Information letter of the Brothers of Christian Instruction and of the Mennaisian Family



Serving Life Multiple initiatives



Deans 103 and 101 years old !



SERVING LIFE A new school is erected ! Thian, Benin

In Thian, Benin, « On September 20th, we opened an Elementary school of the Congregation with 13 students » Here, **Bro. Nicolas Le Meilleur,** director, and a teacher with the class. Read P. 9

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The Edito of Br. Hervé, Superior General, P. 2

La Mennais Click Infos # 2 - 01 • 2022

Walking together, at the pace of others. Here, an excerpt from the 2022 calendar of the La Mennais France Network.



Learning to walk together !

This is the call that Pope Francis makes to us when he invites every Christian to participate actively in the preparation of the next synod that will take place in 2023, and which theme is : *«* For a synodal Church: communion, *participation, mission »*. Why is it important to respond ?

The pandemic of COVID-19 makes us realize more and more that we are a global community sailing in the same boat and that no one saves himself alone. Thus, learning to walk together becomes a prophetic sign for a human family that needs a common project and is able to seek the good of all.

In order to do this, it is necessary that we allow the Holy Spirit to shape in us a truly synodal mentality by entering with courage and freedom of heart into a process of permanent conversion without which we run the risk of wanting to build the common house without the involvement of others. This is the secret of being a Church «on the move», missionary, with open doors.

How can we respond to this ? In order to learn to walk together, each one is invited to listen to the others and to the Holy Spirit (Jn 14:17) ! The tragic condition of migrants in all parts of the world, the ecological crisis that threatens our planet and the sexual abuse that shakes our Church invite us to listen to the clamor of the poor, the earth and the victims.

Walking together at the pace of others, especially the marginalized and the wounded, is only possible if this journey is based on communal listening to the Word of God and the celebration of the Eucharist. This is the example that the Risen One gives us when he joined the disciples on the road to Emmaus to explain the Scriptures to them and to break their bread.

May we take advantage of this synodal journey to learn to walk together with our differences. Like good musicians, let us help each other to create harmony out of our differences ; and the One who harmonizes everything into a beautiful symphony is called the Holy Spirit ! A way of life for our Church and for each of us !



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

Live 🤞

Mennaisian week Initiatives in countries

Many events have taken place on 5 continents.

Hoy Celebramos a nuestro fundador



During the activities of the Divine Providence district, Argentina-Uruguay, Chile and Bolivia in September.



Bros **Bernard JOLIVEAU and Joseph PINEL** speak at the Collège-Lycée St Joseph-Peyramale in Lourdes, France.

Spiritual, cultural and sports activities at the Raymond-Hamelin School Complex in Dungu, Congo DRC, directed by Bro. Clément ABELI TSHENANE, here with the children.



Death of Br. Albert TREMBLAY,

former Superior General of the Brothers from 1970 to 1982

Close to his centenary, Brother Albert Tremblay passed away on October 22 at the age of 99, in La Prairie, Quebec, Canada. His funeral took place on November 2 at the Motherhouse in La Prairie, in the presence of Brother Hervé Zamor, Superior General.

« Br. Albert was a good shepherd who lived in the midst of his Brothers, who reached out to them in their daily lives and even to the peripheries of their existence », underlined Br. Hervé Zamor during his speech.

Read the article here : https://www.lamennais.org/death-of-bro-albert-tremblayformer-superior-general-of-the-brothers-from-1970-to-1982-a-giant-has-leftus/?lang=en

Listening to the violin in the company of Br. Albert.





Br. Albert Tremblay, former Superior General





Chronicle of the year 2021

Communities

Openings

Uganda : Zombo and Nebbi Indonesia : Kupang, Timor Island Kenya : Nanyuki

Canada : Montreal, Quebec :

relocation from Brébeuf to Square

Relocation

Closures

Vannes, France (149 years of presence)
Bedford, Canada (130 years of presence)
Dolbeau, Quebec-Canada (91 years of presence)
Liverpool, England (57 years of presence)



December 27, 2020, Parakou, Benin. Brother Philippe DOUTI, of Togolese origin and Brother Ferdinand SOGLO, of Beninese origin.

Angus.

February 7, 2021, Kisubi, Uganda.

