



2

March-April 2024
General Chapter
in Rome



3

Appointments
9 Brothers
to serve

BECOMING BROTHERS IN 2023
**Why we are
committed**



Bros Eric and Richard inform us. They are novices in Dapaong, Togo. 130 young people are in formation in the 14 houses of formation of the Congregation especially in Africa, America and Asia. To be discovered P. 9

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Editorial

Servants of Hope !

This is the theme chosen for the preparation of the next General Chapter that will take place at the Casa Divin Maestro, in Ariccia, in the heights of Castel Gandolfo from March 26 to April 24, 2024.

There are several reasons for this choice. First of all, it is the fruit of the discernment of the Major Superiors gathered in Rome at the General Conference held from September 26 to October 4, 2022. After rereading the Chapters of the Provinces/Districts and the last General Chapter on the one hand, and in the face of the health, economic, ecological crises and worrying armed conflicts which shake our world, on the other hand, we felt a strong call to be *Servants of hope* in our different environments of life. Then, read and meditated in the light of the wedding feast at Cana (Jn 2:1-11), this theme reminds us that the Lord is ready to answer our distress calls if we cry out to him with faith and hope.

Then, the Church, through the voice of Pope Francis, asks us to keep the flame of hope burning and to do everything «so that everyone may regain the strength and certainty to look to the future with an open mind, a confident heart and a far-sighted intelligence»¹. Finally, by putting ourselves at the school of Mary, Servant of hope, we will learn that only her Son Jesus can transform the «water» of our jars «into good wine» for our greatest joy and that of all humanity.

How to participate in the preparation of the next General Chapter?

- **Being servants of hope** : Like St. Francis of Assisi, where there is sadness, let us sow joy. Where darkness reigns, let us bring light. Where lies germinate, let the truth flourish. Where hatred and discord take hold, let us plant love.
- **By actively participating in the seven steps proposed in Circular 319 of the Brother Superior General** : In case you don't have it, it is available on the Congregation's website : www.lamennais.org
- **In praying** : Let us personally pray and let our students, family members, and colleagues pray ... for the success of our next General Chapter.



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

1. Pope Francis, Letter to Msgr. Rino Fisichella, February 11, 2022.

GENERAL CHAPTER 2024, from March 26 to April 24 in Ariccia, Italy



The Chapter will take place in Ariccia, at the Casa Maestro Reception House, run by the Pauline Spiritual Family.

The next General Chapter – an elected assembly of Brothers responsible for defining the orientations of the next 6 years – has now been announced. It will be held in **Ariccia**, on the heights of **Castel Gandolfo, Italy** – not far away from Rome – **from March 26 to April 24, 2024**.

«Servants of Hope». This theme and the biblical icon of the **first sign of Jesus at Cana (Jn 2:1-11)** will help the Institute to progress towards the next General Chapter. Currently, all sectors of the Congregation are moving towards the rhythm of the year's theme « **Witnessing to Hope** ». All the Brothers and Laity of the Mennaisian Family, the Provinces and the Districts are invited to take an active part in the preparation of our next General Chapter.

Read more : <https://www.lamennais.org/en/general-chapter-2024-brothers-and-lay-people-servants-of-hope-on-their-way-towards-the-general-chapter-in-ariccia-italy-from-26th-march-to-24th-april/>

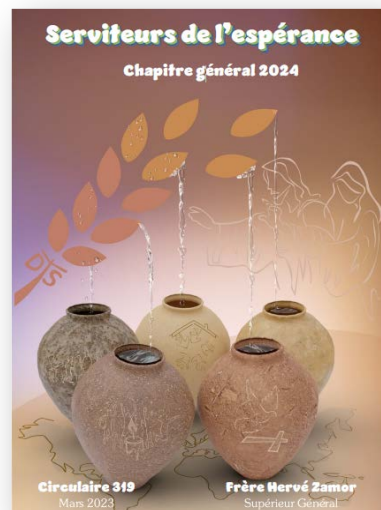
«Servants of hope». A circular letter from Br. Hervé Zamor

Brothers and Laity are currently living out the theme of the year « **Witnessing to Hope** ».

