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For Immediate Release

Sisters of Providence to take registry of names to Rome for canonization of Blessed Mother Theodore Guerin

The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind., are extending an invitation to everyone to join with them in spirit for the canonization of the Congregation's foundress, Blessed Mother Theodore Guerin.

The sisters who will attend the ceremony Oct. 15 at the Vatican will carry with them a registry of names for anyone who wants to be included. This book will become an historic document that will be returned to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods for archival preservation.

"We have many, many friends, alumnae, companions and donors who may not have the time or the ability to make the trip to Rome for Mother Theodore's canonization. We thought this might be a good way that they could join with us in spirit. The registry is open for anyone who wants to participate. We welcome people of all faiths to join us," said Sister Ann Margaret O'Hara, general superior.

"The public's increasing interest in Mother Theodore has been very inspiring to us and we want to be able to include as many people as possible by offering them a variety of ways to participate in the celebration," she added.

Plans also are being developed for a local celebration in the Terre Haute area. Those plans will be announced soon.

Anyone wishing to be included in the registry of names that will be present during the canonization should visit the Congregation's Web site at <http://www.spsmw.org> and complete a form available there. Those without access to a computer should call the Office of Congregational Advancement at 812-535-2800.

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The Sisters of Providence, a Congregation of more than 450 women religious, have their motherhouse at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, located northwest of Terre Haute, Ind. Blessed Mother Theodore Guerin founded the Sisters of Providence at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in 1840. Today, Sisters of Providence minister in 20 states, the District of Columbia, Taiwan and China.

For more information about any of the ministries of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, visit the Congregation's web site at <http://www.sistersofprovidence.org>.

Note to media: The Congregation of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods and Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College have separate incorporations in Indiana, and they have separate operating functions. The Sisters of Providence own property at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind., that is separate from property owned by Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College. The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods sponsor Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and Woods Day Care/Pre-School, both located at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind. We request that you honor those distinctions in your reporting. If you have any questions, you may contact Dave Cox, Media Relations Manager, at 812-535-2810 or by e-mail at media@spsmw.org.