

# PIER GIORGIO IN THE WORLD

Since his death, Pier Giorgio has been – and continues to be – the point of reference for entire generations of young Catholics, who have chosen him as a model of a christian way of life capable of fully expressing youth's richness.

Blessed Pier Giorgio's figure is known and present in all the countries of the world where the Catholic religion is professed, from Patagonia to New York, from Paris to the Philippines and Canada, from Poland to Ukraine and Nigeria, just to give some examples. Pier Giorgio is well known and there are many initiatives, groups and associations which, besides bearing his name, have been set up to make this great figure more and better known all over the world. The number of countries from where pilgrims come to visit Turin and Pollone to retrace this man's life and to learn more about the "man of the eight Beatitudes", is countless. This is how the then Cardinal Wojtyła, who, after becoming pope, beatified him on May 20, 1990, in front of tens of thousands of faithful, gathered in St. Peter's Square, described him.



**Pope Francis**

“

Only by committing one's life – aware that one might lose it! – can one create for others and for himself, conditions for a new hope for the future. And here our thought goes spontaneously to a young man who has really spent his life like this, so much so, that he became a model of trust and evangelical audacity for the younger generations of Italy and the world: Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati.

One of his mottos was: “Live, don't just get by!” This is the way to experience the strength and joy of the Gospel fully.

”

© Photo: Associazione Pier Giorgio Frassati

[www.piergiorgiofrassati.net](http://www.piergiorgiofrassati.net)

Scan  
the QRcode  
to find  
out more



**100**  
PIER GIORGIO  
FRASSATI  
4 LUGLIO 1925 - 4 LUGLIO 2025



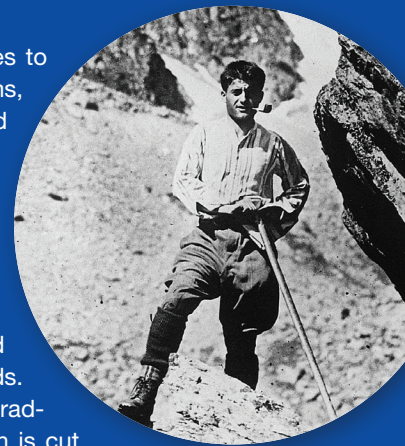
**Pier  
Giorgio  
Frassati**

Pier Giorgio Frassati was born in Turin on the 6<sup>th</sup> April 1901. He is the son of Alfredo, founder and director of the newspaper “La Stampa”, and of Adelaide Ametis, a woman with a strong character and an artistic temperament. He has a sister, Luciana, a year younger than him, an inseparable playmate and study companion. His family belongs to the upper liberal middle class, with an agnostic father and a formally believing mother, from whom he received his basic faith, which later developed in an unexpected way and becomes the foundation of his life. He attended the “Massimo d’Azeglio” Public School and then, after failing in Latin, the Jesuits’ “Istituto Sociale”. Here, he begins to receive Holy Communion every day, which he would do for the rest of his life, and joins the Conferenze di San Vincenzo. In 1918 he enrolled at the Polytechnic University of Turin. He wanted to become a mining engineer “to be able to serve Christ among the miners.” He joined the FUCI Cesare Balbo Circle, which, for him, becomes the most important place for his Christian formation and for fostering friendships. He started wearing the distinctive badge of the Catholic Youth Association whose motto: “Prayer, action, sacrifice” he adopted.

His deep faith was nourished by daily Communion, prayer and frequent confession. He had a great love for the Word of God, in his time reserved for consecrated persons but he acquired the texts for his personal reading. Trusting totally in Jesus’ words, he sees God’s presence in his neighbours and considers himself “poor like all the poor”. He does his best to express fraternal charity in his words and actions both alone and as a member of the

Conferenze di San Vincenzo, on the streets of Turin, in the poor neighbourhoods and at the Cottolengo. In the strong tensions of the first war post-war period, he involves himself in social apostolate, which also takes him to factories. Convinced of the need for social reforms, in 1920 he joined the Italian Popular Party, which sees in him a good contributor towards a more just society. Also in 1920, his father is appointed ambassador to Germany. In Berlin, Pier Giorgio visits the poorest neighbourhoods and started working with the German Catholic Young Students and Workers. In September 1921, in Rome, during a large Catholic Youth Demonstration, he defends the flag of his club from the assault of the royal guards and is arrested. In 1922, the writings of Saint Catherine of Siena and the fiery speeches of fra Girolamo Savonarola led him to enter the Dominican Third Order taking the name of “Brother Jerome”. He joins numerous ecclesial associations where he shares the many interests of his Christian life. As the son of the director of La Stampa, he gives publicity to Catholic newspapers. Even before Mussolini’s rise to power, he openly took sides against fascism. He is deeply disappointed with the entry of some representatives of the Popular Party in the fascist government, about which he says very harsh words. He is passionate about mountains and sports and is a member of the CAI (Club Alpino Italiano) and of the Giovane Montagna. Very often, with his friends (I “Tipi loschi”), he organises excursions which turn into opportunities where he carries

out his apostolate. He goes to the theatre, visits museums, loves art and music and quotes entire passages from Dante by heart. His ability to notice the needs of others, especially of the poor and of the sick is unlimited. In fact, he dedicates his time, energy and his own life to their needs. Two months before his graduation, his exuberant youth is cut short by a fulminant poliomyelitis, probably contracted while assisting the poor. He died in Turin on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1925. Two days later, the huge crowd present at the funeral begins to reveal to the family and the world the greatness of his Christian witnessing. Here begins the long journey which lead to his beatification, on May 20<sup>th</sup> 1990 by St. John Paul II, and to his canonisation - approved by Pope Francis - on 3 August 2025, during the Youth Jubilee.



“ Jesus in Holy Communion visits me every morning. I return this to him, with my poor means, by visiting the poor. ”

“Don't just get by, but live”

**APRIL 6 1901**

Holy Saturday: Pier Giorgio Frassati was born in Turin.

**AUGUST 18 1902**

His sister Luciana was born

**JUNE 19 1911**

He received his First Holy Communion

**JUNE 10 1915**

He received the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Crocetta Parish in Turin

**NOVEMBER 1918**

He enrolled in the Mechanical Engineering Course specializing in mining

**DECEMBER 14 1920**

He joined the Italian Popular Party

**MAY 14 1922**

He enrolled in the Catholic Youth Association of the Parish of Crocetta

**NOVEMBER 1922**

He enrolled in the Conferenza di San Vincenzo in Cesare Balbo

**OCTOBER 24 1923**

He presented his resignation from Cesare Balbo (later withdrawn) in the controversy over the deference to Mussolini

**JUNE 22 1924**

Fascist attack on the house in Turin

**MAY 20 1990**

He was beatified in St. Peter's Square in Rome



**1910**

He started attending 1<sup>st</sup> gymnasium at the Massimo d’Azeglio in Turin with his sister

**1913**

He attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Gymnasium at the Jesuits’ “Istituto Sociale” in Turin

**1918**

High School Diploma from the “Istituto Sociale”

**1919**

He joined the FUCI Cesare Balbo Club of Turin

**SEPTEMBER 1921**

He attended the Catholic Youth Congress in Rome where he is arrested

**MAY 28 1922**

He entered the Dominican Third Order taking the name of “fra Girolamo”

**JULY 29 1923**

He is godfather of the flag of the Pollone Catholic Youth Association

**MAY 18 1924**

During an excursion, he founded the Società dei Tipi Loschi”

**JULY 4 1925**

He died of fulminant poliomyelitis in his home in Turin

**AUGUST 3 2025**

Canonisation in Rome - Youth Jubilee