

Day 2 of Webathon 2013

Dennis Coday | Apr. 22, 2013 NCR Today
Webathon 2013

Fantastic news out of Rome today: [Francis 'unblocks' Romero beatification, official says](#) [1].

That is news *NCR* readers have been waiting a very long time to hear. We've reported in the past that the beatification of Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero has been delayed and discouraged. It took the personal interventions of Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI to keep Romero's sainthood cause from being quietly shuttled aside.

Now a third pope looks determined to make it happen. Rejoice today, my friends.

Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, said March 26 that he knows Francis personally, "and I know he is absolutely convinced that Romero is a saint and a martyr."

"[Everything points to his beatification being on the cards](#) [2]," Chavez said, "although we follow God's time frame which is not the same as ours."

Reporting on Latin America and Central America has long been a specialty at *NCR* going back to the pioneering work of *NCR* Latin America correspondent [Penny Lernoux](#) [3]. Lernoux set a standard for front-line reporting that our young reporters still try to emulate.

Reporting on issues that matter -- that is what brings people to the *NCR* website and keeps them coming back. That's why you've come here, I'm sure.

Putting resources on a story -- whether it's Joshua J. McElwee at a theological conference or John L. Allen Jr. at the Vatican or Jamie Manson's latest column -- takes money. Our Webathon is a chance for you to support our writers in the field.

We need to raise \$100,000 during this year's Webathon. I hope you can help. Please [make a donation today](#) [4]

Tallies for yesterday, the first day of the Webathon, aren't in yet, but I do know that both our matching grants were met with a couple of hours of being announced. We have a much bigger matching grant challenge today. Tom Bertelsen, who already has endowed our internship program, has pledged to match the first \$5,000 that come to the website today.

Please do what you can to help us meet Tom Bertelsen's challenge and meet our \$100,000 goal. [Donate](#) [4] now.

You can keep track of our progress on the [Webathon Central webpage](#) [5], where you will find some fun features:

"NCR is..." A word cloud made up of words we heard from readers about how they describe *NCR*.

Love notes to *NCR*. Read love notes to *NCR* from around the world and submit one of your own.

NCR video messages. We will have a series of video appeals throughout the week. I am sure you will want to watch some more than once and share with friends. Rewatch your favorite and catch ones you have missed. (Be sure to check back as more are posted through the week!)

Last year, your generosity allowed us to meet our \$100,000 goal. I hope you can help us repeat that success and meet this goal. [Please donate now](#) [4].

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Links:

[1] <http://ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/francis-unblocks-romero-beatification-official-says>

[2] <http://ncronline.org/news/people/salvadoran-clergy-hopeful-canonization-archbishop-romero>

[3] <http://ncronline.org/news/people/re-encountering-lernoux>

[4]

<https://npo.networkforgood.org/Donate/Donate.aspx?npoSubscriptionId=1001385&code=NetworkforGood>

[5] <http://ncronline.org/webathon>