Brothers Delefino MUHINDO, Mathias MULUMBA, Matthew KATONGOLE and Geoffrey YIGA.

August 15, 2021, Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Brothers Rémy MONDELUS and Wenscky JN-LOUIS.

December 27, 2021, St. Monique Parish, Dapaong, Togo. **Brother Augustin BOUDAN.**

Perpetual professions

From January to March 2022

January 2, Rwanda. Brother Olivier IGIRANEZA.

March 27, Ngascop, Senegal. Brother Léopold DIOUF.

Gatherings and formations

The meeting of the 11 Major Superiors with the General Council was held online on September 27-30. The discussions focused on formation, the Mennaisian Family, the Rule of Life, and the financing of the general administration. News from each sector were shared after long months marked by the pandemic.

22 young people preparing for or having taken their final vows participated in an online formation program from July 26 to August 1. The young Brothers come from Asia, Africa and Haiti. The richness of the exchanges, the personal time dedicated to prayer, and reflection allowed each participant to experience a real spiritual highlight.

22 Brothers, formators or future formators participated on September 13 in a first session of formation of formators. It was led by Brother Yannick Houssay and focused on Mennaisian spirituality. This is the first of a series of online meetings planned until June 2022. Furthermore, two 10-day sessions are scheduled in Abidjan for the summers of 2022 and 2023.



Perpetual professions of Bros Delefino MUHINDO, Mathias MULUMBA, Matthew KATONGOLE and Geoffrey YIGA, on February 7, 2021, in Kisubi, Uganda.

Deceased Brothers in the year 2021

Bros Raymond GOUPIL, André PRIGENT, Albert TREMBLAY, Albert CASTEL, Jean URVOY, Joseph BYAMUKAMA, Médéric BOUTIN, Robert GONNEVILLE, Pierre ST-LAURENT, André TREMBLAY, Gérard PARISIEN, Robert BLUTEAU, Jean-René NÉDÉLEC, François JAFFRÉ, Roger ROUESNÉ, Alain CELTON, Porfirio BLANCO RODRÍGUEZ, Quirino KAKONGE, Louis NARZUL.

Find the biographies of the Brothers here : https://www.lamennais.org/category/2021/



Major Superiors' online meeting: a great opportunity to share news.

ASIA

Indonesia

5 postulants welcomed in Yogyakarta

On Saturday, September 4, the community of Yogyakarta welcomed 5 young people who wanted to continue their formation as postulants in our congregation. They have been aspirants for two years in the Larantuka community, and they decided to continue their formation in the Postulancy. In this pandemic situation, we faced administrative requirements.

When they arrived at the community, they were received by **Brother Stef Le Pape**, Superior, and **Brother Zenno**, Postulant formator, and all the Brothers of the community. We are happy with the development of our congregation in Indonesia with more candidates willing to join us. We pray for God's blessings and guidance on the path of their formation and that their mission in Indonesia may continue to grow.

F. Zenno

La Mennais

WATCH THE VIDEO



Testimony of Br. Miguel of the Larantuka community.



Brothers, novices and postulants at the community in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.





Discover the SDK school in Larantuka.

Inf@

6 young Brothers are students .

In Manila : Br. Mamerto Gaugano is pursuing a 2nd year Master's degree in theology from San Jose, Antique.

In Yogyakarta : Br. Andreas Pito should finish his studies in Indonesian language, while Br. Fransiscus Xaverius Gua Making should tackle his course in Counseling, and Br. Blasius Neno is pursuing his 2nd year of English. All of them are handing courses issuing from the Jesuit Sanata Dharma University.

In Kupang: Br. Adrianus Andi is starting his English studies at the Catholic University of Kupang. Br. Fabianus Lagur begins his studies at the Kupang Diocesan Institute for the Formation of Religious Teachers.

Japan

The 19th Holy Light Festival

He was held on October 15 at Seiko Gakuin in Yokohama. Workshops, arts, technological and computer achievements: it is an important opportunity to nourish the spirit of altruism.

Website : http://www.seiko.ac.jp/



Spectacular sceneries during the Festival of the Holy Light at the Seiko Gakuin School in Yokohama.

