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**A lively summer**  
Summer camps  
and meetings



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**Street education**  
20 years of action  
in Zamora



**WORLD YOUTH DAY  
WYD 2023**  
*They share the joy  
overflowing their heart*

50 Mennaisian youth from Spain, France and Rwanda participated in WYD in Lisbon last August. It was intense and the joy was contagious! Here are the locations of the coming gatherings in the years to come, given by Pope Francis: Rome in 2025, and Seoul, South Korea in 2027. Testimonials and explanations. At the heart of WYD in Lisbon, Bros Rafa Alonso, Adrien Hashakimana and James Hayes. To discover P. 9

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## Editorial

## On the way with Mary!

2024 is the year of our General Chapter. We decided to walk the path that leads to it with Mary, the servant of hope.

At Cana, as an attentive and considerate woman, Mary anticipates the lack of wine, appeals to the hour of Jesus, and asks the servants to accomplish all that her Son tells them.

The first one on the journey, faithful, bold and courageous to her generous "yes" at the Annunciation, Mary leads us to live in daily availability in order to be servants of hope. In the silence of the ordinary life of Nazareth, she teaches us to let the Word of God take flesh in us. Through her attentive listening, Mary helps us to welcome life with its joys and afflictions. Living out her fidelity to the end, she educates us to remain at the foot of the cross with those who suffer and bear the weight of sickness, suffering and mourning. Through her prayerful presence in the Upper Room, while waiting for the Holy Spirit, she invites us to make prayer our vocation and our mission.

To be with Mary on the way to the General Chapter means:

- Living the events of everyday life with joy, availability, boldness and generosity;
- Letting Jesus take flesh in us through a frequent meditation on his Word;
- Listening with our ears, looking with our eyes, sympathizing with our heart and acting with Mary's faith;
- Witnessing to hope through service, compassion, presence and closeness, and
- Living personal and community prayer as our vocation and mission!

May Mary, the first one on the journey, accompany the whole Mennaisian Family on its journey towards the next General Chapter! Thus, by following and imitating her, she will lead us to her Son Jesus, «*the Way, the Truth and the Life*» (Jn 14:6), and be «*our hope*» (1 Tim 1:1).



Brother Hervé Zamor, s.g.  
superioregenerale@lamennais.org

## 3 moments of fraternal life

### 16 Brothers undergo formation as community superiors in Ploërmel.

There were not 5 animators, 2 translators and 16 participants, but really only one community in Formation, at the Lycée La Touche in Ploërmel, from July 15 to August 14. The feeling? The joy of being a Brother and the chance to live a time of international fraternity which participants were coming from the following destinations: Spain, Togo, Senegal, Benin, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Congo DRC, Rwanda, France, Haiti, Argentina, Philippines, and Polynesia.

**Carrying one's Brother**, this is the heart of the mission of the community superior. It was the occasion of beautiful encounters: Bleuenn Gautier, Alain Caillon, Bros Yannick Houssay, Claude Grégoire, Louis Kercadec, Rafa Alonso and James Hayes, and finally Corentin Ogier, Michel Tanguy, the Senior Brothers in Josselin.

<https://www.lamennais.org/en/23-brothers-in-session-at-la-touche-ploermel/>  
<https://www.lamennais.org/en/end-of-session-for-23-brothers-in-ploermel/>



4 weeks of fraternal life for the participants during the brief stay at the Lycée La Touche in Ploërmel.

### 16 Brother Formators in Abidjan

16 formators or future formators of the Brothers met from August 21 to 31, in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Two main themes were tackled: the presentation of the Rule of Life, then the individual accompaniment and spiritual growth.

<https://www.lamennais.org/en/laboratory-16-brother-formators-completed-two-years-of-an-unprecedented-journey-in-abidjan/>



There was no shortage of topics for the Brother Formators!

### Accompanied Young Brothers

Brothers Gildas Prigent and Gérard Byaruhanga participated in the meetings of the inter-congregational network of «*Tutti Fratelli*» Brothers, in Rome, for those responsible for the accompaniment of young Brothers, from September 9 to October 6.



## The 11 major Superiors gathered in an online meeting

This meeting will be conducted in video conference form from October 9 to 12 among the Major Superiors and the Brothers of

the General Council. This will be a new step towards the General Chapter. The exchanges will focus on the following themes: updating the Rule of Life, Casa Generalizia and general administration, the preparation of the 2024 General Chapter and the Mennaisian Family, its organizational and animation challenges.