This theme will find a new light with the publication of the circular of the Superior General, currently being circulated.

This one is entitled « **Servants of Hope** ». It marks the way to the next General Chapter in March-April 2024.

The document can be downloaded from the website here : <https://www.lamennais.org/en/document/circular-of-the-superior-general/>



The symbolic icon will help to move towards the next General Chapter.



Vows. 11 Brothers of Africa and Asia commit themselves for life. See p.5

Appointments. 9 Brothers called to the service of the congregation

Brother Hervé ZAMOR, Superior General, with the consent of his Council, at the February-March session, made the following appointments :

Saint-Paul District: Benin, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Togo
Bro. Jean-Baptiste NDIAYE, Visitor of the Saint-Paul District, for a new 3-year term.

Bro. Wilfried FARA, Deputy Visitor of the Saint-Paul District, for a first term of 3 years.

Saint-Jean-Paul II District: Congo DRC, Rwanda
Bro. Éric MUGISA, Visitor of Saint John Paul II, for a first term of 3 years.

Bro. Damien HABIMANA, Visitor's Delegate for Rwanda, ex officio member of the District Council, for a first term of 3 years.

Saint-Pierre Chanel District: French Polynesia
Bro. Yvon DENIAUD, Visitor of the Saint-Pierre Chanel District, for one year.

Also, other appointments : **Bro. Claude GRÉGOIRE**, Procurator General for a second term, **Bro. Hervé ASSE**, Secretary General for a fourth term, **Bro. Miguel ARISTONDO**, responsible for Child Protection for the Congregation. At the end of January, the Casa de Rome welcomed **Bro. Luis-Manuel CUESTA** who comes to strengthen the community, and provide many services, including translation.

*On top, from left to right :
 Bros Jean-Baptiste NDIAYE,
 Wilfried FARA, Eric MUGISA,
 Damien HABIMANA.*

*Bottom, from left to right :
 Bros Yvon DENIAUD,
 Claude GREGOIRE, Hervé ASSE,
 Miguel ARISTONDO
 and Luis-Manuel CUESTA.*



And also...

The Brothers write a new Rule of Life

Since last December, the Communities have been working on the revised texts of chapters of the Rule of Life by a central team. What is the objective? To adapt this fundamental text to present life and future realities.

20 Community Superiors this summer in Ploërmel

This meeting will take place at the Lycée La Touche in Ploërmel, from July 15 to August 14, 2023. It will be moderated by Bro. Géniaud LAUTURE, with the assistance of Bro. Hervé ASSE.

25 Mennaisian Family Formators in Kisubi, Uganda

Last February, a 5-day meeting was held in Kisubi, Uganda, where 25 Brothers and Laity took part. This formation will continue online, until July 2025, when a new formation will take place in Ploërmel.



The participants-formators during the visit of the Shrine of the Martyrs of Uganda.

ASIA



The district continues its development

Indonesia

In **Indonesia**, activities at La Mennais Primary School and at Pusat have fully resumed. The new director works with the community and the educational team at maintaining the good standard of the school and helping develop the Mennaisian formation of staff.

Bro. Andreas PITO continues his missionary experience in Thian, Benin, West Africa. The adaptation to the environment is already largely done!

Japan

The process towards the permanent closure of the **Mission of Japan** is under way. This will not happen until 2024 and the decision of the General Council.

The community of Yokohama now consists of 3 Brothers: **Marcel Villemure, Michel Beaudoin, and Deogratias Ssekitooleko**

Philippines

Concern for vocations remains a priority for the **Philippines Mission**. Pandan's school has seen its enrolment shrink during the Covid crisis. The activities are all resumed.



Community of Kupang, Indonesia. Bros Andi, Philip and Fabi.



