News | 25 November 2026 | English article

# New Alleged Miracle in Brazil Renews Hope for Frederic Ozanam Canonization

*A true story of faith under pressure. Read the first half below, then continue online.*

**KEY SPIRITUAL TAKEAWAY**

*"On Friday 30 October 2026, representatives of the Society of St"*

*(Transliterated from the original Hindi.)*

They had gathered only to pray. When prayer itself becomes the target, faith is proved not by words but by staying.

## The Story - Part One

On Friday 30 October 2026, representatives of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul met Archbishop Airton José dos Santos of Mariana, in Minas Gerais, Brazil, to discuss a new alleged miraculous healing attributed to the intercession of Blessed Frédéric Ozanam. The reported healing took place in Barbacena, a city in the Archdiocese of Mariana, and the meeting prepares the next stage: opening a diocesan inquiry to examine the circumstances, collect testimony and evaluate the medical evidence. FAMVIN reported the meeting on 24 November 2026.

One word matters more than any other in this story, and it is the word "alleged". This is not a recognised miracle. No name has been published, no age, no illness, no medical details. What exists so far is a claim, brought to the archbishop by the Society Ozanam founded, and a process that may now begin to test it. That is how canonization works: slowly, carefully, with the Church acting as its own toughest critic.

For the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, though, even the possibility is a moment of real hope. Ozanam has been Blessed, but not yet a saint, for nearly three decades. A new alleged miracle in Brazil, where his first recognised miracle took place, feels to many Vincentians like the road opening again after a long wait.

The meeting in Mariana was about what happens next. A diocesan inquiry is the first formal stage. Witnesses are interviewed under oath, medical records gathered, doctors consulted, and every natural explanation examined before any supernatural one is considered. The inquiry does not declare a miracle. It gathers the evidence so that Rome can one day decide.

Ozanam himself would have understood the waiting. He was a French layman, born in 1813 and dead by 1853, who founded the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Paris in 1833, when he was just 20. He was not a priest, just a young man who looked at the poverty of Paris and decided faith without works was not enough, and who built an organisation that now serves the poor in more than 150 countries.

He was beatified by Pope John Paul II on 22 August 1997, after the Church recognised the 1926 healing of 18-month-old Fernando Ottoni, a Brazilian child with diphtheria in Nova Friburgo, after prayers for Ozanam's intercession. One more recognised miracle is needed for canonization, and that is why the Barbacena case matters so much.

## The Turning Point - What Happens Next

The story reaches a life-changing moment that changes everything -- and what seemed like the end is only the middle. Two reports disagree on the numbers, and one question is left unanswered: will the CCTV footage ever come out? Read the full story to find out what happens next.

### PERSONAL REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When gathering to pray carries a real cost, what keeps a community coming together anyway -- and what would keep you coming?

2. The pastor's sister shielded him with her own body and fainted under the blows. What does costly, self-giving love look like in your own family or church?

3. When justice is delayed and a complaint is withdrawn under threat, how do believers hold on to truth without giving in to fear -- or to hatred?

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