## Something new at the Casa in Rome

This September 2023, new Brothers will reside at the Casa. To the 11 Brothers already present are added **Bros Nicolas Le Meilleur**, for the accounting department, and **Mathias Senfuka**, student. **Bro. Jean Paul Peuzé** is back, following his regained health.

At the same time, **young people are welcomed to the Casa** for an ecumenical prayer vigil for young people on Saturday, September 30th, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The idea was launched by Brother Alois, prior of the Taizé Community. This is part of the assembly on the theme of synodality initiated by Pope Francis, with a first meeting from October 4 to 29 and the second in October 2024.



The Casa community this fall. From left to right, squatting : Bros Mathias SENFUKA, Noël MUPENDA, Ronald MASEREKA, Dino DE CAROLIS, Vincent SSEKATE. Standing : Bros Hervé ASSE, Hervé ZAMOR, Claude GREGOIRE, Eugenio MANONI, Nicolas LE MEILLEUR, Miguel ARISTONDO, Jean-Paul PEUZE, Mario FORINO, Alberto RAMOS, Luis-Manuel CUESTA  
Absent : Bros Franco GRAZIOSI and Marcello SIMEONI.

## Perpetual vows

**Bro. Marcsondez Desrivières** pronounced his perpetual vows on Sunday, August 13th, in Pétiön-ville, Haiti.

<https://www.lamennais.org/en/wishes-br-marcsondez-desrivieres-committed-himself-for-life-and-3-brothers-made-their-first-vows-in-haiti/>



## Correction

In our previous issue, we published Bro. Ewald Guerrier's photo instead of Bro. Enceau Laguerre's.

Our apologies to those concerned for this unintentional error.

**Bro. Enceau LAGUERRE** is appointed Vice Superior of the Scholasticate of Abidjan, in-charge of the 3rd-year scholastics.





# ASIA



## Indonesia

### 13 young people are in religious formation

In our Formation houses in Indonesia, 5 new aspirants arrived in **Larantuka**. In **Yogyakarta** we have started the implementation of the new Formation plan. The 1st-year postulate welcomes 8 applicants and one 2nd-year applicant who joins the group.

Moreover, in Sanata Dharma, Yogyakarta, 4 young scholastics began their studies at the Faculty of theology of the Jesuit University. This addition brings the house to its full capacity with a total of 18 young people with their formators.

There are no novices this year, as we are moving to a 2-year postulate. The 2nd year postulancy and novitiate will normally be in **San José**, Antique, in the Philippines. In the Philippines, news of a potential applicant is awaited.



*In Yogyakarta, the community is well animated with many young people in formation. Photo Daniel Lefrère.*



*The children are happy to return to the SDK school in Larantuka, Indonesia.*

### Back to school

The start of the new school year went well in **Pandan (Antique)** and **Larantuka** schools, with the resumption of the ordinary rhythm and recruitment after the Covid years.

At SDK  
La Mennais,  
Larantuka,  
Indonesia.

**La Mennais**  
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## Inf@+

### Community settlement

In **Kupang**, Indonesia, we hope to complete soon the purchase of a land and then begin building a new community house as soon as possible. The residence of the Brother Visitor is now in **Yogyakarta** which also corresponds to the reality of the District where the vast majority of the Brothers is located.

The **Manila** community in the Philippines was closed and the residence is now sold.

In **Japan**, the 3 Brothers are now regrouped in **Yokohama** and the process of selling the **Tokyo** residence is underway.



# AFRICA



## Rwanda

### In class with deaf-mutes in Rwanda

Bro. Eric Mugisa, the new Brother Visitor in charge of Rwanda and DRC, came to Rwanda at the beginning of July. He visited the schools and teams of **Vision Jeunesse Nouvelle**, an educational network founded and run by La Mennais teams in Rwanda and which brings together tens of thousands of young people.

In Gisenyi, the deaf-mute class focuses on sign language and crafts.

Information via F. André Bilodeau



In Gisenyi, Rwanda, Bro. Eric Mugisa, center right, with young people learning hairdressing.

