

# 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

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*First Friday Novena (#7)*

5 September 2008

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## *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.

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## *Fr. Brisson's STORY (Positio super virtutibus, p. xxxvi)*

Several witnesses remarked that all the works of Fr. Brisson were inspired by his faith. Sr. Madeleine de Sales Pupey-Girard declares in her deposition: "Governed by his faith, he had the great desire to work to extend the kingdom of God. He did not lose any occasion to exert himself for that. He was ardent in making known the good God and in recommending him without ceasing to his daughters and his sons. One can ascertain his zeal for the conversion of the Protestants in his allocutions during the meetings of the association of St. Francis de Sales, and for the return of the schismatics in his sending his religious to Greece. Similarly he sent religious to England and to the United States. For the conversion of the infidels, he accepted the mission of the Orange River and of the Great Namaqualand in South Africa. Before his priestly ordination he catechized the factory workers; after his ordination he taught the catechism every evening to the young workers. His lessons were always simple, clear, and practical, (and) one attended them with pleasure."

*Fr. Brisson's WORDS* (*Dans le Sillage de la Liturgie*, Friday of the 22<sup>nd</sup> week of Ordinary Time)

Let us pass our (time in) prayer next to Our Lord, and at the end, let us ask His blessing. Behold a day begins: perhaps it will be heavy, tiring? Let us ask the Lord for all that is necessary to pass the day well. Thus, we are not going to our duty without comfort; we take grace with us, the unction that makes us blessed to be with Our Lord. We are not alone (or) isolated. Our life has a sense; our existence is understood. We are religious, meaning bound to God by his holy love. "Lord, I carry you with me, so as to accomplish all things with you and solely with you, for your glory and your holy love."

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### *Oblate Reflections*

- Seasonal theme ... the missionary spirit
- At the local level ... a meditation provided by a local Oblate preacher
- At the international level .... online text <[www.louisbrisson.org](http://www.louisbrisson.org)>

Written by JOHN MINDER, O.S.F.S.  
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### *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.

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+ May God Be Blessed +