

Monthly Newsletter of Formation and Information
Association Mary, Queen of All Hearts

MONTFORT MISSIONARIES

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Jf you love me, you will keep my commandments

John 14: 15-26



The verb to love is central in the gospel of Saint John. This text that which will be proclaimed on the day of Pentecost is a part of the farewell speech of Jesus in John's Gospel.

Jesus announces to his Apostles his departure but he assures them that he will not leave them orphans. After the physical and

visible presence, there will be another presence that will not be limited in time and space. This new presence which will be the coming of the Holy Spirit is a gift. Christ is its initiator: it is he who will ask the Father to send it to us. The absence will be presence.



John calls this Holy Spirit with the name of Defender-Paraclete, that is to say the one who will always be with us to defend us, to help us, to advise us; the Spirit of Truth, who will be the «artisan» of our memory, who will give us the intelligence of the Words of Jesus.

This passage underlines the need for love; it is the mark of belonging to the community. Three times commandment and love are linked, it may surprise us, but the paschal experience is accessible only in love, that is, in a relationship of intimate faith with Christ and that is why Jesus says that the world is incapable of welcoming him – for the world, for Saint John, represents those who do not welcome God, those

who close themselves to his love. Faith requires a relationship of trust if I love, I trust, I obey the path proposed to me for my happiness (the commandments).



The great desire of God is to dwell in us, to establish his home in us. If God is faithful, man is inconstant; fidelity is only possible through the gift of the Spirit of God who is love in person. By receiving the Holy Spirit, welcoming him in us, our capacity for love is inhabited by the Love of God.

In this Easter time let us welcome the Holy Spirit and let him transform us, to become more living witnesses of Christ in the world of today.

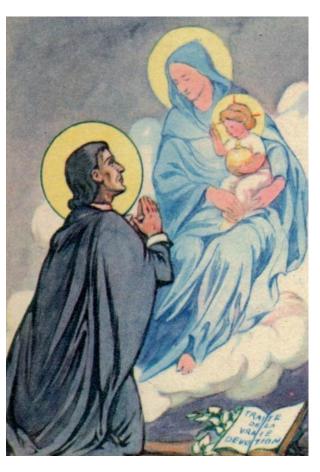
Pierette MAIGNÉ Member of the Commission for Lay Associates

« This passage underlines the need for love; it is the mark of belonging to the community.»

Consecration

is a "little way"

2f the "consecration to Jesus through Mary according to Montfort" is still relevant, it is of course because it contains important values that contribute to the life of the Church and of the world today.



Consecration, also called "the immaculate way of Mary" (TD 158), is a "little way" in the path of our sanctification. The people who walk through it are "little ones", in the sense that they are humble people, as Jesus is humble (TD 143). Jesus recommends: "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matt 11:29). Since this way was chosen by Jesus to come to meet us, we must use it also to go to Him because "the disciple is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master" (Matt 10:24). For Montfort, therefore. to make use of Mary's maternal intercession to go to Jesus is "a practice of great humility" (TD 143).

People who take this "immaculate way of Mary" (TD 158) will be spiritually and lovingly dependent on Mary - as a child - in the power of the Holy Spirit, imitating Jesus (TD 139-143): "What immeasurable glory then do we give to God when, following the example of Jesus, we submit to Mary!" (TD 139). This way is "trustful, that is to say, it fills us with confidence in the Blessed Virgin, the confidence that a child has for its loving Mother. It prompts us to

go to her in every need of body and soul with great simplicity, trust and affection" (TD 107).

Montfort takes an even more concrete image by describing the humility of the people living the consecration with the metaphor of "heel" (TD 54). Heel? Yes, its place in the human body is in the lower part of the foot. It is located at the back of the foot, and there is nothing behind it. It's the identity of the people who live the consecration! These "heels" "will be true disciples of Jesus Christ, imitating his poverty, his humility, his contempt of the world and his love. They will point out the narrow way to God in pure truth according to the holy Gospel... " (TD 59). They are the little ones to whom God the Father will reveal the secrets of his Kingdom, as Jesus prayed: "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because



you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do" (Luke 10:21). Indeed, "all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted" (Luke 14:11), assures Jesus.