2 musical creations by Bro. Philippe BLOT

SINGING HOPE

Music & lyrics: Bro. Filip - FICP

Ref/ THOU SHALT SING THE HOPE OF THE WITNESSES AND THOU SHALT LIVE IN WITNESS WITH HOPE THEN A PATH OF TRUST WILL OPEN FOR YOU NO, HOPE DOES NOT DISAPPOINT!

1/ It is that little voice, so subtle
Which assures you that nothing is ever lost, nothing ever!
It is this way
To look at life as a promise!

2/ It is made of small steps, so fragile
That open up new horizons, and beyond!
It is this way
To move forward driven by the wind of the Spirit!

3/ It is made of small «nothings», so modest
Who enchant the body, mind and heart, but so strong
It is this way
To combine the past with the present in future mode

4/ It has a taste for simple things, so simple
Which give their flavor to the best moments, for a long time
It is this way
To reread the daily newspaper to make an offering

La Mennais
LISTEN TO THE SONG



« Singing hope »



La Mennais
LISTEN TO THE SONG



« Peacemakers »

AFRICA



11 Brothers pronounce their perpetual vows

Uganda

On January 1, during a celebration presided over by Archbishop Paul Ssemogere of Kampala, Bros Casio Aizire and Rogers Michael Kazibwe received the perpetual vows from six Brothers : **Bros Kyamanywa Ronald, Kyobe Edward, Matovu Costantino, Mutebi Vincent, Nuwagaba Deogratias et Rukundo Aiden.**

The celebrant and the concelebrants in the company of the new perpetually professed and our Superiors.



Benin - Togo

On Wednesday, December 28th, Bros **Daniel KOMBATE** and **Quenneth YANTICOA** expressed their definitive "yes" to engage in the congregation of the Brothers of Christian Instruction. The parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Albarik, in the Archdiocese of Parakou, Benin, hosted the ceremony presided over by Bishop Pascal NKOUE.

From left to right : Bro. Daniel KOMBATE, Mgrs. Pascal NKOUE, Archbishop of Parakou, Bro. Quenneth YANTICOA, and Bro. Jean-Baptiste NDIAYE, Visitor of the St. Paul District.



RDC - Congo

Bros Benjamin, Robert and Clement, from Central Africa

Great joy for the Saint John Paul II Congo-Rwanda District! On January 8th, Sunday of the Epiphany, **Bros Benjamin MBOLIKINO, Robert MASHAURI KAKULE and Clément ABELI** pronounced their perpetual vows. The celebration took place at the Cathedral of Saint Martyrs of Uganda in Dungu-Uye, DRC Congo.



The three newly professed in the company of the Bishop Assistant General and Bro. Pascal MBOLINGARA, Visitor of the District, and Bro. Jean-Paul PEUZÉ, Assistant.

Inf@+

«It's indeed great what you did!» - Bro. Jules Tone at Ergué, Togo

26 years! The dissolution assembly of our «Ergué Togo - Les Sables Rouges» Association driven by Bro. Bob Léaustic was held on Thursday, December 8, in Ergué-Gabéric, France. During these 26 years of support for the action of the Brothers in Dapaong, northern Togo, more than 110,000 euros have been collected during meals, flea markets and multiple actions. «**It's great what you've done,**» says Bro. Jules Tone, director of the agricultural center. "How many families have now emerged from precariousness and are eating properly thanks to the training and harness farming equipment received. How many thousands of children have had access to education thanks to village schools and the La Mennais School Complex!"

Here is part of the Ergué Togo team : André LE MENN, president, Anne-Marie SALAUN, Louis JAOUEN, José BOURBIGOT, Monique GLEMAREC, Annie MEVELLEC, Christiane LE GUELLEC, Paul LE ROUX, Marie Thérèse RIOU, Evelyne SALAUN. It is possible to continue supporting the Ogogo Carto through the ASSIFIC association **ASSIFIC website : <https://www.assific.com>** **Ogogo Carto website : www.cartogoro.org**

AMERICAS



The Brothers have been living in the residence for one year.

