

Examination of the healing of young Enzo Carollo

Following the proclamation of heroic virtues by Pope Paul VI in 1966, there was actually no further progress in advancing the Cause until the beginning of the 2000s. This does not mean, however, that nothing happened during the intervening years: we deepened our understanding of the Mennaisian charism, the spirituality of the Founder and the symbolism of Mennaisian locations, organising special pilgrimages to further this understanding. We have witnessed a revival of Mennaisian studies, a deepening of Mennaisian spirituality and a growth in historical research, together with an interest in the ideas of Féli Lamennais and our co-founder, Gabriel Deshayes.

Numerous Brothers were heavily involved in this renewal. We remember, in particular, Brother Philippe Priot and Brother Miguel Angel Merino, the latter being director of the year of renewal (or Second Noviciate) at Castel Gandolfo, Italy. We must also mention the important celebrations on the occasion of the bicentenary of the birth of Jean-Marie de la Mennais, in 1980. Greater emphasis was subsequently placed on the name "La Mennais" in our worldwide network, so that we now began to talk about the "Mennaisian" congregations and the "lamennais.org" website. A new magazine was launched taking the name "La Mennais Magazine" and pilgrimages to Mennaisian locations in France were further developed.

As regards devotion to the Founder there was, however, a certain decline in interest. Brother Vincent Guillerm, Postulator, lamented the disappearance of the Canadian publication "Le Courier du Venerable" and the end of the collection of favours obtained through the intercession of Jean-Marie that had been led by Brother Jean-Charles Bertrand. All this in the context of a vocations crisis never seen before in the history of the Western Church.

This brings us to the early 2000s. Brother Delfín López (Spain) was appointed Postulator, bringing to the role a great faithfulness to the Mennaisian tradition. The new Postulator gave renewed impetus to the devotion to Jean-Marie. He began publishing an international Postulation newsletter, brought back the tradition of the monthly novena and organised competitions and quizzes for children, etc...

He set out to find favours attributed to the intercession of the Founder. He researched in numerous Hispanic locations, particularly in Argentina where he had worked for many years. He began to examine the healing of a few particular sick people, with one significant case catching his attention: the healing of young Enzo Carollo, who was born in 2001 and attended the Cardinal Copello Mennaisian school in Buenos Aires.

On March 29th, 2005, he suffered a very severe epileptic seizure. So severe were the convulsions that he even ceased breathing. Examinations revealed serious lesions on both cerebral hemispheres. An appropriate care plan was put in place with an intubation being performed, but the diagnosis remained unclear. The boy was in a very complicated situation, with multiple seemingly unrelated symptoms. He continued to have seizures and had great difficulty breathing...

It was not until April 5th that he began to receive treatment using Claritromicina, the medical team suspecting that he had contracted a form of encephalitis that had been provoked by the bacteria mycoplasma pneumoniae. The treatment was given to him for four days. On April 9th treatment was suspended due to the infectious disease specialist's disagreement with the diagnosis. Other treatments were attempted whilst they awaited the results of a molecular biopsy which were due on April 18th.

But on April 15th, before knowing the results of the molecular biology tests, there was a sudden improvement in the condition of young Enzo. *"The patient began speaking clearly and was able to respond to requests. He also cried at one point... He was able to respond to simple questioning. It was clear that he has a good relationship with his parents... he showed many signs of improvement, both clinical and neurological, over the last 72 hours."* On April 20th, the results of the molecular biology tests arrived: it was indeed mycoplasma encephalitis pneumoniae. He then began to receive treatment with Claritromicina once more. The boy remained under observation but showed constant progress, without suffering any further convulsive episodes.