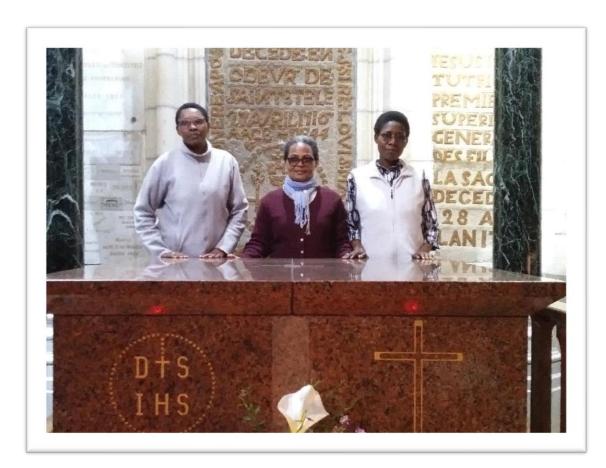
Arnold SUHARDI SMM

« What immeasurable glory then do we give to God when, following the example of Jesus, we submit to Mary! » (TD 139)

Interview

The Institut of Militants of the Blessed Virgin Mary (MSV)

in the service of the Basilica of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort



Monday, September 4, 2017, is a special date in the missionary life of the Militants of the Blessed Virgin Mary (in French: Militantes de la Sainte-Vierge - MSV) and in the animation of the Basilica of Saint Louis Marie de Montfort in Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre. Indeed, on this historic date, three consecrated women of the MSV Institute: Dorothée HARUSHIMANA, Clémence KABATESI and Floride HATUNGIMANA, arrived in Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre at the invitation of the Bishop of Luçon, Mgr. Alain CASTET to contribute to the animation of the Basilica. This results from the bishop's decision to strengthen the mission of this Basilica in the life of the Church. These three consecrated secular women live in the presbytery on the side of the Basilica and are always at the disposal of all those who need their services.

This Secular Institute - which is inspired not only by the Marian dimension but, by all the dimensions of Montfortian spirituality - was founded in Burundi, by **Father Achille DENIS** (1915-1992), of the Society of Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers), in 1962.

Here is my interview with **Dorothée**, a member of this community.

Arnold SUHARDI, SMM

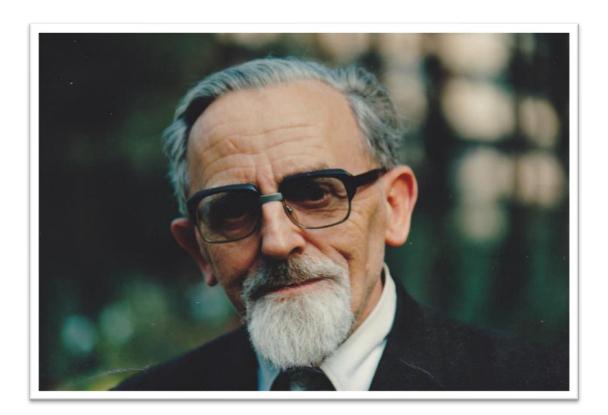
What was your feeling when you learned that the Bishop of Luçon invited your Institute to work in his diocese, especially in the Basilica of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort?

This invitation was a pleasant surprise, not only for me but also for our superiors, by the fact that Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre is the source of the Montfortian spirituality which animates us as it is said in our Constitutions: "The Purpose of the Institute of the Militants of the Blessed Virgin is the glory of God and the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ through Mary, in its members and in the whole world. Its spirituality is that of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort" (Art.1). This is an opportunity offered to us to grow in the montfortian marian spirit through the various celebrations that are organized around this spirituality. We also have different opportunities to visit the places where Montfort preached his missions. Thus, what we read in books without understanding, becomes today a reality for us. And this develops our knowledge of the person of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort. Living next to the tombs of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort and Blessed Marie-Louise of Jesus then becomes an interpellation and an encouragement to work for the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ through Mary.

