



## NEWS RELEASE

Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities

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### Announcement

It is with great joy that the Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities share the good news that one of our own, Mother Marianne Cope, was proclaimed a saint in the universal Catholic Church by Pope Benedict XVI on Sun., Oct. 21, 2012 in Vatican City, Rome, Italy. Ever after she will be known as Saint Marianne Cope.

It is a privilege, honor and blessing that a sister of our congregation who walked the streets that we walk, taught in schools in New York, was a leader in establishing St. Joseph Hospital in Syracuse, St. Elizabeth Hospital in Utica and Malulani Hospital in Maui, Hawaii, and served as provincial superior of the Sisters of St. Francis is now the first Franciscan to be canonized a saint in North America. During her time in congregational leadership, she responded positively to the call to serve those afflicted with Hansen's disease on the Hawaiian Islands, where she spent the remaining 35 years of her life.

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The Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities, who claim Mother Marianne Cope as one of their own, is a congregation of 480 vowed women religious whose Franciscan spirit motivates them to continue God's work and respond to God's people wherever there is a need. The sisters serve in 13 U.S. states/territories as well as Peru and Africa.