AFRICA

Togo-Benin-Ivory Coast-Senegal-DRC Congo

1st vows for 4 Brothers from Congo DRC and Togo

With jubilant hearts ! On Wednesday, September 8, on the feast of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, Patroness of the Congregation and Mother of the Church, took place the profession of the first vows of **Brothers Samuel** (DRC), **Richard** (DRC), **Christophe** (TOGO) and **Achille** (DRC) in the chapel of the house of prayer in Dalwak in the diocese of Dapaong, Togo.

Presided by **Fr. Pascal DJIBONGUE**, pastor of the parish of St. Paul the Apostle of the Nations, and concelebrated with some other priests, the celebration drew an impressive attendance of the Brothers of the TOGO-BENIN sector. Likewise, religious men and women of the diocese and lay people from the four corners of the diocese came to support and accompany the future professed in their first step in religious life.

In his homily, the celebrant reminded the professed that the three evangelical counsels namely chastity, poverty and obedience, are nourished by love and humility. In the name of the Church and the Congregation, **Brother Jean Baptiste NDIAYE**, Visitor of the District of Saint Paul of West Africa, received the vows made by the Brothers.

Br. Gilbert

Br. Éric Mugisa

Entrance to the Novitiate of 5 young Brothers

Five young Brothers entered the novitiate in Dapaong, Togo, last September. **Jean-Baptiste**, **Samuel** and **Jean-Baptiste** are of Congolese origin, **Narcisse** of Beninese origin and **Joseph**, Togolese. It was presided over by **Br. Jules TONE**, Assistant Visitor of the Saint Paul District of West Africa. We invited the Mennaisian Family to carry these young people in prayer so that they may have a profound experience of the intimacy of Christ.



24 Scholastics in Abidjan. The new formation year has officially started at the Scholasticate since our recollection. We have started the academic year at CELAF. We have a group of 24 scholastics this year, supervised by a team of 6 formators, 3 in each house.

Br. Simon Alphonse

Tanzania-Kenya. The pandemic has not affected the communities too much and the health of the Brothers is good. The signs of vitality are not lacking: 4 novices, 2 scholastics, and 6 postulants in the first year. However, the number of Brothers in service - 34 - remains insufficient to ensure the mission in the 6 schools in Tanzania and the 2 in Kenya.

Congo-Rwanda. The school year ended in both countries and the new school year began in early October in both countries. In Bunia, instability and violence discourage any good will and disrupt the proper functioning of both civil and religious institutions.



In an overwhelming attendance, the St. Paul District's Brothers were present to surround the 4 new Brothers.



The five young Brothers at the novitiate in Dapaong.

Uganda-Southern Sudan

Schools closed until 2022

Schools have been closed since March 2020 but are expected to reopen next January. The impact of the Covid-19 is still very strong in the Province. The consequences are important for the Brothers who often find themselves without sufficient resources and without work. The Formation Houses have been able to continue their mission and many young people are still in formation. **The new activities in Nebbi and Zombo** are going well. Other Brothers are requested by several bishops.



The group of scholastics in Abidjan at the beginning of the school year.

AMERICAS 🌾

Canada-USA-Mexico

The Brothers of the La Prairie Infirmary move to La Salle in Laval

Located on the top floor of the Collège Jean de la Mennais, which the lay corporation will own in 2025, the infirmary of the Motherhouse of La Prairie is one of the developments that the Province has been considering for a while. Various scenarios were considered: construction, delegation...

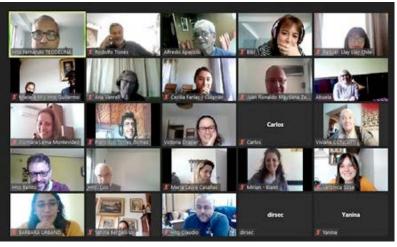
A visit to the De La Salle Residence belonging to the Brothers of the Christian Schools, located at 300, Chemin du Bord-de-l'Eau, in Laval, allowed the Province to move towards a decision. The residence is able to accommodate all the Brothers (less than 20) of the present infirmary in conditions that are perfectly adapted: equipment, health care, fraternal life and spiritual animation. The transfer to the new residence is planned for mid-January 2022. «Circumstances make this transfer possible and desirable now,» assures **Brother Mario Houle.** An accompaniment of the personnel is also underway.



The Brothers of the Infirmary will discover another Residence located near Rivière-des-Prairies in Laval, Quebec.

