurpassed charity, she was a champion of the underprivileged and the destitute. She had been a washerwoman and a peddler, yet when she died she received a State Funeral, and a crucifix from Pope Pius IV before her death.

**MARGARET OF
NEW ORLEANS**
BIRTHPLACE
1813-1882



PRAYER FOR BEATIFICATION

Dear God of mercy and compassion,
your words—‘As long as you did it for one of these,
the least of my brethern, you did it for me’—
inspired Margaret of New Orleans to devote her life to
helping feed and clothe, not only the under-privileged
children of New Orleans, but also the destitute,
the orphans, the poor, the sick and the elderly of that great city.

We commend to you her charitable work on behalf of
the underprivileged Catholics, Protestants, Jews,
black and coloured creeds, for whom she worked so tirelessly.

With faith and trust in our hearts, we pray for her
beatification so that she may continue to encourage
us to lead humble and charitable lives.

We pray also that the work of Margaret of New Orleans
will help to inspire today's rulers of society to
develop a more positive attitude towards the less well-off in their care.

We hope to publish a few letters per year. This newsletter will also be available on our website — www.margaretsbirthplace.com

MARGARET OF NEW ORLEANS

NEWSLETTER



JULY 2015

Margaret of New Orleans Birthplace, Tully, Carrigallen, Leitrim
The cottage is open every Sunday afternoon in July & August from 2.00-5.00pm

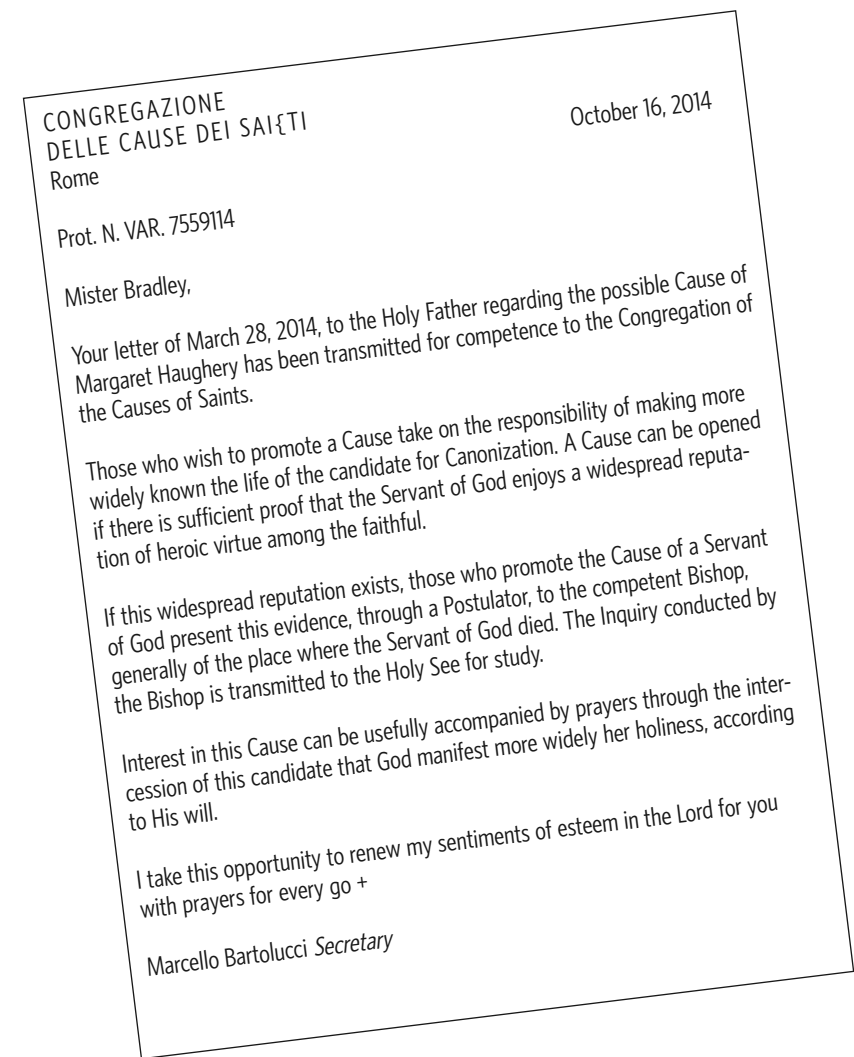
FROM THE BUILDING of Margaret of New Orleans cottage by the community in 2008, the original committee along with new members have continued to work towards promoting Margaret's story all over the world. Aims also include running events to donate to local charities. The maintenance and running cost of the cottage annually €1,500 include insurance, accountancy fees, and general expenses, all have to be raised by the committee.

The Funding bodies—Leader/Leitrim Co Council/Leitrim Tourism/Failte Ireland/Peace 111/RDC—have helped the committee in renovations to the cottage, promoting tourism in this area from New Orleans and abroad, and supporting running costs for events at the cottage, ie visit of Minister Deenihan 2014, and most recently the launch of Dr Laura D Kelley Tulane University, New Orleans book "The Irish in New Orleans" which includes a lovely article on Margaret. This beautifully illustrated book was launched by Dr Hugh Maguire Director the Hunt Museum Limerick. You can see the launch on YouTube if you type in *Laura D Kelley* into YouTube.

Down through the years strong links have been established with visiting groups and individual groups from New Orleans. Cementing this relationship even further when two of our committee members were invited to the 2014 Famine Commemoration events in November 2014. This visit helped sow the seed to establishing a committee in New Orleans to work together with our committee to have the beatification of Margaret process opened. Regular correspondence from New Orleans to our committee re: research, communications, with the Archbishop of New Orleans Rev Aymond, and Fr Klores PP St Patricks Church New Orleans. This process has to start in New Orleans.

Our committee responsibilities include the tracing of Margaret's relatives here in Ireland/abroad. Margaret Gaffney was born in 1813, the fifth child of William and Margaret Gaffney. Her siblings, starting with the eldest were: Annie, Mary, Thomas Kevin and Kathleen. William and Margaret were from Tully South, in the parish of Carrigallen. William was a small farmer and possible tailor. However Nellie Smith Cloncorrick, Carrigallen originally O'Rourke from Tully, in 1937 stated, that the Gaffney's owned a shop, but there no other evidence to corroborate this. His wife's maiden name was O'Rourke and she was a direct descendant of the O'Rourke's of Breiffne. There are entries in Carrigallen parochial records relating to both Gaffney and O'Rourke families. One entry dated October 3rd 1843, refers to the baptism of Mary Gaffney, whose father was Thomas, Margaret's older brother. Further evidence comes from the Anglo Celt, dated September 17th 1937, where Peter Carney Augharan, then living in Tully, Carrigallen replying to article on Margaret in the same paper on August 28th stated that he was the nearest living relative in Ireland. We ask that anyone with any information or possibility they know of any links to Margaret's relations please contact the Committee or by email to: info@margaretsbirthplace.com or any person/student interest in doing research on Margaret to contact the committee.

The Committee have also established links with former MNLA politician PJ Bradley Newry, Co Down who was also following Margaret's story when he came across our activities and interest in Margaret. PJ along with his contacts secured getting a letter to his Holiness Pope Francis reply includes:



In the words of Fr D Murray PP, at the launch of Dr Laura D Kelley's book: *'the only way we can help move Margaret's beatification is to pray for this to happen'*. Margaret's cottage is open during July and August on Sundays from 2pm to 5pm other visits can be arranged by contacting the committee. All are very welcome to visit especially those from outside the Republic of Ireland.