Canada

At La Salle, Quebec. It's good for morale!

It's been a year since the Brothers of the La Prairie Infirmary joined the La Salle Residence in Laval, Quebec. This winter, the Brothers practice pet therapy. Pet therapy is not about directly curing an illness, disability or other problem, but rather about improving the person's well-being so that they can benefit from it. It is used in addition to traditional therapies such as medication, to make life more comfortable.

Pet therapy can, for example, improve quality of life, reduce stress and anxiety, lift spirits, help a person open up to others.

Many thanks to Mrs. Manon Bélanger, recreation technician, dedicated and creative animator, who makes a big difference, says Bro. Mario Houle, Provincial Canada-USA-Mexico. Two Brothers are very involved alongside her, and she greatly appreciates the cooperation of both Bros Gilles Ménard and Georges Gouron.

USA

17 Brothers and Laity live a common retreat

The campus of Alfred, Maine, USA, saw the realization of a joint retreat on the theme: «Witnessing to hope». It was lived among Brothers and Laity, for the joy of all.



Argentina-Uruguay, Bolivia and Chile

Southern Cone. A festive reunion

Brothers of the Divine Providence district – Argentina-Uruguay, Bolivia and Chile – met at the end of the year in Biale Massé, for the annual retreat and days of sharing, celebration, group living

work, meetings, walks, and family time. We also celebrated the renewal of Brother Walter's vows and Brother Juan's 50 years of consecrated life; and it was festive moment indeed!





EUROPE



France-England

Faced with fragilities, 72 school heads respond with brotherhood spirit

Last October, a two-day seminar was proposed by the Tutelle team coordinated by Bro. Olivier MIGOT - director of the Mennaisian Formation Institute (MFI). It gladly welcomed the interventions of four formators at the Lycée La Touche, Ploërmel : Bro. Régis LEFRERE, Isabelle LE BOURGEOIS, Denis CRISTOL and François-Daniel MIGEON.

In the past few years, projects were carried out to solidify the educational network and cultivate links such as the development of a new reference text, the choice of orientations for the Network until 2025, the definition of a project for the Tutelle. This also resulted in the creation of a «Professional gestures and charisma» formation and the development of communication tools with a leaflet distributed to all parents, a Facebook address, and a website. It should also be noted that some commissions composed of directors, deputies or staff, which are already in place, include the following: pastoral agents, responsible for school life, international culture, sustainable development, Mennaisian pedagogy, finance and solidarity, higher education, etc.

The “**La Mennais school France network**” has 35,393 children and young people in 76 schools: 32 nursery and elementary schools, 31 middle schools, 20 high schools. Supervision is provided by 2,663 teachers, 418 education and supervisory staff, and 630 administrative and service staff.

Website of the La Mennais School France Network :
<https://www.mennaisien.fr/>

The Psalm of Creation in English

Patrick Richard is the author of the famous “Psalm of Creation”. He himself asked to make a version and a clip in English; and Bro. James HAYES has just put online this adaptation.

To be seen and listened to ! <https://youtu.be/41W2eVW3dyQ>

Inf

Congratulations to the 2 new Doctors and the chosen one!

Yves DELARRA (Risks, Responsibility, Behavior division of CREM) defended his thesis on Monday, November 22, 2021, at the IGR-IAE in Rennes. His work focuses on “Daring financial mutualization: an innovation in the associative sector”, under the direction of Professor Gervais THENET, University of Rennes 1.

Bro. Romain SOMOKO, from the community of Nantes defended his doctoral thesis in English studies on John Henry Newman, at the University of Nantes, on January 6, in the presence and with the support of the Brothers of his community of Nantes. Here is the title of his thesis : Passages and mutations in the poetry of John Henry Newman (1801-1890) : *The dream of Gerontius, Verses on Various Occasions.*



The La Mennais Education France Network is composed of 35,393 children and young people, and 3,600 staff, the second congregational network. Here at the annual directors' meeting.