Argentina-Chile-Bolivia-Uruguay

The different groups of the Mennaisian Family in the Divine Providence District have continued their formation online, or in interrelation with local communities, both for the group of directors and for the home team. The health of the Brothers is good, in spite of the impact of Covid in the 4 countries of the District. Several young people are on a vocational journey.



The Mennaisian Home Team meetings continue to be active.

Inf@

Haiti. 19 young people in formation on site. The restoration of the École Frère Odile-Joseph in Les Cayes is continuing actively following the appeal launched in recent weeks. Many young people, whose families had fled the country during the troubles, are missing from the schools.

The Province is also happy with the return of 3 new novices, the first profession of 2 novices, and the final commitment of 2 young Brothers - see *La Mennais Click Info N° 1* - and the presence of 6 postulants and 8 pre-postulants.

Help from Brothers and Laity of the United States continues for South Sudan. Riimenze's challenges in South Sudan continue. Br. Achilleo Kiwanuka, director of OLAPS – Our Lady of the Assumption Primary School – explains that due to a war between two tribes there, insecurity is high.

The fundraising activities of the Brothers' community in Alfred, Maine, and of associates and friends, continue; this year's objective is to contribute to the expansion of the Brothers' residence, with more Brothers expecting to come soon. EUROPE

France-England

« Make of your life a service »

Schools, communities, fraternities and Mennaisian groups throughout the Province of St. John the Baptist are living the theme «Make of your life a service».

This includes the 20 fraternities, the Mennaisian Institute of Formation (IMF), the Mennaisian Solidarity Association (Assific), the Educational Network of the 75 schools and the Guardianship Team, the La Mennais Youth Teams including the Mennaisian Young Adults, the Mennaisian Lay Associates...



Harassment prevention. The 6th grade choir from Collège St-Martin in Pont-Château performs Romane's song « La lune ».



Students in the final year of the CAPa program (Certificate of Agricultural Proficency) at Kerlebost High School in St. Thuriau participated in sorting potatoes for the Education Without Borders Network. Also noteworthy is the active presence of **47 young people from the La Mennais Network** at the Rosary Pilgrimage in Lourdes last October. Read P. 12



Intense fraternal encounters have been experienced. Here, during the retreat last August in Nanclares.



Spain

Formation meetings were held online for directors and the Mennaisian Commitment Journey group. The 2021-2022 theme is: « Let's make an agreement - Let's make a pact ».

The logo for the 2021-22 year.

Inf@

School leaders on their way to

Auray. France, on October 25, after a day of walking with symbolic stages, France marked the 200th anniversary of the commitment of the first Brothers in the chapel of the Eternal Father. They continued the annual assembly the next day in Ploërmel, gathered by the Trusteeship team. « PEPS/SCPS La Mennais » is the

successor to « Faith and Prayer ». Since November 6, at the Maison St-Donatien in Derval, France, the members of the Association, which has more than 50 years of history, have chosen the name « SCPS La Mennais » : Sharing, Commitment, Prayer and Service.

Contact : peps.la-mennais@mennaisien.org Website : Meeting (weebly.com)

Br. Yannick Houssay was elected on the board of the Conference of Religious of France.

Meeting in Lourdes from November 16-19, the major Superiors of the religious men and women of France – « Corref » – formed their new team: President : **Sr. Véronique Margron** - Dominican Sisters of the Presentation of Tours; 1st Vice-President : **Sr Anne Chapell** - Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, from St Jacut les Pins (Morbihan, in the Britany region); 2nd Vice-President : **Brother Michel Laloux** - OFM Franciscans ; Treasurer : **Brother Yannick Houssay** – Brothers of Christian Instruction of Ploërmel.

OCEANIA

Working on many fronts

The Saint Pierre Chanel District continues its commitments. The new Saint Athanasius Agricultural High School, formerly CED St Joseph in the Marquesas, is in full development under the direction of **Br. Remy Quinton**.

More than 50 young Polynesians are welcomed at the « Foyer des Iles ». Brothers and lay people also continue their involvement in various social and sports undertakings in Polynesia.











Presentation of creations from the wood workshop of the Collège-Lycée Sacred-Heart of Taravao.





Poko, also from the Agricultural High School, was interviewed this morning. He talked about his experience as an intern on a farm.



Inf@

Br. Xavier Frogier.

