

A Year with Fr. Brisson



celebrating the centenary of the death of the Servant of God

THE REVEREND LOUIS BRISSON

(1817-1908)

priest and founder of the institutes of the
Oblates and Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales

First Friday Novena (#2)

4 April 2008

The Direction of Intention

Heavenly God, we give you this novena.
We offer to You all of the good that we shall do.
And we promise to accept, for love of You, all of the difficulty that we shall meet.
Help us to conduct ourselves during this novena in a manner most pleasing to You.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES ... pray for us.

Fr. Brisson's STORY (Positio super virtutibus, p. xxxix)

(Fr. Prosper Dufour): "The permanent aspiration to heaven, as the supreme goal of his life, the assurance that God would provide the means for him, in the thousand daily incidents, as well as in the more grave cases - such was the conviction and consolation of Fr. Brisson, throughout his career, (which was) so full of responsibilities and trials. ... One could thus go over one by one all the trials of his laborious career; one will encounter there, at each step, the manifest interventions of infinite goodness, and one would understand why the humble priest kept an amazing serenity in the midst of storms and communicated to others (both) peace and assurance. By this incessant contact with the divine will, the good father merited to foresee and to accept in advance all the exigencies (that came to be demanded of him).

Fr. Brisson's WORDS (Dans le Sillage de la Liturgie, Friday of the 2nd week of Easter)

See how good courage, strength of self, (and) generosity in sacrifices are necessary. It is only by sacrifice that one works the good. Our Lord has given the premier example of this. All the Apostles founded the Church by their efforts and sacrifices. We work in the same field as the Apostles, and we will do nothing except by the means they employed. It is in sacrifice, in the energy of the will, that we will find the necessary element for working on souls, for their conversion, to lead them to the Kingdom of God. Therefore, receive all that God sends you with great thanks. It is interesting to note that the Saints were people like us. They had the same passions, the same infirmities. What makes them who they are? Good courage.

Oblate Reflections

- Seasonal theme ... new life in Christ (Easter)
- At the local level ... a meditation provided by a local Oblate preacher
- At the international level online text <www.louisbrisson.org>

Written by LEWIS FIORELLI, O.S.F.S.
Former Superior General of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales
(1994-2006)

Prayer for the Beatification of the Servant of God

Lord, please visit and protect the family
of the Oblate Sisters and Oblates of St. Francis de Sales,
which is the vine Your all-powerful hand has planted
through the work of Your servant, Louis Brisson.

For the glory of Your name
make this family grow in Your love,
and grant to it, for the joy of the whole Church,
the recognition of the untiring zeal of its Founder for the Gospel
and of his heroic courage in the midst of trials.

We ask this through Christ our Lord ... AMEN.

+ May God Be Blessed +