

# How to Apply for Papal Blessing Parchments, directly or online.

## New Procedure for requesting Papal Blessings

- All parishes are advised that the Vatican has changed the procedure for requesting Papal Blessings as of March 2019.
- Papal Blessings are now to be requested only via a new website at <http://www.elemosineria.va/papal-blessing-parchments/> or in person at the Parchment Office at the Vatican. Requests will not be accepted by fax or postal mail any longer.
- Papal Blessings can now be directly requested by any member of the public. Individuals “self-certify” that the person for whom they are requesting the blessing is a practicing Catholic. No verification or documentation is required from a bishop, priest, parish, or diocese in order to request the blessing.
- The donation is made via the website only, and the parchment is mailed directly to the person requesting it.
- The categories/occasions for which a blessing can be requested have been reorganized and reduced. Requests are accepted only for the following:
  - Baptism
  - First Holy Communion
  - Confirmation
  - Marriage
  - Permanent Diaconate Ordination
  - Priestly Ordination
  - Religious Profession
  - Secular Consecration
  - Birthdays at ages 18, 50 and every ten years thereafter
  - Anniversaries of Ordination, Marriage, or Religious Profession at 10 years, 25 years, 40 years, and every further ten years thereafter

The Vatican will not consider requests for other occasions.

Papal Blessings must be requested at least two months prior to the date of the occasion but no more than four months prior to the date of the occasion.

The Archdiocese of New Orleans Office of Pastoral Planning & Ministries remains available to assist anyone having difficulty with the new process, especially those with limited internet/computer access. Please contact Debbie Curole at 504-861-6294.