« Let's live the Mennaisian week together ». Attendants enjoyed the photo exhibit during the November 18-26 activities at La Mennais College and High School in

Papeete, with a team coordinated by

Florian, in formation at the "Lycée agricole St Athanase", Nuku Hiva in the Marquesas. Here, under the «leadership» of Mathias, in the middle of pineapple production.





Births. New achievements to serve life

oung people, educational teams, Brothers and the entire Mennaisian Family are at work to develop new schools, educational centers, solidarity actions... Discover.

Benin.

The Brothers open a new school in Thian

« On September 20, we started a Catholic Elementary school of the Congregation in Thian, with one class,» explains Br. Nicolas LE MEILLEUR, director. We have 13 pupils for the moment. We occupy an old building, but we have plans to build a 12-classroom building starting in February 2022.

In the center of Benin, in Parakou, the Brothers have two communities. The community of Boundarou, in the city, with three Brothers who take care of the animation of the Hibiscus College, and the community of Thian, about six kilometers away, with three Brothers.

This year we have the pre-postulancy with 5 young people : 3 Beninese and 2 Togolese. The director of the postulancy is Br. Quenneth YANTICOA, a Beninese Brother. We also have a Togolese Brother, Br. Francis KOMBATE, who is beginning his studies in modern literature. The community is also pursuing its project with a group of young Mennaisians, who help us with the animations during the Mennaisian week, and with vocation ministry ».

Rwanda.

A new school is also opening in Ruyange

Ruyange is the new school taken in charge by Br. Fulgence, near Kirambo, comments Br. André Bilodeau. In addition to being Director, Prefect of Studies, Discipline and Secretary, he must also see to the improvement of the school.

This year, Secours Mission - a solidarity organization based in St. Romuald, Canada - has helped improve the rainwater collection system and provide a library. There are still many other projects to be completed, including a drinking water network and the acquisition of a photocopier. All kinds of help are welcome.



formation. See also the cover photo: the school's unique classroom.

directed by Br. Fulgence.



France. Recreational Center Opens in Nantes

The Estival Association has launched a **recreational center** in the Chantenay/Bellevue neighborhood in Nantes since September. Animations, games, educational activities : a meaningful place for children from 8 to 12 years old, every Wednesday afternoon.

The 'Escale'/Stopover activity, which welcomes young people for homework help and extracurricular support, also continues its work. All week long, a team is present around Anne Guibert.

Contact : alsh@association-estival.fr



Uruguay.

Youth and adults in solidarity

A team of young people and adults, linked to La Mennais College in Montevideo, Uruguay, are making **solidarity trips** two days a week **to help people living in the streets** by offering food and exchanges. They have been helping Christian and Jennifer, a young couple, for several weeks.

Since the beginning of their action, families from the school have also offered hours of work in their specialty: gardening and maintenance. With the help of social services, they recently obtained housing. Life changes with these new steps !

Contact : F. Guillermo Dávila - hnoguida@outlook.com

Inf@

Mathis, volunteer in Uruguay. Mathis Farouilh, a student at Rennes, is in Uruguay for a three-month solidarity stay. A recruiting time was experienced this fall at the '49' community (community's address : 49 St Hélier Street) in Rennes, France.

Winter Vacation/Recreation ('Esthiver') : going to the mountains with young people in February 2022. Another new feature of the

In February 2022. Another new feature of the 'Estival' Association, France, is the creation of Esthiver, **a holiday for 14-17 years old** to experience the mountains at La Bourboule, in the Puy-de-Dôme region (France), with skiing, sledging, snowshoeing on the menu...

Contact : esthiver@association-estival.fr Website : https://www.association-estival.fr/



Games, animations, personal accompaniment: many possibilities are proposed at the new leisure center of l'Escale/Stopover in Nantes, France.



Solidarity encounters are experienced in a strong way by teams from the Colegio La Mennais in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Mathis received support from the youth and adults of the '49' community in Rennes (community's address: 49 St Hélier Street) during a sending for a solidarity stay in Uruguay.



Mennaisian family





1 / Brothers of the Alfred Community, Maine, USA. From left to right : Bros Henry MONDAY, Charles THOMAS, Albert HEINRICH, Raymond FORTIN, Walter ZWIERCHOWSKI, Theodore LETENDRE, Mark COUTURE, Daniel CARON, and Jerome LESSARD.