## Togo

### West Africa. Bros Eric and Richard pronounce their 1st vows

On August 25th, in the chapel of Sainte Claire d'Ogare, Togo, **Bros Eric MBOLIGIKPELE FATAKI** and **Richard MUSUMBA NGANZIYO**, both from the DRC Congo, made their first vows during the celebration presided over by Father Pascal DJIBONGUE, parish priest of Saint Paul de Nassablé, Dapaong, surrounded by six priests.

The celebration took place in the presence of Brothers from Togo, Benin and Senegal, religious Brothers and Sisters, friends and acquaintances of our newly professed, as well as the Christian community of Ogare. A party followed at the CARTO Agricultural Center.

<https://www.lamennais.org/en/commitments-first-vows-of-2-brothers-and-8-entries-at-the-novitiate-in-dapaong-togo/>

### 8 young people entered the Dapaong Novitiate

On Thursday, August 24th, took place the entrance into the novitiate of 8 young people in the oratory of the Novitiate of Dapaong, Togo. They were: Martin (DRC), Emmanuel (DRC), Elie (Benin), Innocent (DRC), Laurent (Togo), Elie (DRC), Kevin (Benin) and Thomas (Togo). They were welcomed into the Congregation by Bro. Jean-Baptiste NDIAYE, Visitor of the Saint-Paul District, West Africa.

Notice that there is a ninth young person who will soon join the group.



The newly professed gathered with Brother Visitor of the St-Paul's district, Bro. Jean-Baptiste NDIAYE, on the left, who received the vows of Bros Eric and Richard in the presence of Bro. Joseph BELLANGER, Master of novices, on the right.



With the Brothers present and the novices ending their Novitiate, in Dapaong, Togo, there were: Squatting: Bros Philippe – Jean – Eric – Richard – Eloi – Gilbert  
Standing: Bros Alexandre – Innocent – Laurent – Martin – Kevin – Jean-Baptiste Emmanuel – Thomas – Elie [DRC] – Elie [Benin] – Joseph.



Inf@+

A new logo for La Mennais secondary school, at Kyotera, Uganda.

# AMERICAS



Bro. Marcsondez DESRIVIERES pronounced his perpetual vows surrounded by many Brothers, families and friends. In the photo: Bros Hervé Zamor, Marcsondez Desrivieres, Daniel Mondestin, Mgr. Quesnel ALPHONSE, bishop of Fort-Liberté, Bros Jean Joseph Sermeil, Ricot Moise and Bro. Joslyn GONTRAND, Vice-Provincial.

## Haiti

### Bro. Marcsondez DESRIVIERES makes a lifetime commitment

There was a major celebration at the Saint Louis de Gonzague institution, Delmas, on August 13th! Mgr. Quesnel ALPHONSE presided over the celebration during which **Bro. Marcsondez DESRIVIERES** pronounced his perpetual vows. They were received by Bro. Hervé Zamor, Superior General, in the chapel of Our Lady of the Presentation.

Bros Daniel MONDESTIN, Jean Joseph SERMEIL, Ricot MOISE made their first religious profession, while three novices started their novitiate.

## Mexico



### Bro. Gabriel pronounces his first vows

A historical event took place in our institute with Bro. Angel Cabal Rosas, a Mexican Brother, who made his first vows, which took place on July 15th at the John Paul II Center in Huatusco. Bro. Mario Houle, Provincial, received the vows, surrounded by an assembly of friends, animators of the center and of Bro. Gabriel's family.

Bro. Gabriel Cabal Rosas is surrounded by many young people in Huatusco, Mexico. Photo Martha De La Cruz.

## Canada

### 70 participants present at the country party

From July 28 to 30, a huge tent stood on the shores of Lake Paterson in Quebec to welcome some 70 Mennaisian Brothers/Laity and also young people, with ages spreading from 4 to 90, and even above. This is the 2nd edition of the Mennaisian family summer country party. What is the purpose of the exchanges? «See with the eyes of your heart».

Everyone was invited to take a look at a project in progress in one's life. «What do I want to do? What would I like to see further? What do I want to continue to see?»

Info via «Le Trait d'Union». Photo Bros Claude Gélinas and Pierre Leblanc.



A family celebration in a setting of natural beauty at Lake Paterson.



