

NEWS RELEASE

Catholic Diocese of Peoria

January 28, 2021

Contact: Monsignor Stanley Deptula

Executive Director, Archbishop Fulton Sheen Foundation

Contact email: msgdeptula@gmail.com

For Immediate Release

***Honorary Street Naming Scheduled for February 4, 2021
in Honor of Bishop Fulton Sheen:
Four Signs Will Be Placed Along Madison Avenue***

PEORIA, IL: On Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 11:30 a.m., an honorary street naming will be held in front of the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception, located at 607 NE Madison Avenue, Peoria, Illinois. The public is invited to attend the ceremony which will include a blessing of the new street sign. Expected to be present are the Bishops of Catholic Diocese of Peoria, Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, CSC and Coadjutor Bishop Louis Tylka; Monsignor Stanley Deptula, Director of the Sheen Canonization Cause; Mayor Jim Ardis; Councilman Sid Ruckriegel.

Archbishop Fulton John Sheen was a native son of the Diocese of Peoria, born in El Paso, Illinois on May 8, 1895. Raised in the neighborhood surrounding the Cathedral, he was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Peoria on September 20, 1919 at the Cathedral of St. Mary. Sheen would go on to worldwide prominence as Archbishop Fulton John Sheen, pioneering the use of modern technology in service of the Gospel and the call to care for the poor. As a bishop he was known as prominent evangelist, radio and TV personality, writer and missionary. His extremely popular TV show, "Life is Worth Living" reached an audience of over 30 million people. His lasting legacy of giving witness to the faith continues to inspire many. His cause for Canonization as a Saint was officially opened in 2002 by Bishop Daniel Jenky, CSC of the Diocese of Peoria. He was declared Venerable in 2012 by Pope Benedict.

The honorary naming of the street in front of the Cathedral stretching to the front of the Spalding Pastoral Center is a recognition of the significance of Bishop Fulton Sheen not only for the local community of Peoria, but his impact on the world. Each year thousands of people pay a visit to the tomb of Venerable Fulton Sheen in the Cathedral of St. Mary. The Catholic Diocese of Peoria is grateful to the civic leaders of the City of Peoria who make this recognition possible.

Please note, COVID-19 mitigations will be adhered to for the dedication ceremony. The public are asked to wear facemasks and follow social distancing protocols to ensure everyone's safety.

###