2 / Words of Jean-Marie de la Mennais. They are regularly presented on the site created by the Province of Spain : https://www.lamennais.me/

3 / New oratory in the community of the Brothers of Nantes, France. From left to right : Bros Jean FONTAINE, André EON, Romain SOMOKO, Michel COLAS, Paul ARBERT, and Michel BOUVAIS.

4 / Robot competition for a team of young people from the Seiko Gakuin High School in Yokohama, Japan.

5 / The Nebbi's Sisters of Providence in connection with the St. Brieuc's Sisters of Providence continue their development despite the pandemic. 30 young women were welcomed for training in sewing and/or hairdressing. Here, Sr. Sabina, in the new dormitory. **Read the article here :** https://www.lamennais.org/sisters-of-providence-of-nebbi-uganda-the-sisters-community-is-growing-and-the-work-of-the-school-progres-sing/?lang=en

Mennaisian Youth and Adults 🥏 WORDS FROM

Service is a source of joy !



YOUNG

Serving these people during the Rosary Pilgrimage in Lourdes last October in conjunction with the pastoral team of the La Mennais France Network was truly a joy according to the testimonies of the young people.

Encounters with young and adult Mennaisians.

Coming from the Dapaong-Ogaro sector, from Kara, Parakou and Lomé in Togo, young people and adults meet regularly.

Br. Gérard Houneyetin



Joyful reunion of youth in Parakou, Togo.

47 high school students with sick people in Lourdes.

Testimonies

« I was pleasantly surprised and fascinated by the joy of the disabled and elderly pilgrims to see us helping them and by the lights when we did the processions in the evening: it was gorgeous. » Quentin

« What made a big impression on me was Jean-Claude, the patient I took care of. I think that these were his only vacations and so he was so happy that we were taking care of him! His smile and his joy of living will stay with me. »

Léa

« It was truly a great and unforgettable experience for all of us. It was a real pleasure to serve these people. I hope to be able to do it again as often as possible. »

Maïwenn

«We give and we receive a lot. I come back with the strong conviction that God makes us happy, that faith lived in action and the true encounter with others recharge my batteries so that I can continue to move forward on our life's path.»

Brother Bernard - guide

What is it to be a Mennaisian?

The La Mennais Youth team in France has initiated an online formation in the Mennaisian charism. «The charism of a spirituality is at once a gift, an intuition for action and a particular way of living together.» Do you feel like a Mennaisian?



La Mennais

It also offers a newsletter linked to the year's theme. Contact : ressources@mennaisien.org

Record





Three questions to Br. Dino, Postulator of the Cause of Fr. de la Mennais

« Holiness is a breath of life »



« Through the intercession of Fr. de la Mennais, the Lord works wonders and miracles of all kinds ».

1. Brother Dino de Carolis, where do we stand today regarding the Cause of Father de la Mennais?

I am in the process of completing the SUMMARIUM: a long procedure. With the Congregation for the Causes of Saints and my Italian confreres, we have done all the translations from Latin and French, put in canonical order the testimonies and documents, the old and recent medical reports, and written a very detailed chronological account. This procedure has two stages: the 'VISA', a first correction. Then the 'REVISA': a word-by-word analysis of the documents. Each of these passages must be examined by the officers at least twice, printed and approved. We are at the last correction of the 'REVISA'. Afterwards: the SUMMARIUM must be printed in 50 copies and distributed to the doctors of the Consulta and to the Theological Commission.

2. Do you have confidence in the outcome of the Cause?

During these years as Postulator, I have learned that the causes of the saints depend above all on God: individuals, persons, simple words, circumstances... are determining. The times are truly of God. The Postulators have done a great, long and difficult work of research and writing. But the main thrust comes from God, supported by the prayer, holiness, and missionary zeal of Mennaisian consecrated persons and laity.

3. How can children, youth and families contribute to the Father's Cause?

Sanctity is a breath of life. Canonization is not a reward for technical work, nor a glorification of the Mennaisian Family. It is the sharing of a holiness of life. It is a call to all to follow in the footsteps of sanctity begun by Jean-Marie de la Mennais, by a multitude of holy Brothers and Sisters, in 200 years of history.

