then on, she suffered a mystical crucifixion from Thursday to Saturday morning.

From 1664 to 1684 many contradictions arose at the shrine of Laus, especially among the clergy who were Jansenists—priests who were too strict, and who believed that Communion should only be taken once a year. For fifteen years Benoite was under house arrest and was permitted only Sunday Mass. The devil even raised up false visionaries to deceive people. But Benoite's guardian angel told her: "There will always be trouble at Laus until there are Religious established here."

Benoite was often tormented by the demons in Hell for the sake of conversion of sinners, but she also was very familiar with her guardian angel. He helped her all the time and often he opened the door of the church for her and said the Rosary with her. He also corrected her faults.

Mary stopped appearing to Benoite for part of each month so the devil cried out: "She has forsaken you!" but Benoit paid no attention to the devil. Benoite continued on with her mission and when she was seventy-one she got a burning fever, which consumed her. She was in bed



for one month before her death. On Christmas Day, 1718, she asked pardon of all those she had offended and asked for Holy Viaticum. Suddenly Our Lady appeared to her.

On December 28<sup>th</sup>, she begged to receive the Last Rites. Later, around 8:00 in the evening, during the praying of the Litany of the Child Jesus, she passed away in joy. She died in the odour of sanctity.

Our Lady of Laus—Pray for Us. Blessed Benoite—Pray for Us.

The End



October, the Month of the Rosary

## THE GUARDIAN OF CRUSADERS

Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Canada
October 2011 # 218

## The RosaRy

Dear Crusaders,

Last month, on the occasion of the return to school, I invited you to keep up with your duties, in particular with those of the Eucharistic Crusade. Now, there is a special duty I need to present to you for the Month of October; this is with the recitation of the Rosary. As a matter of fact, Crusaders commit themselves to say at least one decade of the Rosary per day; while Knights promise to say the five decades every day.

As you know, the origin of the Rosary goes back to St. Dominic. After giving many sermons to the heretics, St. Dominic was starting to get discouraged that nobody was converting. Thus, he went to the bush and fell on his knees in prayer, begging Our Lady to help him to overcome the enemies of the faith. After three days, Our Lady appeared to him. She was accompanied by three queens, and each queen has fifty maids to serve her. The first queen and her servants were dressed in white, the second in red, and the third one in gold.

Our Lady explained to St. Dominic the meaning of that vision: the three queens represent the three sets of mysteries; and the fifty maids, the fifty Hail Marys of each Rosary. The white colour was for the joyful mysteries, the red colour for the sorrowful mysteries, and the gold for the glorious mysteries.

Thus the Mother of God said to St. Dominic: "This is just the Rosary; that is to say the crown wherein I shall place all my joy: spread that prayer everywhere, and the heretics will be converted, and the faithful shall persevere and obtain eternal life."

Encouraged by that apparition of the Blessed Mother, St. Dominic went back to the church where he had preached before without success. He went straight to the pulpit and said to the people that there was no means easier and more powerful to avoid hell than to pray to the Mother of God with the Rosary. Right away, many people converted and began to say aloud the Rosary.

Many miracles were obtained by the Rosary during the life of St. Dominic, and up to our times. Moreover, the Rosary is very powerful to convert sinners and help the good people to keep the faith.

That is why; Bishop Fellay is asking us to join with a Rosary Crusade to overcome all the enemies of the Church that keep trying to destroy her. Now, if you claim to be members of the Eucharistic Crusade, you should be the first ones to join with that Crusade, for the glory of God and the honour of Our Blessed Mother.

Father Dominique Boulet

Every time Our Lady appeared to Benoite, people smelled the Heavenly fragrance. This fragrance lifted up the souls of those who smelled it. Whenever Benoite saw Our Lady her face would be lit up.

In the winter of 1665, Our Lady told Benoite: "Invite those who have illnesses to apply oil from the sanctuary lamp to their afflicted members. If they pray to me and have faith, they will be healed; for God has given me this place for the conversion of sinners."

More than anywhere else, it was at this shrine that Our Lady appeared to Benoite at least once a month for fifty-four years. Mary helped Benoite to convert sinners. Benoite urged sinners to put their conscience in order and revealed forgotten or hidden sins to certain people. She would even take from the Communion rail people who were not in the state of grace. Her hardest task was to scold or warn certain souls at Our Lady's bidding. Of this she told a priest: "The Mother of God commands me to do these things in such a mild manner that I don't believe she really wants it. When I fail, my good mother corrects me without getting angry. So because of the shame I feel in correcting others, I often wait for a second command, and then I obey."

To priests, Benoite revealed their indiscretion, their lack of prudence in questioning sinners, their neglectful behaviour, and their grudges. She



would see priests at the altar shining with light or tarnished, according to the state of their conscience, and she would warn those who were tarnished.

Mary encouraged Benoite in her difficult mission saying: "Take my daughter! heart, Have patience. Do your duty cheerfully. Bear no hatred towards enemies of Laus. Do not be troubled if people do not take your advice. Do not be disturbed by temptations."

