

Prayer for the beatification of
Jean-Marie de la Mennais

**O God our Father, you have given
Jean-Marie de la Mennais,
a generous heart and untiring zeal
to make your Son Jesus Christ and his Gospel
known especially to children and youth.**

**As we venerate him as the Founder
of two religious congregations
devoted to Christian education,
we pray to you that he may soon
be recognized blessed.**

**Help us follow his example
at the service of truth,
and grant us through his intercession,
the favours we are now asking...**

**(silent pause)
Through Jesus-Christ our Lord**

**O Lord Jesus, glorify your servant,
Venerable Jean-Marie de la Mennais**

NOVENA to J. M. de la Mennais", n°11-Rome 1-XI-2009

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Novena to J.M. de la Mennais

N° .11 – November - 2009

Presentation

There are two liturgical celebrations during the months of November that give it a very special tonality, regarding the end of the year..

The first of November is **All Saints Day**, and on the following day, 2nd November, **All Souls Day** when we remember all the persons that have preceded us .That can give us a sense of our finitude, our

limitation, and of our pain. But that has also another meaning, by reminding us of the Saints who left the world only to live in God , in his Glory..

Life then has , a raison d'être: we finish, it's true, but we keep on living a much better life, without end.. We live in hope. And in Jesus, proposed for this month as our Model, life takes a different pace . We shall go with Him to live a life of the « Children of God ». « Let's go to heaven, **-so Jean-Marie de la Mennais tells us**, there where so many of our friends preceded us, and are waiting for us! »

Suggestion ? – print this Novena in yellow.

Rome, 13th November 2009. - F. D.L.

I regret not to have been able to prepare a number of the "Mennasian Novena", dedicated to the « Great Novena from the 18-26, for the Northern Hemisphere. I am at Buenos Aires, working at the Diocesan Process, in connection with a cure attributed to the intercession of Father de la Mennais. I recommend myself to your prayers..

RECOMMENDED INTENTIONS

* So that we may always be united with God through prayer and so that we can live in a personal climate and conditions that facilitate it.

* For those young persons who feel called by God to follow Christ as Brothers of Christian Instruction.

* For the sick recommended to our prayers:

- Mr. Godin, at the request of Br. Albert Côté (Canada)
- Walter Sayavedra, who disappeared 9 years ago (Córdoba-Argentina)
- Teihotu Tamarii, student in Tahiti
- Daniel Pérez, seriously ill (Buenos Aires- Argentine)
- Dominique Blin, nephew of Br. Michel (France)
- Natalia Cubillo (Madrid – Spain)
- Augustín Martín (Buenos Aires -. Argentina)
- Luis Fernando Nogales, with a cerebral tumour.- San Borja (Bolivia)
- Marino Moretto, from Roncade (Treviso – Italy)
- **And local intentions.....**

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JESUS - CHRIST, OUR MODEL, according to Jean-Marie de la Mennais' words

✠ 18 – XI

* Jesus Christ was given to us as King, Teacher and **Model**; he is our Leader, we are his members ; consequently we must enter into his designs.
- *We must carry on his works, accomplish his mysteries, continue his life ; in a word, we must **be consumed in unity with him**, as he himself is one with his Father*

✠ 19 – XI

* O my Saviour, whose kindness and love have appeared in the world so that, instructed by you, we may live here below in sobriety, piety and justice. Grant that, seeing that you are exteriorly like us, we may deserve **to be interiorly reformed according to you image**.
- *Nobody will be saved if he **is not conformed to his image**. 'He predestined us to be images of his Son'. Is there anything strange if we are obliged to live as the one who died for us lived ?*

✠ 20 – XI

* That is the 'admirable design of the Most Blessed Trinity in our baptismal consecration. And now I ask you : **what resemblance is there** between our life and that of Jesus Christ, his Son, who became our brother?
- *What respect do we have for his maxims ? What efforts do we make **to imitate his examples** ? Finally, is it the Spirit of God or the spirit of the world that animates us ? Are we Christians ?*

✠ 21 – XII

* All Christians received this vocation ; none of us will enter into God's bosom if he has not become **conformed to the image of his Son**. It is in his Son, as he himself told us, that he has put all his obligingness.
- *In order to raise his poor creatures up to him, it is necessary to find in them the traits, and if I may say so, the face, **the living image of the One** who begot him before all ages.*

✠ 22 – XI

* Thus, the spirit of poverty, of mortification and of obedience is **the very spirit that we must all have**.

- *... Whether the Lord **calls us** to live our days in solitude, or whether he condemns us to live in the midst of this world for which Jesus Christ did not pray.*

✠ 23 – XI

* Yes, I hope, you are going to become true Christians, whose every word will be chaste, or rather, whose conversation will be in heaven, as the Apostle expresses it, whose entire life will be more than an image, **a living copy** of the very life of Jesus Christ.
- *You will be steadfast in doing good, firm in your resolutions, and henceforth we shall groan no more over your inconstancy..*

✠ 24 – XI

* Religious profession is therefore a participation in the priesthood of Jesus Christ, since he associates us to the **divine functions of his redemption**, to his charity for mankind, as well as to his zeal for the glory of his Father.
- *That is why, then, your state demands **such a high perfection** and all the heavenly virtues.*

✠ 25 – XI

* Here below, our **union with Christ** cannot be perfect, but we must tend to perfection. :by continual efforts. It is especially when you have the joy of receiving Jesus-Christ 'that you should ask for this ineffable grace.. .
- *Place yourself humbly at his feet; pray him to take away your spirit, to don you, **to penetrate you with his**, and teach you to be meek and humble of heart, so that you may find a rest for your soul*

✠ 26 – XI

* When it pleases the Lord to afflict us, that is to say, to remove from his Cross even a small fragment and give it to us as a token of his love, nature is frightened, our courage grows feeble and our resolutions fade away.
- *However, it is then that we should rejoice, since it is then that Jesus-Christ wants to make us conformed to his image. Ah! The angels envy our good fortune*