The prayer for beatification is a call to follow the holy charism of the Founder today and everywhere we are. Through the intercession of Fr. de la Mennais, the Lord works wonders and miracles of all kinds. We must believe in them and gather the testimonies of the great and small works of God, so that Jesus may be glorified, and the world may believe.

Gabriel Deshayes An anniversary day at Saint-Laurent s/Sèvre

200 years after his arrival as Superior of the Montfortian Congregations in 1821, the representatives of the Congregations linked to Gabriel Deshayes received a symbolic bust on October 24th at the St. Gabriel memorial space in St. Laurent-sur-Sèvre, after a celebration at the Basilica.

lick





1. Three projects underway in Uganda

Major projects have been launched in the Province of St. Theresa in Uganda. Stopped because of Covid-19, they will resume when the schools reopen. The construction of a complex of 18 classrooms is underway in **Kabojja.** We are also building a girls' dormitory at St. Edward's Secondary School in **Bukuumi.** The dormitory will accommodate approximately 1,000 girls when completed. Finally, a multi-purpose room with laboratories has been completed at St. Charles de Lwanga Secondary School in **Kasasa.**





Construction of a girls' dormitory in Bukuumi.

Br. Rogers





2. Goal of 3,500 students !

The Jean-Marie de la Mennais school complex in Bunia, Congo DRC, is probably breaking records. This year it has 1,555 students in Secondary school, 1,005 in Primary school and 265 in Kindergarten, for a total of **2,825.** For this, it hired 103 staff members. With the new construction, it plans to have about 3,500 students next year. **Brother Gilles Mbolihine,** the director, develops the facilities year after year. The administrative sector is planned for this year's construction.

Information via Br. André Bilodeau

3. Vocational School

The construction of the Providence Vocational School in Nebbi, Uganda, is progressing. This is possible thanks to mainly the solidarity of *donors from Canada*.

Félicitations aux doyens des 2 congrégations mennaisiennes

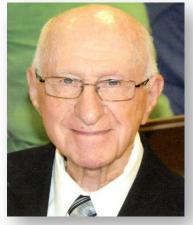
Sr. Jean HÉNON : 101 years old and Br. Roger LEBLANC : 103 years old !

How could we not salute the 103 years of Brother Roger LeBlanc, from the community of Pointe-du-Lac, Quebec, Canada, born on November 30, 1918 ! He happily confirmed his title of dean of the congregation ! *Read the article on his 100th birthday.*

" You are an extraordinary example and inspiration for all of us. Thank you for your eternal youth, your openness to life, your constant prayer", had said **Br. Mario Houle,** Provincial, on his centenary, three years ago.

To Bro. Mario's kind words, **Father Denis Béland**, chaplain of the community, added the following : "Your joy was great in welcoming a confrere into your airplane cockpit to allow him to admire from above the wonders below, to say with the psalmist : *How great are your works*, *Lord*. In your life, you have had another compass, the Gospel. Now you have left the handlebars of your airplane to take your second spiritual guide, your rosary, which you pray three times a day."

And we are celebrating the 101st birthday of Sr. Jean HENON, Sister of Providence of St. Brieuc, in the Rennes community. You want to know her secrets of longevity and her point of view on religious life, youth and education. *Read her testimony* !





Br. Roger LeBlanc, dean of the Brothers.



Sr. Jean Hénon, dean of the Sisters of Providence.

Two more centenarians !

Happy birthday on December 16 to **Br. Luc FRENETTE,** of the Atkinson community in Saint-Romuald, Quebec, Canada : also **100 years old !**



Br. Luc Frenette

As **Br. Roland CHEVALIER**, from the community of the Infirmary, La Prairie, Quebec, Canada, is preparing to turn **100 years old** on March 15, 2022 !



Br. Roland Chevalier





Statues to reach up to the sky !

A bird that carries a creator of schools across the seas. What a symbol! Jean-Marie de la Mennais is now represented in the form of a 5-meter pink granite statue at **the Valley of the Saints in Carnoët, France.** Erected by donors, it was made by Xavier Tanguy and Juliette Le Roux, and was installed last May.

Discover the history and images of this statue.







A father among children. In the courtyard of **the Sagrado Corazón Mennais School in Llay-Llay, Chile**, Jean-Marie de la Mennais is now the one who brings the entire school family together.



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