



Newman's Canonisation

A small group of Catenians from Oxford Circle joined thousands of others in Rome for the canonisation of John Henry Newman (1801-1890) on 13 October. On a beautiful warm day, Pope Francis canonised five people in front of a packed St Peter's Square.

A special Mass of thanksgiving was said the next day by Cardinal Vincent Nichols. The group had a full programme of events while in Rome, including a concelebrated Mass at St Peter's Basilica, Mass at the Church of Santa Anna and a visit to The English College which holds the relics of St JH Newman. They attended lunch hosted by Oriel College at the Grand Hotel de La Minerva at which they met HE Cardinal Gerhard Muller.

The Mass in St Peter's Square was attended by at least 50,000 people from all over the world. The four women who were canonised alongside John Henry Newman were: Italy's Giuseppina Vannini (1859-1911), founder of the Daughters of Saint Camillus; India's Mariam Theresia Chiramel Mankidiyan (1876-1926), founder of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family; Brazil's Sister Dulce Lopes Pontes (1914-1992); and Switzerland's Margherita Bays (1815-1879), a laywoman. The first three spent their lives working for the poor.