# EUROPE



## France

### «Building together». 150 participants, 12 Jubilarians and babies

Welcome to babies and children! New faces brightened up and rejuvenated the new version of the «Building Together» year-launching party for St. John the Baptist Province, France/England. From a provincial festival - which Brothers lived in previous years -, the Mennaisian Family Day animated by a dynamic team took place on Sunday, August 27, at the Mother House of Ploërmel.

Activities such as videos, songs, celebrations, meals, visits to ongoing construction sites, games, etc., punctuated this day which brought together 150 participants including 6 jubilarians present, and Mgr. Jean Bondu, new auxiliary bishop of Rennes, Dol and St-Malo. During this event, everyone received some Lego elements... to share with others. So, 2024 will be the year of the 200th anniversary of the Mother House, an overview of this tonic return!



**La Mennais**  
READ THE ARTICLE

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Family celebration at the Mother House on August 27th : a boost for the year to come.

## Spain

### Let's take care! #LaMennaisCuida (Care)

«No education without care and no care without education», explained Bro. Carlos Capellán, Provincial, presenting this new theme of the year for the Spain La Mennais Network. «Our Mennaisian pedagogy is a wonderful tool, which offers us symbolic elements, such as links, angel, bread, hospital, and that is why we want to be sowers. The goal is none other than to inspire, to awaken dreams, to open paths, to take care of talents and to make them grow.

Members of an educational community don't just need programs, standards and protocols that govern school life. They also need affection, support, empathy, and this does not depend only on the role that each one plays, but also on our person and the attitude with which we interact with ourselves and others, and also with the social, natural and virtual environment. Let's cultivate care!».

**La Mennais**  
READ THE ARTICLE

Click here



Many summer camps were organized this past summer throughout the Province of Spain. Here in Zamora.



# OCEANIA



## «I undertook a training course and found a job»

10 out of 11 young people from the Agricultural High School of St Athanase Te Henua Enana of the Marquesas obtained their Professional Baccalaureate with a major on conduct and management of the

agricultural company CGEA. «Congratulations! to the young people for their success», said Bro. Rémy Quinton, Director. "Thanks for showing us your determined will and courage. You are strong in ability to progress." You may want to listen to the testimony of Ludmilla who has just found a new job.

La Mennais

WATCH THE VIDEO



## Youth in action



*Poefitu and Teanuana from St Athanase's High School show us the steps involved in making Tapa, which is a kind of traditional fabric made from wood.*

## Young people react to bullying

1 in 10 students would be victim of mockery, humiliation, insults, or aggression in the context of school... but also on social networks, in general.

To raise awareness and encourage people to talk about it, the La Mennais High School in Papeete involved young people by encouraging them to make videos. See the production of these youngsters.

La Mennais

WATCH THE VIDEO



*The students of 1st Bac Pro CGEA turn over the compost pile to ventilate it. After about three months, it will be used as fertilizer and organic compost for our crops.*





Pope Francis:  
«We only possess  
life by giving it  
away!»

# 50 young La Mennais from France, Spain and Rwanda tell their stories

«We keep the memories developed in our hearts. We are touched by the fact that Pope Francis speaks to every young person.» On August 6, he announced to the world that the next WYD, in 2027, will take place in Seoul, South Korea. He is also inviting young people to Rome in 2025 for the Holy Year Jubilee on the theme of hope. **Let's get moving!**



The French and Spanish teams from the La Mennais delegations.

## Leave your mobile behind and meet people!

«In the journey, the secret is staying on a path, day after day, step after step, in the footsteps left by others, *together*. That's very important: together. The «do-it-yourself» approach to big things doesn't work, and that's why I say to you: please, don't isolate yourself, seek out others, experience God together, follow group paths without getting weary.»

## «I'm not up to it»

You might say - «I'm not up to it»: I perceive myself as fragile, weak, I often fall!» When you feel this way, please «change your perspective»: don't look at yourself with your own eyes but think of the way God looks at you. «When you make a mistake and let yourself go, what does He do? He's right there beside you, smiling and ready to take you by the hand with tenderness».

## «I offer you the Blessed Sacrament»

«This is what happens now, in adoration: we look at Jesus and He looks at us. In silence, we let his warm and sympathetic voice resonate, speaking to the heart, comforting, encouraging, healing and sending. It's not only an intimate encounter, it's the strength to get up and go».

