

Institute of National Remembrance

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The Ulma family has been beatified

On 10 September 2023, Pope Francis included the family of Józef and Wiktoria Ulma and their seven children, who were murdered by the Germans on 24 March 1944, for hiding Jews, among the blessed.















The beatification Mass for Józef and Wiktoria Ulma and their seven

children was celebrated in Markowa, their home town, near the Ulma Family Museum of Poles Saving Jews during World War II. The service was presided over by the Pope's envoy, the Prefect of the Dicastery of Canonization Affairs, Cardinal Marcello Semeraro. It was attended by, among others, the Primate of Poland Wojciech Polak, the Chairman of the Polish Episcopate Stanisław Gądecki, Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz, Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, Archbishop Adam Szal, Cardinal Robert Sarah, Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Müller, nearly a hundred priests, dozens of bishops and cardinals from Poland and abroad. Also present, among others, was the Chief Rabbi of Poland Michael Schudrich. At the end of the service, they were joined online by Pope Francis, who said the Angelus and gave his blessing to the participants of the ceremony. About 30,000 pilgrims arrived in Markowa.

The ceremony was attended by, among others, President Andrzej Duda with the First Lady Agata Kornhauser-Duda, the Speaker of the Sejm Elżbieta Witek, Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki, representatives of the military, diplomacy, and the President of the Institute of National Remembrance Karol Nawrocki Ph.D., and his deputies Mateusz Szpytma Ph.D., and Prof. Karol Polejowski.

The Ulma family's beatification process had been underway since 2003. On 17 December 2022, Pope Francis approved the decree on the martyrdom of the family of Józef and Wiktoria Ulma - murdered on 24 March 1944 by the Germans for hiding Jews - and authorized the Dicastery for Canonization Affairs to publish it.

As Abp Adam Szal - the Metropolitan of Przemyśl - stressed, "the beatification of the Ulma family is an unprecedented event, because with a single act of beatification the entire family - the parents Józef

and Wiktoria Ulma and their seven children – have been elevated to the glory of the altars. An additional fact without precedent is that in this act the unborn child has also been beatified."

The liturgical commemoration of the blessed Ulma family will be celebrated on July 7, Józef and Wiktoria's wedding day.

[For more information, visit the IPN website devoted to the Ulma family.](#)

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