Spain

Educational guidelines for the La Mennais schools in Spain

Built from multiple meetings, a reference document for the nine La Mennais schools in Spain has just been developed and shared. It is presented here by Bro. Carlos Capellán, Provincial. It is a valuable and indispensable tool.



Cédric TROADEC, director of the Lycée Le Nivot, Lopérec, has just been elected delegate of the directors of agricultural establishments within the National Council of Private Agricultural Education (NCPAE). A few days ago, the director of the Le Nivot agricultural and forestry campus, which Tutelle is ensured by the La Mennais France Network, was chosen by his peers to represent the directors within the (NCPAE) made up of more than 150 institutions.



From left to right : Yves DELARRA, Bro. Romain SOMOKO and Cédric TROADEC.

OCEANIA



1st open house at Lycée La Mennais in Papeete, Tahiti

On February 4th, the La Mennais High School-College of Papeete opened its doors to the public for the 1st time. Created in 1860 by the Breton Brothers of Ploërmel, the establishment now welcomes more than 2,000 students from the college to the BTS (diploma). Its reputation is well established. The parents were at the rendezvous, says the TV channel Polynesia 1.

At their request, the parents discovered a 163-year-old establishment. *"We respond to a strong demand from families who want to come and see in what environment their children will evolve before enrolling them, and then also at the requests of families and students for the choice of specialty teaching,"*

says Valérie Faua, director of the La Mennais High School-College. And there are some students who have chosen to celebrate their next entry into college, with music, with a ukulele or dancing!



"Welcome to families and young people," says Valérie FAUA, director of La Mennais High School in Papeete, Tahiti, during this first edition of the school's open house.

A retreat together

The Brothers organized their annual retreat at the Tiberias Center, Toahotu, from Sunday, December 25-31, on the theme 'Witnessing to Hope'. It was preached by Father Gildas Dibantsa. Open to all, especially to those who live to varying degrees the spirituality of Jean-Marie de la Mennais, this retreat took place in silence and sharing times which were organized in the evening for volunteers.

Multiple activities at St. Athanase High School, Marquesas

The 3rd year students led multiple workshops with primary schools in the Marquesas in recent weeks.



Pride of the young people of St. Athanase's High School, Te Henua Enana, formerly CED St. Joseph.

New !
A calendar of the Polynesian La Mennais Network



Bro. Yvon DENIAUD, Brother Visitor of the District St. Pierre Chanel – Tahiti, Marquesas – presents the new calendar of the Network. Congratulations!



Becoming Brothers in 2023

Why we are committed

Bros Albert, Fridus, scholastics in Manila, Philippines, Eric and Richard, novices in Dapaong, Togo, tell of their journey, their desires, and their motivations to become a Brother. How Christ seized them in his footsteps, in this fruitful land of education with children and young people.

There are 130 young people currently in formation in the 14 houses of formation of the Congregation especially in Africa, America and Asia. **Discovery.**

11 Brothers committed themselves for life since January 1st. See page 5.

On the way to becoming a Brother? «Yes, to put ourselves at His service.»

«For me, to be a Brother is to serve. I am called to be a Brother because, in the depths of my heart, I find the desire to follow Jesus. On my way to become a Brother, I try as much as possible to grow in the human and spiritual dimensions to be more courageous at the service of children and young people, especially the poorest, through teaching».

«We respond to the call we have felt from the Lord by saying 'yes', so as to put ourselves at God's service through the education of children and young people. We also want to discover God's purpose in our lives.»

Determinant? The simplicity of life and the love that the Brothers are living.

«The renunciation in everything, the simplicity of life and the love that the Brothers live attract me and strengthen me on my path, so that one day I, too, will share this life and become one of them ».

Witness. «I try to be a witness to hope!»