## In the eyes

«Dear young people, I'd like to look at each of you in the eyes and say: have no fear! But I tell you something even more beautiful: Jesus looks at you and loves you always and infinitely. Let's get going!»

## Walking with Mary

Mary cultivates joy along the way. She tells us to grow and keep smiling ; we must learn the art of walking.



Here, a statue of Our Lady of Fatima, which the Pope visited during World Youth Day.

## My encounter with Jesus

«Let us renew our encounter with Jesus this evening», invited Pope Francis on Saturday during the Vigils and at dusk. Let us say to him: «Lord Jesus, I thank you and I follow you. I love you and I want to walk with you».

«Thank you for traveling, walking and coming! The Virgin Mary, too, traveled to visit Elizabeth: «She arose and set out in haste» (Lk 1:39).

## In orbit around ourselves

«Do you know why we often get lost along the way? Because we remain in orbit around ourselves. On the contrary, he who leaves his orbit finds himself, he who spends himself for others gains himself, for we only possess life by giving it, like Mary who received a gift from God and immediately became a gift for Elizabeth.

«But if we only revolve around our 'selves,' our needs, what we lack, we'll always find ourselves back where we started, crying about ourselves, looking sad, maybe with the idea that everyone blames us.»

# See you in Rome in 2025 and Seoul in 2027

## Get up and go!

«Dear young person, you who are here, tired because you've walked a lot but happy because you've lightened your soul, with a sense of freedom that things don't give you, get up: open your heart to God, thank him, embrace the beauty that you are; fall in love with your life and discover every day that you are loved and then leave: go out, walk with others, seek out those who are alone; color the world with your footsteps and paint the roads of life with the Gospel. Get up and go!»

## Seoul 2027. «We will welcome the young people of the world with joy!»

Focus now on WYD SEOUL 2027 in SOUTH KOREA.

Korean journalist Hoo Hyun Lee shares with us his reactions to Korea's hosting of WYD 2027.

Watch the video :

<https://www.facebook.com/lamennais.org/videos/193317153629618>

## God, it's so beautiful!

Yes... tiredness, crushing heat, noise, sometimes no place to lay your head and eat in peace, an exhausting, busy pace every day, and yet...

God, it's so beautiful!

Petals, like rain, hurled from the towers of huge podiums...

The looks, my God, the looks: look at your eyes, the eyes of others, there, look at the smiles!

These artists, musicians, clowns, theater people, dancers, choreographers, painters, creators...

These men and women who serve others: firefighters, paramedics, police officers, drivers, cleaning crews...

Countless volunteers of all ages from all over the world...

These group leaders, educators, animators, religious or not, present at every moment, permanent, willing, inhabited...

The faces of people who can't walk, talk or see, but who smile, smile, help, help each other, radiate...

Surprising encounters, fragile yet powerful seconds, hands that chat, bracelets exchanged, rosaries recited...

These friendships that want to last, these promises that are exchanged, these loves that are shared, these challenges that will transform the future...

A shower of beauty!



Sunrise with the Spanish team.



Pope Francis announces that the next WYD will take place in ...



Bros James, Justino and Rafa during a WYD night.



Also a great meeting with Bro. Pierre Orain and young people from Bain-de-Bretagne, France

## Obrigado! Thanks to the WYD LA MENNAIS Media Team

10 reports published on the [www.lamennais.org](http://www.lamennais.org) website were produced during WYD Lisbon 2023 by the WYD LA MENNAIS Media Team, made up of: Camille Guitton, Corentin Ogier, Elise Urvoas, Claire Tanguy, Arnaud Morandea, Bro. James Hayes, Bro. Rafa Alonso, Bro. Justino de Santiago, Michel Tanguy.

Greetings also to Br. Hervé Asse, who took care of the translations and put the English and Spanish versions online, with the help of Bro. Luis Manuel Cuesta and Bro. Eugene Mwesigye.



**1. USA. The La Mennais mission continues.** In recent years, a group of lay people, formerly called “Volunteers”, led by Bro. Henry Monday, has helped continue the mission of the Shaker Hill Brothers in **Alfred, ME, USA**. With great gratitude for all that has been accomplished on the **Notre-Dame (Alfred) campus**, the team looks forward to working with all former students, friends or anyone who values the work of the Brothers. Lisa Blanc.

