

Tolton: On the stairway to sainthood

An approval from a Vatican theological commission in February advanced Augustus Tolton closer to sainthood. Cardinals and archbishops will now take a vote to present Tolton's case to the pope. With a few exceptions, each candidate must meet five measures to receive the title of saint.



The path to sainthood starts here

1



Five years must pass after the death of the candidate.

2



The bishop of the diocese where the candidate died opens an investigation to determine if the candidate lived a life with sufficient holiness and virtue. If so, the candidate can be considered a servant of God.

5



Canonization: Repeat step four — a second miracle resulting from prayers to the candidate must be acknowledged. Then, he is deemed a saint.

4



A miracle needs to be considered the result of prayers made to the candidate after his death.

3



The pope must determine the candidate to have lived a life of heroic virtue, based on prudence, temperance, fortitude and justice.

Tolton is on this step.