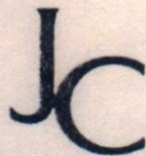


# NEWS RELEASE

April 13, 1978



john carroll university

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS  
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44118  
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MOTHER TERESA TO RECEIVE  
JCU HONORARY DEGREE

CLEVELAND - Mother Teresa, the diminutive 67-year-old Catholic nun who was awarded the Pope John XXIII Peace Prize and India's Order of the Lotus for fighting to alleviate the pain and loneliness of the Calcutta slums, will be honored at John Carroll University with the presentation of an honorary Doctor of Humane Service degree on Monday, April 24.

The award, a recognition of her efforts as founder of the Missionaries of Charity and a tribute to her 30 years of dedication to the abandoned and dying, will be made in Kulas Auditorium at 3 p.m. The ceremony is open to the public.

Born in Yugoslavia in 1910, Mother Teresa was inspired to enter the religious life by a group of local Jesuits who wrote to their families, enthusiastically describing their missionary work in Bengal. Mother Teresa began her mission in India as a geography teacher in St. Mary's High School in Calcutta, but later moved to a ministry of the poor in the nearby Moti Jheel slum.

There she began what is still one of her order's most highly respected and demanding undertakings, that of collecting the dying from the streets so they may at least die peacefully and among friends.

In India, her normal day begins at 4:30 a.m. Prayer and mass precede breakfast, usually consisting of an egg, bread, banana and tea. The woman, who has spoken with prime ministers and popes, then goes out into the city and tends to its lepers, retarded and poor.

Mother Teresa looks upon the awards given her, including the 1971 Kennedy International Award for Outstanding Service to Mankind, as a "recognition that the poor are our brothers and sisters," and has always maintained that they suffer more from rejection than material want. "If we didn't discard them," she has said, "they would not be poor."

She has won numerous followers through her beliefs and perseverance. Desmond Doig, an Indian journalist and self-styled skeptic, visited one of her homes for the dying. He was so moved by the experience that, rather than feeling repulsed, he began to nurse the patients himself.

The Missionaries of Charity, Mother Teresa's order, has grown to 1300 members. They are working today in 67 countries, from Yemen and Calcutta to New York's South Bronx.