What exactly is your missionary activity here according to the bishop's letter? In concrete, what are your daily tasks? Is there a division of labor among you?

In the mission letter that was handed to us on 1.10.2017 by Father Jean BONDU in the name of the bishop, the fallowing things are mentioned. A. - To welcome pilgrims, parishioners and visitors to the Basilica of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort with the mission of introducing them to a genuine process of reflection, leading them to the discovery and deepen the spirituality of Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort, presenting also the figures of Blessed Marie-Louise Trichet and Saint John Paul II, who is also venerated in this sanctuary.

- B. To ensure in the Basilica the public celebration of the offices of the liturgy of the hours.
- C. To bring a contribution to the service of the sacristy and the material preparation of the celebrations.



Fr. Achille DENIS

What we do in reality:

- According to the program of the offices, we ensure the regular animation of the lauds, vespers and rosary. We also participate in the animation of the other prayers of circumstance: novenas, prayer vigils. We are part of the choir, liturgical teams, other animation teams in the Basilica, and many other initiatives.
- We offer our assistance to the sacristy in the preparation of services, the care of linen and liturgical clothes.
- We are members of the team of the volunteers who clean the basilica and the crypt, we take care of the flowering of the crypt.
- We welcome people who need a listening, visit elderly people in «Montfort nursing home».

-We also ensure the cleaning of the presbytery and, outside the hours of permanence, we answer the phone calls.

In general, our days are quite busy. We do not have a clear division of labor, but we have an internal organization to remain versatile while remaining flexible to any program adaptation to respond to an initiative that can happen to us spontaneously from the Rector of Basilica or from elsewhere.

What challenges do you encounter in fulfilling the mission that the bishop has entrusted to you?

The first challenge is the lack of place to welcome the pilgrims. Another challenge is related to the new culture in which we are called to insert ourselves. On the one hand, we experience a certain incomprehension in our actions and our being, on the other hand, there is difficulty in understanding others.

In spite of all this, we are happy to bring our small contribution in the mission of this sanctuary. We especially understood that we must carry it in prayer, through the intercession of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort, Saint John Paul II and Blessed Marie-Louise of Jesus. Every morning, and as often as possible during the day, we constantly entrust ourselves to our Mother and Queen, Mary, so that she may obtain for us the grace to remain, as she, available to the will of God. And this grace never fails us. This is what gives us joy and strength in our mission.

I conclude by making mine this praise of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort: GLORY TO JESUS IN MARY GLORY TO MARY IN JESUS GLORY TO GOD ALONE

Dorothée HARUSHIMANA, on a mission to Saint Laurent-sur Sèvre.

* we are happy to bring our small contribution in the mission of this sanctuary *

SHE WATCHES

OVER ME

was born in the year 1949, in a small town in the Maine et Loire, where as a full-time priest served one or two villages. This made me to know my "flock", and also to participate in the life of the town.

I'm from a practicing Catholic family from birth. In our parish church, I was serving as an altar boy and I could Say that it was my pride because I used to accompany the priest in attending baptisms, weddings, burials and other celebrations that, I use to see through my own eyes and get inspired in knowing about sacraments. This had great importance to my life as I was growing day by day with a retrospective joy in this period where everyone felt concerned for my life ...



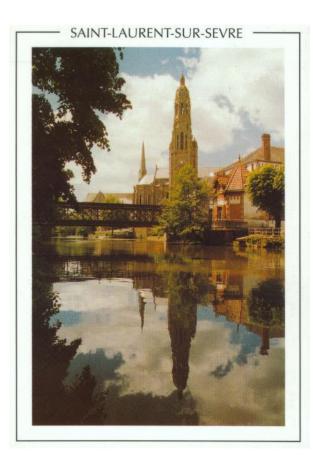


I did my schooling in the institution run by the nuns. After that, I went for college studies - for three years - in a famous Catholic college named:

