



Marie Madeleine  
Foundress of the  
Faithful Companions of Jesus

To obtain further information and to  
give details of favours received  
through the intercession of  
Marie Madeleine  
please contact one of the following:

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[WWW.fcjsisters.org](http://WWW.fcjsisters.org)

# Marie Madeleine

Daughter  
sister  
wife  
widow  
mother  
foundress  
religious sister

## She loved much



**Marie Madeleine** Victoire de Bengy was born in France in 1781, and in her teenage years experienced the social unrest that followed the Revolution. She married Joseph de Bonnault d'Houët in 1804 but after just ten months was widowed. Her baby was born a month after Joseph's death. As a young, single mother she lived a committed Christian life. She doted on her child, showed herself a responsible daughter and a loving sister and showed a strong social conscience. Marie Madeleine enjoyed a social life too, and seriously considered remarrying. But deep in her heart she sensed she was called to something else and step by step followed this call. Mary Magdalene and the women of the Gospel were an inspiration to her.

The words *I thirst* spoken by Jesus on the Cross touched Marie Madeleine's heart deeply. This ardent young woman known for her generous spirit, zest for life and firm will became what she was called to be, a faithful companion of Jesus. God himself led her in 1820 to form a Society of apostolic women who would live out the Ignatian ideal, and be

**faithful companions of Jesus.**

### **Marie Madeleine ... a saintly woman**

Within a short time of Marie Madeleine's death in 1858 people were speaking of her as a saintly woman. In 1878, her Cause, (the process leading up to a canonization) was strongly recommended to Pope Leo XIII. It was in 1916 that Pope Benedict XV signed the Process that actually introduced the Cause of Marie Madeleine and she was pronounced Venerable. In November 1970, Pope Paul VI promulgated the Decree testifying to the heroicity of her virtues. This Decree is the Church's official declaration that Marie Madeleine lived a truly saintly life.

The next step is her beatification. Before this can happen, proof is needed that through the intercession of Marie Madeleine something surprising and wonderful has taken place, something inexplicable by natural or scientific laws. In other words proof is needed that through her intercession a miracle has taken place. Whilst this seems an enormous task, one way to begin is asking favours of her in every day life.

*Marie Madeleine is a 'friend' who is looking out for us, praying with us and ready to assist us. So ask her to pray with you for what you need.*

### **Prayer for healing**

**God, our Creator  
Jesus, our Companion  
Holy Spirit, Source of Wisdom**

Marie Madeleine  
believed in your power,  
hoped in your promises  
and lived for your  
glory and service.

We ask her to pray with us for ....

Through her prayer  
may your  
healing presence  
be shown  
and your name glorified.

We make our prayer  
In the name of Jesus the Christ.

**Amen**