«Brothers: witnesses to hope. The virtue in living my vocation is hope. Hope helps me to decide upon taking positive steps that can help me grow in the human as well as in the spiritual dimension. With hope, I will rise up to the challenges because I abandon myself to divine Providence.»

«The Brother is the witness of Christ through his way of life. He shares fraternal life and mission. His teaching must be consistent with the Word of Christ, in his daily life.»



Perpetual vows of three Brothers in Rwanda, last January. Here, the Brothers during the Litany of Saints.



Our traditional Friday "Happy Hour" party at the Scholasticate in Manila, Philippines.



To be a Brother? «I let myself be looked at by Jesus and I give myself to others»

«The Brothers 'are gifts of God to the Church imitating Christ through the life of chastity, poverty and obedience'. They represent Christ who brings Good News to children and young people. A Brother is a consecrated person who agrees to follow Jesus Christ more closely in John-Mary de la Mennais' footsteps».

«Being a Brother is a grace that God has given me as a religious Brother. I let myself be looked at by Jesus. To be a Brother is to have the courage to give oneself completely to God and to follow Him wholeheartedly and to love Him more than anyone else or anything else.

My goal is to serve everyone wholeheartedly, especially children and young people, through education and the opportunity to live with the Brothers in the community, in a spirit of love.»

Why be a Brother today? «It's to care for each other»

«To be a Brother today is to care for one another and to use our unique gifts and talents for the good of the community, the Church and the world, especially through education. Brothers testifying to the world that we are all (equal) Brothers in Jesus Christ. Thus, serving and loving Him is far more meaningful than anything in this world.

«It is to serve the Lord, to witness of Him to children and young people, especially the poorest among them, through our fraternal life and our apostolic commitment.»



Bros Eric and Richard, in Dapaong, Togo, during this rich year of the novitiate.



During an outing in the mountains not far from Manila.



With the young people of the neighborhood who come to play basketball at the Brothers' residence in Manila. A brief celebration, followed by a friendship drink on Father's Day last November.





1 / 18 laypeople from Bilbao, Portugaleta and Madrid made the commitment to be Lay Mennaisian Associates – (LMA) – on May 28, 2022. The commitment took place as part of the centenary of the Colegio San Gregorio in Aguilar de Campoo. The celebration took place at the hermitage of Santa Cecilia.

2 / New start for the Mennaisian Family in Ivory Coast. We were 7 laypeople and 5 Brothers on January 29th. Three members were in charge of the coordination: Bro. Philippe Launay, Mrs. Odile and Mr. Fernand. The meeting continued with the scholasticate community. From left to right: Philippe, Joseph, Cécile, Tano, Alain, Augustin, Jean de Dieu, Benjamin, Bénédicte, Odile and Fernand. Photo Bro. Bruno.

3 / The «Mennaisian Belonging» formation meetings continue at a good pace in the Divine Providence District : Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Bolivia.

4 / The Brothers' community of Châteaulin, France, continues its presence in its mission of welcoming at the Juniorate Center and with many educational realities : formation, catechesis, services... From left to right : Bros Gérard HAUTOIS, Pierre CRETEAU, Hervé PERON, Jean PETILLON, Daniel BRIANT, André BATANY, Pierre COATHALEM, and James HAYES.

5 / Haitian Brothers and Laity united to «live fraternity in times of crisis». The different fraternities of the Haitian Mennaisian Family met at the Pétionville Juniorate and by sectors, from December 26 to 28, to live this session in joy.

WORDS FROM YOUNG PEOPLE



20 years for Estival, France !

Great celebration in sight on April 1st and 2nd for the educational and leisure Estival Association with its 90 animators, organizing 10 holiday stays and ensuring the management of the nature reception centers in Pénestin (44) and Créac'h Balbé-St-Urbain (29) as well as the village of Sources of St-Urbain and Derval (44). Several orientations will be developed in the coming years: attention centered towards the 18–30-year-olds, disabilities, international and Mennaisian roots.

