News



Pope Francis autographs a Lamborghini Huracan coupe presented by representatives of the Italian automaker at the Vatican in this 2017 file photo. The custom-built 2018 Lamborghini is back on the block, this time with an online fundraising platform, not at an elite European auction house. (CNS/L'Osservatore Romano)

Carol Glatz

View Author Profile

Catholic News Service

View Author Profile

Join the Conversation

Send your thoughts to *Letters to the Editor*. Learn more

Vatican City — December 18, 2018
Share on BlueskyShare on FacebookShare on TwitterEmail to a friendPrint

A custom-built 2018 Lamborghini Huracan coupe autographed by Pope Francis is back on the block, but, this time with an online fundraising platform, not at an elite European auction house.

The Italian luxury carmaker donated the white vehicle with gold stripes -- to match the white and yellow of the Vatican City flag -- to the pope in November 2017. The pope had put his diminutive signature on the car's hood, then the vehicle was put up for auction to raise money for charity.

However, it turns out the final bidder at the Sotheby's auction in Monaco in May did not finalize the transaction and the promised $800,000 sale fell through, according to information provided by Lamborghini.

In an effort to still raise funds for a good cause, Lamborghini has decided it will offer people around the world -- not just the highest bidder -- the chance to win the unique vehicle.

Donations begin at $10 in order to enter the contest, according to the campaign at www.omaze.com/experiences/pope-francis-lamborghini.

Advertisement

The winner gets airfare to Rome, accommodation in a four-star hotel and a private ceremony of receiving the new car keys "in the presence of Pope Francis and Lamborghini CEO, Stefano Domenicali" at the Vatican, according to the fundraising page.

Proceeds were to go to rebuilding villages "that have been devastated by violence and war, assist victims of human trafficking, provide medical care and education to those living in poverty" by being distributed through Charities Aid Foundation of America.