**2.** 14 young people from the new French Mennaisian High School called the **St François d’Assise à Savenay** - opened in 2022 – were welcomed in an educational internship last February by the Kirambo Brothers in Rwanda. The partnership was launched between **Bro. Emmanuel Rwandamuriye**, director of the Lycée de Kirambo and **Pascal Guesdon**, director of the French Lycée. Supervised and trained by **Anne-Françoise Cottineau** and **Bro. Olivier Migot**, they observed and supported their tutor teacher.

**3.** Re-entry ceremony at the **Raymond Hamelin complex in Dungu, DRC Congo**, on September 4. Bros Clément Abeli, Richard Tameko and Fr. Benjamin Kukumbo with the educational team welcomed the children and young people.

**4.** A “new youthfulness” for the **Father de la Mennais’ statue in Alfred, ME, USA**. Erected in 1941, the complex has undergone a radical transformation. **Sean Thompson**, a resident of Alfred town and a friend of the Brothers, put his craftsmanship skills to good use. Night light makes it visible after sunset. Volunteers finished landscaping a few days ago. Those associated with York County Shelter, destined to become the new owners of the property, will take care of the monument. In vignette, Sean Thompson.

**5.** **Jubilarian Brothers** of the France/England Province renewed their vows on August 27 in the chapel of the Mother House of Ploërmel. From left to right: **Bros Jean-Paul-PEUZE, Joseph PINEL, Michel CLOUET, Philippe LAUNAY, Mgr Jean BONDU, Joseph FORGEAU, Henri RIVOALEN, Michel GUYOMARC’H et Yannick HOUSSAY.**



# A summer of madness!



VJN officials, including Bro. Vital, director of VJN, with partners.

## 1,500 children welcomed by 'Vision Jeunesse Nouvelle' (VJN) in Rwanda

So many choices in the sports and cultural activities of VJN! 50 facilitators were hired at six sites. Many children were able to practice sports or perform in cultural activities. A lot of joy and discovery! VJN operates nationwide in Rwanda in the country's four provinces: North, East, South, West and Kigali City.

<https://visionjeunessenouvelle.org.rw/>

## Novelty in DRC Congo and Quebec

The **Dungu-Doruma Diocese in DRC Congo** asked the Brothers to organize holiday activities for the many young people. They accepted and replied in a quite significant way, especially on the site of the **Mbugangali school**.

At the end of July, during a workshop led by **Martine Lacroix and Bro. Yvon R. Roy**, at **Lake Paterson (Quebec)**, Maeva, Anja, Liliane, Samuel, Raphaël, Jérôme and Xavier, aged 10 to 18, discussed the difficult situations in their lives and tried to discover that the word of God could concretely bring roads to happiness and comfort.



Much joy for these new holiday activities in the diocese of Dungu-Doruma in Rwanda.



Let imagination and games thrive at the Palandrin with Estival, France.

## 10 holiday stays with Estival, France, and 7 summer camps in Spain

All you need to know about the summer stays and novelties from the **Estival association**. 500 young people were welcomed, and 70 animators. And 7 stays organized by the **Spain La Mennais Network** lived this past summer.

<http://www.association-estival.fr/>  
<https://www.lamennais.me/>

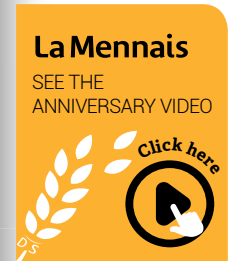
## A Noah's Ark with 370 children and 100 animators in Mexico

Three intensive weeks were lived in Huatusco by children and young people, from ages 5 to 14, and animators, on the Vikings' theme: 'Norden 2023'. The next destination? 'Tahiti 2024'.

<https://www.facebook.com/MenesianosHuatusco>

The Vikings' theme impressed the children of Noah's ark in Huatusco. Photo : Martha de la Cruz.





Collège Jean de la Mennais in La Prairie welcomes 1,700 students.

## Collège Jean de la Mennais of La Prairie celebrates its 50th anniversary

More than a hundred alumni celebrated the end of the festivities of the 50th anniversary of Collège Jean de la Mennais in La Prairie (Quebec), on June 22. Graduates of the 1970s, 80s, 90s, and 2000s, their staff and directors gathered to take part in several activities throughout the day. «It's heartwarming to see alumni reunite with people they haven't seen in several years,» said Sylvie Dupuis, Executive Director. We're going to have reunions a lot more often than we did in the past 50 years.»