The "Peeps La Mennais" Association – formerly "Faith and Prayer" – has also just announced its merger within Estival. Another occasion for celebration: the opening of the new reception center in Créac'h Balbé, Finistère, France : www.creachbalbe.fr



The five responsible in charge of the education and reception centers of Estival : Palandrin, Créac'h Balbé, the villages of Sources d'Armorique and Derval and the Escales de Nantes and Landerneau.



A very active team in the DRC

The Mennaisian family from Bunia, Democratic Republic of Congo, regularly assembles for meetings.



Brothers and Laity of Bunia, DRC, on Founder's Day, last November.



An unforgettable trip to Rwanda for the 14 young people of the St. François d'Assise High School in Savenay, France.

14 young people have an educational experience in Rwanda

Accompanied by Bro. Olivier Migot, teacher in the establishment, 14 young people from the new Lycée St. François d'Assise in Savenay, France, have just made a solidarity stay in Rwanda for ten days, last February. Workshops, games, mutual contributions made it possible to live a strong educational and cultural immersion, with a particular detail: the trip was made without any smartphone!

Le Nivot, France.

100 years of land and forest leaders

The agricultural school of Nivot, located in the heart of the Monts d'Arrée in the town of Lopérec, France, now called High School "of the living", finds its origin with Mrs. and Mr. Charles Chevillotte who bought the domain of Nivot - the two shores - in 1889. The latter belonged to the Russian prince, Peter of Sayn Wittgenstein. On the death of Charles Chevillotte, he donated the estate for the construction of a school that would train young people in modern agriculture. His will was realized in 1922 when the congregation of the La Mennais Brothers of Ploërmel agreed to take charge of the realization of the project.

The first building, «Charles Chevillotte», was built in 1922-1923; it opened its doors to the first class of 37 students on October 15, 1923, under the direction of then Bro. Yves Le Jollec. Since then, the school and farm premises have continued to evolve to meet the needs of students and their career-related requirements. The establishment now offers a diploma of agricultural technician in forestry; it has just announced the opening of the "Forestry Council and Cartography" professional license in September 2023. Mr. Hervé Guirriec, former deputy director, and Bro. Hervé Péron, creator of the Nivot apiary-school and resident on site for 50 years, have written many books on the history of the school.

Directed by Cédric Troadec, the centenary of the establishment will be marked by a celebration on May 18, and other events shall follow this fall. **Contact :** <https://www.lenivot.net/>



An establishment nestled in the heart of 350 hectares of a remarkable forest.



Bro. Elisée Rannou, former Superior General of the Congregation from 1952 to 1970, was a teacher at Nivot at the time of his election.



1. A community residence and chapel under construction

At Gisenyi's residence in Rwanda, there is no shortage of action. The construction of a second residence for the Brothers' community is underway on the same site. It includes a large chapel; the two floors are already nearing completion with bedrooms and meeting rooms. During this month of March will be the installation of the roof and the finishing touch.

Infos via Bro. André Bilodeau



2. A new Reception Center at the Motherhouse, Ploërmel

Major maneuvers are underway at the Motherhouse of Ploërmel, France. After the layout of premises and meeting rooms for the Provincial and the Provincial Secretariat, the realization of a staff apartment for the director and premises for the caretaker, it is time for the transformations of the reception center. The entire building is being redesigned and a reception hall which is to be erected soon will be found in the courtyard, facing the cafeteria. See you in 2024 for the commissioning of the new equipment.



3. Statue of Father de la Mennais at Walsh University, USA

To commemorate the centenary of the death of Father de la Mennais, Bro. Paul Leclair, then Provincial Superior in 1960, in Dolbeau, Quebec, Canada, had retained the services of the famous Italian artist Guido Casini of Montreal, working for Barsetti-Manucci. Three copies of the same work were produced in the three Districts: Pointe-du-Lac, Dolbeau and Saint-Romuald. When the St Jean Juniorate of Dolbeau closed its doors in July 2016, the statue was donated by the Brothers of Walsh University, North Canton, OH, USA, to continue the transmission of the Mennaisian spirit. The sculpture was renovated and inaugurated on November 16, 2020, under the clock tower on Founders' Square.