Combrée, that which no longer exists now. During my college days, I had the opportunity to serve at the offices and to get involved in a team of Scouts from France. This I could say as my entry into active life to give my service to the country as a militant. And from that moment there was a certain distance for the religious practices and faiths, without distancing myself totally from the church activities like, family events, weddings, baptisms, burials or even, sometimes, the desire to find a climate of serenity, inner calm and perhaps, and especially also, the very communicative peace that reigns at the offices, where we are not isolated but surrounded, as part of a whole. There were also participations in pilgrimages, Lourdes, Lisieux, Marillais, Béhuard, with always the same pleasant and respectful feeling. Then the distance increased, with the active life, indeed working on the construction sites and always on the move, the opportunities for "exits" were more present, until the day when I had to face a very great difficulty, and there I had no other solution than to put myself under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



The Sanctuary of Pontmain was the starting point for a beneficial and saving return. As part of a group of prayers that went monthly every 17th to give thanks to the Blessed Virgin Mary, I had the opportunity to spend with this group in Saint Laurent sur Sèvre and come to pray on the tomb of St Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort. The years passed, with some "deviations", deviations quickly followed by reminders to come back, it happens without words. But being a man and therefore self-confident, when all is well, I forget quickly the reasons of the reminders to return... but Mary, she does not forget those she wants to keep out of the perils of everyday life. It has happened to me during my professional life to escape situations that could have dramatic consequences for me; some would say the word luck, but for me, the word luck is not a word but rather a name, very pretty indeed: Mary. Yes, I remain convinced that she knows how to take care of us, despite our deviations, when danger lurks. This is the role of a Mother.



Arrived at Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre in July 2016, I learned to discover this charming town, first during a walk I was lost, a brother of St. Gabriel, brother Jean, was there! Yes, to think about it, life is well done, is not it! Then, over time, I integrated myself into the parish and communal life, different associations, liturgical team, the Spiritual Center of Wisdom etc. To finally make the decision to arrive at the consecration.

This consecration has been for me a logical continuation of my return to the faith ... The Virgin Mary appears to me as a natural guide for a long time, even though I have not always realized it in the past. This consecration on March 23.

could, when listening to the various testimonies of other "postulants to the consecration", make me understand, once again, what can be the importance of the Blessed Virgin Mary, not always perceptible in a "physical" way, but oh so real in our daily lives ... And since Mary is the way

that leads to her Son, well it is enough to follow her and walk blithely, at our pace, with confidence in this Marian way.

Camille

« ... for me, the word luck is not a word but rather a name, very pretty indeed: Mary. Yes, I remain convinced that she knows how to take care of us, despite our deviations, when danger lurks. This is the role of a Mother »

NOVENA OF THE FEAST OF LOUIS-MARIE DE MONTFORT

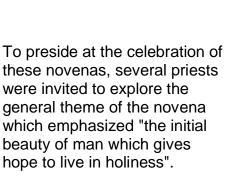




PASSOS, Brazil - Grupo Amigos de Montfort - (GAMO) of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort parish in Passos, Brazil, took the initiative of having a novena before celebrating the feast of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort, April 28, 2019.



The novena animated by the GAMO "Mirim" (branch for teenagers) and GAMO "Adulto" (branch for adults) was intended to animate the life of the whole parish.



Adriana ORLANDI



Celebration of the feast of Baint Louis-Marie de Montfort in Kibeho-Rwanda



KIBEHO, Rwanda - A beautiful liturgical celebration brought together the members of the group Indabo za Mariya (Mary's Flowers) and the pilgrims from the dioceses of Rwanda and other countries to Kibeho (place of apparitions of the Virgin Mary in 1981-1989) this April 28, 2019.

Members of the Indabo za Mariya group regularly make a pilgrimage to Kibeho every last Sunday of the month. The happy coincidence made that this year the last Sunday falls on April 28th.



There were more than a hundred of whom were eighteen new associates (ten young and eight adults) to make or renew their consecration to Jesus through Mary according to the method of Father de Montfort.

