

Shortly after the meeting with Bishop D'Ornellas in January 2018, he sent an official request to Rome for the opening of a new additional phase of the 1957 diocesan investigation. The Diocesan Tribunal was then constituted, composed of Father Henri Chesnel (President), delegate of the bishop for the causes of the saints; Mrs. Elisabeth Algier, Justice and Peace promotor; Dr. Antoine Pelletier, medical expert; of Mrs. Valérie Rouilliaux, notary.

The Postulation team consisted of: the Postulator, Brother Dino, the Vice-Postulator, Brother Michel Bouvais, and Brother Pierre Berthe, with the help of the Daughters of Providence, friends of Combourg. They set out to find people willing to testify in court and provide written documents.

The information that was required from this additional phase included the following:

- more detailed information on Josette and her family
- testimonies to the competence and professionalism of Dr. Galaine, the principal witness to the medical treatment administered, together with Sister Antoinette, nurse
- precise details on the devotion to Father de la Mennais and the recourse to his intercession, in particular in relation to the present case.

Various witnesses were contacted: those, few in number, who knew first-hand what had happened to Josette, the people of Combourg, the Daughters of Providence who were aware of the affair, priests and Brothers who testified to their devotion to Father Founder. All of these people were made aware of this new phase in the investigation for which their collaboration was requested. They included people in Combourg (relatives and acquaintances), Rennes (the Daughters of Providence, the daughters of Dr. Galaine, the doctor), the Daughters of Providence in Saint-Brieuc, and finally, the parish priest and the Brothers in Ploërmel.

The Tribunal sessions began on November 8th, 2018 at the diocesan pastoral centre in Rennes, with the testimony of the first witness, Josette herself. She was questioned by two doctors sent by the Diocesan Tribunal "for control" purposes: Dr. Cahagne and Dr. Myriam de Courrèges. The other sessions took place on December 17th 2018, January 11th 2019, both in Rennes, and on February 1st 2019, in Saint-Brieuc, with the authorisation of the bishop of the diocese.

Following these sessions, the materials collected were put under seal and signed by the bishop during the closing canonical session on October 7th 2019. Brother Michel Bouvais, vice-postulator, was appointed, by the bishop, official "bearer" of the "Transunto", that is to say of the file which remains in the Archives of the Congregation of Saints. He handed it over on October 14th 2019 to Mgr. Pappalardo, the Chancellor for the Congregation of Saints who introduced the session with a prayer. He then opened the Transunto and noted that the rules had been obeyed for sealing and transporting the file.

The former postulator, Brother Delfín López, was also present and it was he who presented the current situation of the Cause of Father de la Mennais to the Secretary of the Congregation of Saints, Mgr. Bartolucci. A request to acknowledge the legal validity of the Process as a whole. A positive response came on January 14th 2020 through the Under-Secretary of the Congregation of Saints, Fr. Turek.