

## Intercession of Fr. Venanty when issuing the "Knight" in the memories of St. Maximilian

• All were of the opinion that it would be impossible to start publication of a monthly magazine at the beginning of the New Year. In fact, one of the fathers expressed himself in these terms: "If the magazine comes out in January, it would be a miracle, but since there will be no miracle, then in January there will be no magazine." Turning to the clerics, I said: "Pray to the Divine Mother, through the intercession of Fr. Venanty. If "Rycerz" is issued in January, it will be the work of Fr. Venanty." Not even I know how it happened, but the first issue did come out in January. So I thought it my pleasant duty to publish his photograph in that issue and write a few words about him, at the same time giving emphasis to the fact that he was the patron of the magazine.



*The title page of the first issue of Knight of the Immaculata published in January 1922*

• Overcome by high fever, as I lay helplessly in bed, I turned to Fr. Venanty: "See, there is no money for the February issue, but if you find the amount required and if something is left then with the money that is left I will have your photograph printed." Now quite unexpectedly, not only did we get the needed money, but even a surplus, with which, in keeping with my promise, I had Fr. Venanty's photograph printed with a brief biographical sketch.

• Occasionally in difficult times, when prices rose sharply and wrecked many a publisher, I commended our thorny plight to the Immaculata, through the hands of Fr. Venanty, and was never disappointed.

**"He knew well that need to go out and lead souls back to the Immaculata.**

So when he was enrolled into the M.I., he established the M.I. noviciate circle among the clerics and the lay brothers. He was also planning to extend his action to laymen, but illness prevented him.

Even when it came to starting a magazine as the official voice of the M.I. and we asked for his opinion, he wrote humbly: "If my opinion is of any worth, I believe that the magazine, the voice of the M.I., should be published as soon as possible."

St. Maximilian on Fr. Venanty



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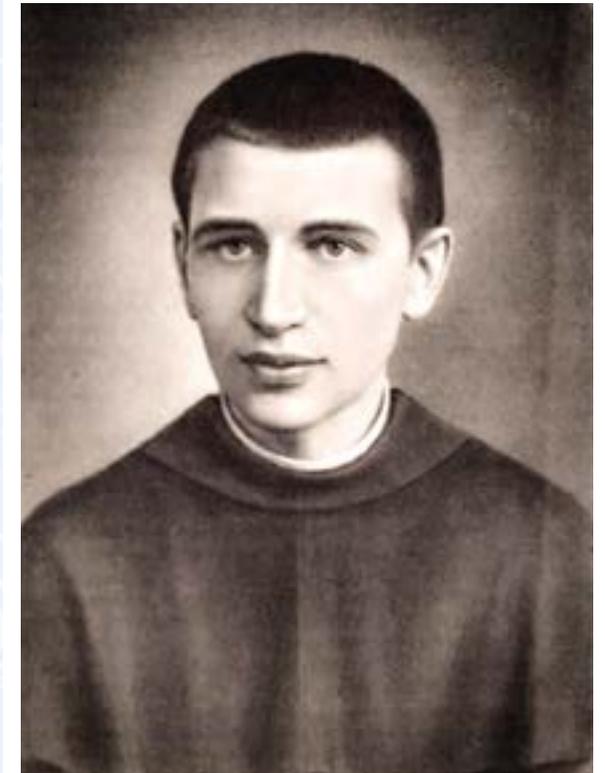
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# Venerable Fr. Venanty Katarzyniec



**"He died, but did not cease to do good. Already quite a few people gratefully extol the graces obtained by praying to God through the intercession of the late Fr. Venanty."**

*St. Maximilian*

# A short biography of Fr. Venanty Katarzyniec

- He was born on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 1889 (the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary); in the south-eastern part of Poland in the village of Obydów, in the Diocese of Lviv (Lwów).
- As a small boy, he tended flocks and even then began to exercise his apostolate among the other boy shepherds. He kept away from the wicked and at times gave strict warnings, if needed.



*In the picture, mother of Fr. Venanty on the background of a family home in the village of Obydów*

- He attended school first in his native village, then in the city of Kamionka Strumiłłowa, about 4 kilometres away. He would walk the whole way every day, despite cold or rain, making sure he could leave an hour earlier in order to have enough time to hear Mass or serve it.
- Once he had finished school in Kamionka, he joined the teacher training college in Lviv and graduated with flying colours.
- Even before completing his teacher training, he longed for the religious life. He presented himself to the Father Provincial (Peregryn Haczela) in Lviv and asked to be admitted to the Order. He did not know Latin, so the Fr. Provincial was unable to admit him. The young man promised to learn what was necessary in the same year and so he did, to the great astonishment of his Superiors. He was then admitted to the Order.

- On the 25<sup>th</sup> of August 1908, he received the religious habit. He was exacting in obedience, and kept even the slightest command scrupulously. He would pray intensely. He excelled in philosophical and theological studies and willingly helped all the schoolmates who came to him for help in their studies.

• On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 1914 he was ordained a priest. As the young Fr. Venanty went to back to his hometown to celebrate his first Mass, the first World War broke out. The population was in great fear, but their newly ordained priest Fr. Venanty calmed everyone down. **He claimed that the Russians would not only not kill, but they would also come to Confession.** And his prediction came true, because Poles were in the Russian army and they received the Sacraments from the hands of Fr. Venanty.

- He worked zealously as assistant priest in the parish of Czyszki, then, in his capacity of Master of the Novices, devoted himself to the formation of the hearts and minds of young candidates to the Order.



- It was in that capacity that he brought to fruition his offering to God and the salvation of souls. Weakened by tuberculosis, he was sent to Kalwaria Paclawska (near Przemyśl), in order to mend his health, and there ended his days on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 1921.

*First tomb of Fr. Venanty at the cementary in Kalwaria Paclawska*

## Prayer for the beatification of Fr. Venanty

From prayer card with the image of Fr Venanty, by Saint Maximilian:



Lord Jesus Christ, Thou hast said: "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven; and come, follow me", behold, your servant, Venanty, obedient to Thy word, left everything and out of love for Thee took on the yoke of religious life, so that after Thy example he might become everything for everyone; we now implore Thee to speed up the moment of raising him to Thy Altars, for Thy greater glory, for the good of Thy Holy Church and for the salvation of souls.

Mary, our Immaculate Mother, never was it heard that anyone who had recourse to thee was forsaken; filled with this confidence in thy never ceasing intercession for us, we humbly implore thee, intercede now with the Most Holy Trinity, that thy servant Venanty might be speedily included in the assembly of Lord's blessed souls, and as a sign of his intercession for us before God, grant us the grace we now implore thee ...

(say or think your intention).