4. A precious pump!

The Diourbel Brothers, Senegal, and the interns of the Paul VI College thank the Mennaisian solidarity Association ASSIFIC for financing the pump of their establishment. This helps avoiding using water from the network for household chores and therefore it saves money. In addition, because of the water shortages, which are so frequent, the whole district, including the seminary, then comes to draw water from the boarding school area.



CAUSES

Update on the Causes of Jean-Marie and Gabriel

As part of the postulation to recognize Father de la Mennais as a saint, the General Council decided to carry out the case study of the healing of Josette POULAIN, in the 1950s, in Combourg, France, to its conclusion.

Brother Dino also received the names of the **relaying animators**. The latter are responsible for animating and customizing the animation of the novena in their sector.

List of Mennaisian Relay Animators Brothers :

- UGANDA : Joseph TINKASIMIRE
- BENIN : Nicolas LE MEILLEUR
- IVORY COAST : Joseph BELLANGER
- SENEGAL : Steve Paul KENY
- TOGO : Augustin BOUDAN
- CONGO RDC : Clément ABELI
- RWANDA : Pierre-Célestin NIYONSENGA
- URUGUAY : Guillermo DAVILA
- BOLIVIA : Casimiro MERIEL
- CHILE : Felix CORADA
- ARGENTINA : Ricardo MORZAN
- HAITI : Charles COUTARD
- FRANCE : Michel BOUVAIS
- SPAIN : Raul BLANCO
- ITALY : Dino DE CAROLIS
- TANZANIA : Benedict ODHIAMBO
- MEXICO CITY : Mario COUTURE
- CANADA : Mario HOULE
- JAPAN : Michel BEAUDOIN
- PHILIPPINES : Michel GOUGEON
- POLYNESIA : Yvon DENIAUD



At the Father's tomb in Ploërmel, Bro. Dino, Postulator, entrusts the new Brothers who animate the Cause of the Father.

GABRIEL DESHAYES.
The Cause of Beatification is progressing, and the Ty Gabriel House opened in St. Anne d'Auray, France

La Mennais
 SEE THE PHOTOS



Great joy on this March 7th at the Sanctuary of St. Anne d'Auray, France! Fr. Gwénaël Maurey, rector of the sanctuary shared the news. The Cause of Holiness of Gabriel Deshayes will be introduced in Rome, following an agreement in progress between Bishop Jacolin and Bishop Centène.

Other reasons for rejoicing : the blessing of the solidarity tea room «Ti Gabriel» in the heart of the sanctuary and the arrival of the Brothers of Charity of the Servant Christ. All in the context of the preparation of the Great Jubilee of St. Anne in 2025.

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The leaders of the Daughters of Wisdom, the Brothers of St. Gabriel, the Sisters of Christian Instruction of St. Gildas, the Brothers of Christian Instruction – La Mennais, Ploërmel and the Montfortian Missionaries – Fathers and Brothers of the Company of Mary with members of the association of Friends Deshayes, during the assembly at the Mother House of Ploërmel.



And if you still make mistakes...

« Wherever you may be, build!
If you are down, stand up!
Never stay down; stand up,
allow yourself to be helped to stand up.
If you are seated, set out on a journey!
If boredom paralyzes you, banish it with good works!
If you feel empty or demoralized,
ask that the Holy Spirit may fill your emptiness anew.
If you make a mistake, stand up again.
There is nothing more human than making mistakes.
And these same mistakes must not become a prison for you.
Do not be trapped in your errors.
The Son of God has come not for the healthy
but for the sick; thus, he also came for you.
And if you should err again in the future,
do not be afraid; stand up again!
Do you know why? Because God is your friend.
Live, love, dream, believe.
And, with the grace of God,
never despair ».

Francis, pope.
General Audience, September 20, 2017