It was in 1886 that the Brothers arrived in Quebec and took charge of an establishment in Chambly. In 1888, they were in La Prairie where they were entrusted with the management of the school on Saint-Ignace Street. In 1890, on the very land acquired by the FIC Brothers in La Prairie, the first construction of a vast complex was erected which would house, successively or simultaneously, the Mother House of the Brothers, the juniorate, the novitiate, the scholasticate, the Teachers' College and the boarding school. The whole entity, i.e., the formation house, the programs, the land, etc., changed its orientation in 1972 to become "Collège Jean de la Mennais". Assisted by many collaborators, the Brothers want to continue the work undertaken by their elders.

## 25 years of education and prevention in Zamora Joven, Spain



Part of the team of educators from the Joven Mennais Center in Zamora in front of the exhibition on street education.

"On October 20-21, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Zamora Joven Menesiano Center", confirmed Bro. Justino de Santiago, director. "There are currently 55 educators working at the Centre. During these 25 years, 100 educators have come and gone. The Centre began its educational work with pre-employment workshops and, later, with educational social programs. We then developed vocational training, prevention program and monitoring sessions for the protection of minors.

"In the field of prevention, we offer two street-educational programs since 2002 in Calle Norte, and since 2006 in Calle Sur, and finally in the neighborhoods of San José Obrero and Peña Trevinca. We use the area of the street as an educational place, in the presence of educators on site."

## Street education for 20 years

- In vocational training: about 120 young people each year; About 3,000 young people over these 25 years; 8 classrooms divided into 4 options: pharmacy, welding, mechanics and manufacturing;
- Protection: 3 homes for 30 young people aged 14 to 18 - 2 Homes for former guardians: 10 young people over 18 years of age;
- In reform: 20 young people subject to judicial measures;
- In street education: in two neighborhoods of Zamora (200 children and young people), in Benavente (100 children and young people), in Villalpado (50 children and young people), and in Fuentesauco (50 children and young people).

<https://menesianoszamora.com/es/>



# 1. Mennaisian schools help each other to develop with the 'MNEG'

A pioneering approach in France! How should we finance real estate or equipment projects for schools when our own resources are limited? Since 2014, the France La Mennais network has gathered together 76 schools in France under the 'Mennaisian Network Ethics Group' ('MNEG') organization. Based on solidarity, the principle is to pool surplus funds. They are invested in ethical and recoverable investments in the form of interest-free loans by institutions that need them; and this interest makes idleness fruitful... as Jean-Marie

de la Mennais liked to say! Today, the 'MNEG' launches a new call for solidarity in the face of many needs.

Two recent projects have just been initiated. In Folgoët, Finistère, the **Sainte Anne and Notre-Dame schools** two sites have been regrouped. A loan from 'MNEG' to the amount of 50,000 € was granted.



The Sainte Anne and Notre-Dame schools in Folgoët are now grouped on a single site.

At the **Sainte-Agnès School and the Saint-Théophane-Vénard College in Nantes**, accessibility and fire safety equipment are essential. A loan of 125,000 € is requested from the 'MNEG' but is not possible for the moment given the unavailability of the cash flow of the fund.



An appeal has been made to help finance the projects of the Sainte-Agnès school and the Saint-Théophane-Vénard College, in Nantes.

# 2. 10 years and a call for solidarity

«Let's rally and build together», declared Yves Delarra, treasurer of the 'MNEG'. Each OGEC – that is, the local management association of the Mennaisien Network – is asked to figure out the Recommended Solidarity Deposit (RSD) and to fully contribute to the construction project. The 'MNEG' currently has a deposit of about 2 million €. The double is expected for the collection, i.e., 4 million €. The rules and means to date make it possible to obtain 125,000 € per request.

The 'MNEG' members are: Francois Pilet, Annie Justeau, Isabelle Brémond, Yves Delarra, Nicolas Gueho, Marielle Bergere, Jean Gueguen, Loïc Le Touzo. The president is Marc Le Saint.

