



3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008-3687

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

May 1, 2006

A request for a Papal Blessing, in the form of a printed certificate, should be addressed to the Most Reverend Pietro Sambì, Apostolic Nuncio, at the above address. The request must include:

- 1) A recommendation from a parish priest of the person(s) to receive the blessing, or from a priest familiar with the person(s), attesting to his/her/their good standing in the Catholic Church. The request should be on the parish letterhead and have the parish seal.
 - (a) In the case of a wedding, both parties should be Catholics. (For anniversaries, it is sufficient that one of the members is Catholic.)
 - (b) For priests, parishes, associations or organizations, the request should be presented by the Diocesan Bishop.
 - (c) For religious, the request should come from their superior.
- 2) The following information must be clearly typed or written in capital letters:
 - (a) the name(s) of the people to receive the blessing
 - (b) the occasion to be celebrated (such as weddings, anniversaries of a special nature -25th, 50th, 60th-, special Birthdays -80th, 90th, and so on- religious profession, first communions, confirmations). A general blessing for no specific occasion may also be requested.
 - (c) the date of the occasion
 - (d) if a wedding, the name of the church and its city and state
 - (e) the diocese to which the person(s) to receive the blessing belongs
 - (f) the address to which the document is to be mailed
- 3) An offering of \$20.00 is customary and should be made by check or money order, payable to the *Apostolic Nunciature*.

All requests should be presented in writing. Please allow a minimum of two to three weeks. Requests by fax should be followed by the original hard copy by mail, indicating that it has already been faxed. Requests by e-mail are not acceptable.

If a blessing on parchment is preferred, it should be requested directly from the Vatican. The same information (see numbers 1 and 2 above) should be mailed to the "Servizio Assistenziale del Santo Padre, 00120 Vatican City State, Europe". The customary offering is \$45.00, payable to the "Servizio Assistenziale del Santo Padre" (personal checks are acceptable). Please be informed that it takes 2 or 3 months.