



Letter to the Mennaisian Family

MAY 2015



Brother Yannick Houssay, Superior General

ASSEMBLY OF THE MENNAISIAN FAMILY

Ploërmel (France) - Mother House for all Mennaisians.

The 2nd **Mennaisian Family Assembly**

80 Mennaisian Brothers and Laity
from all parts of the world

from 16th to 22th August, 2015.

5 days of reflection together

- On the Mennaisian educational mission.

We are a Mennaisian Family « to make Jesus Christ known and loved » said the Mennaisian Laity gathered during the General Chapter of 2012.

Let us walk together in joy and hope, to listen to ourselves better, to scrutinise and discern the signs of the times.

Let us create occasions to « get acquainted with » one another, the Laity and Brothers, so as to deepen the knowledge of each other. Let us try to make our communities and our fraternal communion visible.

- On the development of the Mennaisian Family.

The framework document adopted during the 1st Assembly of the Mennaisian Family, in August, 2008, constitutes our reference, our « birth certificate »!

We wish to love this great Family better, in which the Brothers and the Laity find themselves to be sent together to their different mission territories.

We also wish that many adults and youths may get to know it and commit themselves to it.

5 days to meet the founder

and become impregnated with his spirit.



Brothers and Laity gathered for the preparation of this Assembly on February 28, 2015

SUMMARY :

- Mennaisian Assembly
- The Lay Correspondents
- Some Figures
- Commitment Modalities for the Mennaisian Laity

LETTER TO THE MENNAISIAN FAMILY

MODALITIES OF COMMITMENT OF THE LAITY

These few lines are meant to remind you briefly of the elements of the **text of Reference of the Mennaisian Family**. They can help men and women who think about the type of commitment that they wish to have within the framework of the Mennaisian Family. It is not enough merely to read them. In order to go further, it is essential that a dialogue takes place between the Layperson who wishes to deepen this link of membership and a Brother.

The Mennaisian Family constitutes a big community in the sense of solidarity and fraternity which are rooted in the Charism of the foundation of the Congregation of the Brothers of Christian Instruction (Mennaisian Educational Mission, Mennaisian Spirituality and Communion).

We distinguish **three main modalities of commitment** of the Laity in the Mennaisian Family:

1. **COLLABORATION** : Every person who participates in one way or another in the Mennaisian Educational Mission and provides a positive and stimulating outlook collaborates effectively in the educational work.
1. **PARTICIPATION** :
 - From mission to spirituality: The Laity who participate in the Mennaisian mission in an educational work find in it a source to live the Gospel and are nourished by it to experience God in the heart of their own life.
 - From spirituality to mission: The Laity who share elements of the Mennaisian Spirituality find a call in it to be committed to the educational mission, be it in or outside an educational work.
3. **BELONGING** : Some Lay people perceive in the Mennaisian Charism a way of life that is proper to them and which touches all the facets of their family and professional existence. It is a vocational option. This approach, created by the Church, touches a person in his relation with God and other people in the dynamics of baptism.

LAY CORRESPONDENT

During the last General Chapter at Ploërmel in March 2012, the Mennaisian Laity who were present for many days to share with the Brothers wished that "under the responsibility of the General Council of the Congregation **an international committee of the Mennaisian Family** should be set up".

Meanwhile, before setting up the organisation of the international committee, we have wished that a **Lay correspondent** be appointed in every country or every Province of the Congregation.

The objective of this choice is to establish a fraternal relationship between the General Council and the Mennaisian Laity throughout the world.

SOME FIGURES

Mennaisian Educational Centers in the world :

NORTH AMERICA

- **Canada**
- **United States**
4 Educational Centers
5 018 Students

SOUTH AMERICA AND HAITI

- **Argentina**
- **Bolivia**
- **Chile**
- **Haiti**
- **Mexico**
- **Uruguay**
19 Educational Centers
19 539 Students

AFRICA

- **Benin**
- **Ivory Coast**
- **Kenya**
- **R.D. Congo**
- **Rwanda**
- **Senegal**
- **South Sudan**
- **Togo**
- **Tanzania**
- **Uganda**
36 Educational Centers
23 776 Students

EUROPE

- **England**
- **France**
- **Italy**
- **Spain**
84 Educational Centers
41 678 Students

ASIA

- **Indonesia**
- **Japan**
- **Philippines**
7 Educational Centers
4 046 Students

OCEANIA

- **Marquises**
- **Tahiti**
8 Educational Centers
5 309 Students

TOTAL

158 Educational Centers
99 366 Students