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# The Daughters of Providence

## The Jean Marie de la Mennais residence in St-Brieuc

### An evolutionary home for the elderly

Living in the Jean Marie de La Mennais' residence in Cesson, district of Saint-Brieuc, is to keep together the intimate spirit of a family. The particular design of the buildings makes it possible to foresee different types of accommodations, either temporary or permanent, depending on the inhabitants' state of health. The equipment managed by the Montbareil Association makes it possible to benefit from the accompanying conditions of a nursing home.

In 1955, the Congregation of the Daughters of Providence of Saint-Brieuc decided to send its elderly, sick or tired, Sisters, to a house which was bought in 1891 in the district of Cesson. In 1962, a new house was built. In April 2006, the Saint Joseph Hermitage became a residential establishment for dependent elderly people. It was authorized for only 24 locations for religious and lay people when a tripartite agreement was signed with the General Council 22 (Côtes d'Armor) and the State.

On January 1, 2009, the Congregation of the Daughters of Providence ceded the EHPAD (Saint Joseph Hermitage) to the Montbareil Association. Today as yesterday, the Saint-Joseph Hermitage offers lay residents and nuns a place of medical life adapted to their needs, in the heart of the small village of Cesson.



Several Sisters of Providence during a meal taken several years ago. To the St. Joseph hermitage in Cesson is now added some equipment for a temporary reception.

THANKS

## Bro. Jean-Paul Peuzé, who has regained his health, expresses his gratitude



Bro. Jean-Paul Peuzé:  
«You have been for me those sisters and brothers who have obtained my healing.»

«Many of you spoke of a miracle about me», wrote Bro. Jean-Paul Peuzé, 1st Assistant, who was under a special care in Nantes from the beginning of 2023 until this summer. «What is certain is that I received this gift of being able to regain life again. You have been for me those sisters and brothers who have obtained my healing. Of course, I know very well how much I owe to the two great teams of caregivers. This message comes to express my immense gratitude for what you have done for me, and to tell you that this recognition will remain in my heart forever.

I would like to think of those of you who are undergoing trials of all kinds at this time, or are facing illnesses, or some serious family or professional difficulties, or who are accompanying people in great difficulty. I also think of my friend Marie-Jo Ndiaye, from Senegal, who prayed for me and sent me messages of support, before passing away suddenly last June.»

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Marie-Jo Ndiaye was a teacher at the Paul VI College in Diourbel and worked with the Brothers for 30 years. She had participated in the Mennaisian Family assembly in 2015 in Ploërmel. She suddenly passed away on Saturday, June 10, 2023.



# «Dear Marcel, now is the time to say thanks to you»

On July 5th, Bro. Marcel Matte from Laval residence celebrated a first century of his life which was filled up with music, nature, youth and joy! On that day, «We had the privilege of giving a phone call to our incredible dean of the institute located in the Pointe-du-Lac community,» wrote Bro. Mario Houle, Provincial of Canada-USA-Mexico. Bro. Roger LeBlanc, 104 y.o., wished Bro. Marcel a warm welcome into the three-digit number life stage! Happy birthday, Brother Marcel, you who have been young for 100 years! Here is also a message sent from Pétion-Ville, Haiti, by Brother Jacques Matte, his blood brother, prior to Bro. Marcel's birthday.

«Dear Marcel!

Daisies bloom in your beautiful white hair.

You don't forget that you're going to be  
a hundred years old soon.

I know you've never been a loser, you the outstanding musician!

You've encountered lots of spectacular turns  
of events even in your mission.

I was far away, but I heard the echo of successes. Bravo!

I could foresee in you all these positive results.

When you and I traveled together, there was no end  
to discovering the "beautiful Quebec Province"  
and even beyond the other Canadian provinces.

And now, I say THANK YOU for all you have been doing!

Open the "Good Song Book", and give yourself a concert.

As an artist, you took the most beautiful pictures in the world!

And as a craftsman, you skillfully handled all tools,  
even mechanical ones,

You accumulated them all in the Brothers' storage room.

I never saw you getting angry; besides,  
your teaching skills were amazing:

You could give discreet lessons to everyone,  
in everything. Congrats!

I'm not saying, «Rest for a while!» but «Keep on going!», brother!

You have all my admiration!

Jacques

Let us also welcome Bro. Émilien DOUCET's 101st birthday, since August 7th,  
without forgetting Bro. Luc FRENETTE, also a centenarian since December 12th,  
and finally Sister Jean HENON, Daughter of Providence, who is heading for her 103rd birthday on November 6th.