The preparation for the consecration began in February 2019. They met almost every weekend to receive instructions. A sister Militant of the Blessed Virgin, a Montfort Father and a Brother of Saint Gabriel took turns to give preparatory lessons for the consecration.

Bro. Jean Chrysostome Rurangirwa, SG Spiritual animator of the group Indabo za Mariya

PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION OF GHISLAIN IN BELGIUM

LEUVEN, Belgium - Sunday, May 5, 2019, at 14:30, in Sint-Pieterskerk, Leuven, the Deacon Ghislain Kavendivwa KASEREKA, smm was ordained by Mgr. Koen Vanhoutte, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Mechelen-Brussels. After the celebration, the guests were warmly welcomed at the reception offered by the community in the Grote Markt Town Hall.



Ghislain, born January 2, 1988, in Butembo, Democratic Republic of Congo, did his novitiate in Montfort-sur-Meu and studied Theology in Nairobi. After being ordained deacon, he is sent for the mission to Belgium. He arrived there on October 1, 2018.

He is currently adapting to a Belgian entity rich in a long missionary-montfortian tradition. He says in this regard: "About the montfortian-missionary heritage which, in the tradition of the Belgian entity, has a long history to this day, the Marian works occupy a visible place. As part of my mission here, efforts to learn new things must continue to enliven me. New country, new culture, new confreres! The urgency of adaptation is essential. Currently, I am focusing on the Dutch language and my learning of this new language is promising. With the help of the Lord Jesus and the intercession of Mary his mother, nothing is impossible."



Father Ghislain, congratulations for this immense grace of God, good continuation in your way to follow Jesus Christ in the footsteps of the poor apostles, with our brother still on a mission: Louis-Marie de Montfort.

Arnold SUHARDI, smm

FEAST OF THE BLESSED MARIE-LOUISE OF JESUS

SAINT LAURENT-SUR-SÈVRE, France - On May 7, 2019, the Church celebrated the liturgical feast of Blessed Marie-Louise de Jesus, co-founder of the Daughters of Wisdom.

To celebrate this special day of her birth and baptism, on that exact date, the 24 participants in the session of Montfortian International Formation (MIF), with their animators gathered together around her tomb in the basilica. This MIF session, which currently involves members of three Montfortian congregations and their lay collaborators, is in progress from April 15 to May 26, 2019, in Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre.



Fr Olivier Maire, who delivered a reflection during this Mass, said that the lives of Marie-Louise and Louis-Marie are inseparable. The fact that they are buried side by side is a symbolic expression of this inseparable spiritual-missionary union.

Marie-Louise was declared Blessed on May 16, 1993, by Pope John Paul II. On September 19, 1996, the same Pope came to Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre for a pilgrimage to the tombs of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort and Blessed Marie-Louise of Jesus.

TO KNOW MARIE-LOUISE OF JESUS

May 7, 1684: she was born and baptized the same day in Poitiers.

End of November 1701: she met Louis-Marie de Montfort.

December 1702: Marie-Louise entered the house of the poor (general hospital) of Poitiers and was accepted in the association of "Wisdom".

May 25, 1707: Marie-Louise became bursar of the general hospital.

August 22, 1715: her religious profession.

April 28, 1759: she expired her last breath in St Laurent-sur-Sevre, pronouncing the words: "My Lord and my God ...".

"My Lord and my God ..."



To Know.

To know how to open one's eyes, When, in the twilight of evening, The loneliness of the sidewalk Suddenly becomes desperate.

To know how to open one's heart, When, everywhere, lives the pain. When on the cheeks are the cries, That will never be flowers.

To know how to open up one's arms, When, despite the summer, the cold Seizes and becomes dead, Making the knell resound.

To know how to open up one's senses, When cold indifference, Is only a cowardly carelessness, Before this degeneration.

To know, despite the pain,
To all offer happiness,
To give back to these hearts
The brilliance of a bunch of flowers.

Elli-Mac.



Address

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