Benoite had a great love for Christ Crucified. On July 7, 1673, Jesus asked her to participate in the sorrows of His Passion. Every week from

<sup>\*</sup> On September 4th, I say Mass for the intentions of the Eucharistic Crusade in Canada

<sup>\*</sup> Our new address: Eucharistic Crusade Canada, 1395 Rue Notre-Dame, St. Césaire, QC, J0L 1T0

<u>EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com</u>

that he wanted to close down the chapel and stop devotions there. Benoite told the Vicar General the message from Our Lady and then he replied: "If what people are saying is true, then pray to Our Lady to show me the truth by a sign or miracle, and I will do all that I can to fulfill her will."

Benoite thanked him and promised to pray for his intentions. The Vicar General wrote out a report about his visit with Benoite. He planned to leave that evening but it rained so hard for the next two days that he had to stay.

Catherine Vial had bad legs—they were bent and could not be straightened. She was cured at Laus and entered the chapel while the Vicar General was saying Mass. When people exclaimed, "Miracle! Miracle!" he shed tears and had a hard time finishing Mass. After Mass he said: "Something extraordinary is happening here. The hand of God is here." He questioned the woman and wrote an official report about the miracle. Then he had everyone enter the chapel and sing the Te Deum and the Litany of Our Lady. He also appointed two priests as chaplains at Laus.

Before long the Vicar General started building a church as Our Lady had requested. The poor people were the ones who helped most with the chapel. The first stone was laid on October 7, 1666.

Benoite became a Dominican Tertiary. She wore a veil and cape and people called her Sr. Benoite. She prepared the worker's meals, prayed for them and gave them advice.



The church was built to the singing of psalms and hymns. By 1670 it was finished. Many people smelled sweet Heavenly fragrance at Laus and sometimes it was so strong that it spread

from the chapel all over the valley. Even today some pilgrims smell the Heavenly fragrance.

#### **OUR LADY OF LAUS**

Blessed Benoite Rencurel was born in France, on September 17, 1647. She was the daughter of Guillaume and Catherine Rencurel. She never went to school and did not learn to read or write. Her father died when she was young. At twelve she tended sheep for to make money for her poor family.

After listening to a sermon by her parish priest, Benoite desired to see the Virgin Mary. In May of 1664, when Benoit was seventeen, she was praying her Rosary when suddenly St. Maurice appeared to her and said: "Go to the valley above St. Etienne. That is where you will see the Mother of God."



Early the next morning Benoite led her sheep to a valley and there, in front of a grotto, she saw a beautiful Lady holding a Child by the hand. Benoite spoke to the Lady during the day and in the evening the Lady took the Child in her arms, entered the grotto and disappeared.

The next day and for the next four months Benoite saw the Lady and the Child. After two months, the Lady spoke to Benoite in order to teach, test and encourage her. She taught Benoite the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and said: "Tell the girls of St. Etienne to sing the Litany of the Blessed Virgin in the church every evening, with the Prior's permission, and they will do it."

Benoite was pious, but she was also awkward, stubborn and impatient, so with the sweetness and patience of a mother, the Lady formed the mind and soul of the girl. She told Benoite: "For the rest of your life you must work at the conversion of sinners through prayer, sacrifice and exhortation." Exhortation allowed Benoite to know the sins of certain people and she had to encourage them to go to confession and change their way of life.

One morning, Benoite's employer, Mme Rolland, a fallen away Catholic, hid in the grotto to see what would happen when the Lady appeared. Benoite arrived and saw the Lady. The Lady said: "Your mistress is over there, hiding behind the rock. Tell her not to curse

with the name of Jesus, because if she keeps it up there will be no Heaven for her. Her conscience is in a very bad state and she should do penance." Mme. Rolland heard everything. She promised to do better and she kept her word.

News of the apparitions spread everywhere. Many believed in them but at the same time many did not believe. Francois Grimaud the magistrate of the area, a good Catholic, decided to investigate the apparitions. He found that Benoite was not a liar or an impostor, and that she was not mentally ill. He asked Benoite to ask the Lady who she was. To this the Lady replied: "I am Mary the Mother of Jesus. You will not see me here any more, nor for some time." Benoite did not see Our Lady for one month.

Finally Mary appeared to her on September 29, 1664 halfway up a hill that led to Laus. She said: "From now on, you will see me only in the chapel that is in Laus." This was an old chapel that had been built in Laus in 1640 by some pious people.

The next day Benoite searched a long time in tears for the chapel. Finally she found it and there she saw Our Lady standing on a dust-covered altar. Mary said: "My daughter, you searched very hard for

me, and you should not have wept. But you pleased me by not being impatient."

Benoite noticed with sadness the bad condition of the altar, so she said: "Dear Lady, would you like me to spread my white apron under your feet!"

But Our Lady replied: "No, soon nothing will be lacking here. I want a large church built on this spot, along with a building for a few resident priests. The church will be built in honour of my dear Son and myself. Here many sinners will be converted. I will appear to you often here."



