

# Will Father Baker be the next declared a saint?

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The news of Mother Teresa's canonization didn't come as a surprise to Cheryl Calire, Executive Director of the Mother Teresa Home.

"I think her giving way of showing mercy to everyone um and I think that we're all called to do it."

We caught up with the Western New Yorker at an unused

rectory turned refuge for pregnant women.

"I really had a great admiration for her and her work," Calire said.

When the Mother Teresa Home opens in August, five women will become the recipients of heartfelt generosity.

Calire says the home's name sake spent a lifetime caring for the sick and the poor, a life mission much like Western New York catholic icon Father Nelson Baker.

"He is a man who made a difference in the lives of so many people," Msgr. Paul Burkard told 7 Eyewitness News.

Burkard, pastor at Our Lady of Victory in Lackawanna, says Baker's lasting impact on Western New York makes him the ideal candidate for sainthood.

"Well people keep asking me when it is going to happen. They keep asking that question," Burkard said. The pastor says the process is well underway.

In 2011 Father Baker was declared venerable which is the first big step in the canonization process and now parishioner are awaiting beatification the step before the Pope declares him a saint for the Universal Church.

"It's very important Catholics and non-Catholics alike really feel he is a saint and we're just anxious for Rome to speak that officially."