Throughout the winter of 1664-65, Benoite walked four kilometres everyday to the Laus chapel. There she often saw Our Lady. Mary told her: "Pray continually for sinners."

(Continued on page 9)

(... Continued from Page 4)

Often Our Lady would name the people she wanted Benoite to pray for. In this way Mary was helping Benoite for her mission, which was to help priests in the ministry of Confession and the conversion of sinners. In 1665, the Blessed Virgin told Benoite: "I asked my Son for Laus to be a place for the conversion of sinners, and He has granted it to me. Stop tending your sheep and devote yourself to your mission."



As news of apparitions the spread, people the came by hundreds and the then by thousands to pray the in poor chapel. Many people were cured and sinners were converted in great numbers. In 1665, thirty-five parishes went on

pilgrimage to the old chapel.

The diocesan authorities permitted Mass to be celebrated in the old chapel. The Vicar General of the diocese of Gap came out of curiosity in August 1665. He asked for and obtained such great graces there, that he was immediately convinced that the apparitions were true.

But Laus was in the diocese of Embrun. Fr. Lambert, the Vicar General of that Diocese believed that Benoite's apparitions were from the devil. On September 14, 1665, he came to Laus with some unbelieving priests, hoping to prove Benoite guilty, put an end to the apparitions, and close the chapel. Benoite was afraid when she heard that these unbelievers had arrived, but Mary comforted her: "They will question you and try to catch you with your own words. But don't be afraid. Tell the Vicar General that he can very well make God come down from Heaven by the power he received when he became a priest, but he has no commands to give the Mother of God."

When Fr. Lambert arrived with his priest friends he and his friends questioned Benoite. Even though the girl answered all their questions humbly and truthfully, Fr. Lambert was not impressed. He told Benoite

## OctOber 2011

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COMMUNION	GROTTO	MARY
CONFESSION	ROSARY	JESUS
FRAGRANCE	PRAYER	MASS
ST MAURICE	CHAPEL	PRAY
TERTIARY	PRIEST	LAUS
MIRACLE	ANGEL	LEGS
BENOITE	SCOLD	FEET
SINNERS	ALTAR	GOD
PASSION	CURSE	BED
HEAVEN	SHEEP	JOY

# THE IMAGE OF GOD Little Talks to Little People

One day when King Philip of Spain was on a hunting trip, he became very ill and his companions thought it necessary to bleed him at once. In those days it was thought that letting blood out of a person was a way of healing them from some illness and the person who did this was called a cupper.

None of the King's regular doctors were present, so they called a cupper from the next village. No one knew this cupper and he knew none of the noble lords either.

As the cupper was getting things ready, the King asked him: "Do you know whom it is you are going to bleed?"

The cupper answered: "Yes, indeed, a man."

The King was so pleased with this answer and the manner in which it was given, that he placed all his confidence in this humble cupper. He made him his personal doctor, for he thought: "This man will see in me, not a king, but a brother in Christ, the image of God. He will see in me not the dignity of a king, but even much more, the dignity of a man, which is of far greater value."

What do you see in another man?

If you see a man dressed in ragged clothes, walking down the street, do you just see a tramp?

Or do you see a man made in the image of God?

Do you see somebody that needs your help and your prayers?

Or do you see somebody that you should just look upon as a useless beggar—somebody you should not even pay attention to?

Be careful! At times, Jesus has appeared as a beggar to different saints, to test their love and charity for their fellow man. He did this so that they would learn to treat their fellow man, as poor as he was, just like they would treat Jesus. Later, Jesus would appear to the saint to let them know that they had done Him a great deed. Indeed this happened to St. Martin of Tours and to St. Catherine of Sienna.

So what are you going to do when you see a beggar?

Are you going to give him some money, food, or clothing?

If you can't give him anything at the time will you at least tell him that you will pray for him?

Will you light a church candle for him, asking God to bless him?

Will you at least hear Mass for his body and soul?

Read the lives of the saints! Always be ready to help the poor!

### INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF October 2011



The Immaculate Heart of Mary

# Daily offering (To be recited every morning when you wake up)



O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins. I offer them particularly in reparation for the outrages against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

June 2011 Treasure Sheets											
	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrif.	Dec. Ros.	Visit Bl. S.	15 Min.	Good Example	Quantity	
QC											
ON	733	264	254	464	1322	3350	122	232	900	30	
MB	62	12	10	10	61	62	12	28	61	2	
SK	210	32	32	201	949	1430	35	56	1024	7	
AB	154	28	28	154	253	775	39	144	269	5	
ВС	237	50	36	30	159	721	27	0	21	10	
Total	1396	386	360	859	2744	6338	235	200	2275	54	

#### TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2011

Day	Daily Offering	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrifices	Decades of Rosary	Visits Bl. Sacr.	15 Minutes Silence	Good Example
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October 2011										
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of the										

To be sent to the secretariat of the Eucharistic Crusade, 1395 Rue Notre-Dame, St-Césaire, QC, J0L 1T0, or e-mail: <u>EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com</u>

Month