



The story of
***Tyburn Monastère
du Cœur Eucharistique
de Jésus***

*3 rue du Couvent,
52210, Saint Loup sur Aujon,
France.*



Inaugural Mass - 29 September 2013

For the Tyburn Congregation it was like a homecoming accompanied by the Holy Angels when, on the feast of Michael and all Angels on the 29th September, 2013, Most Rev Philippe Gueneley concelebrated Holy Mass in the Convent Church at Saint Loup sur Aujon, France, a mere half-hour drive from Grancey-le-Château, birthplace of our Foundress. Mother Marie Adele Garnier had founded our Congregation in Paris in 1898 but was forced to

leave France in 1901 with her Community and travelling to London because of the anti-clerical Law on Associations, 'Going', as she said, 'not into exile but ON MISSION!' and so it is that monastic centres of Eucharistic Adoration have sprung up around the world, the eleventh being in Africa, while this twelfth is a return to our place of origin, France.

It was Pope Benedict XVI who really started our Congregation on this journey home when he told the French Bishops on their *Ad Limina* visit to Rome: "*Religious Life at the exclusive service of the Work of God, to which nothing is to be preferred (cf. Rule of St. Benedict) is a treasure*

in your Dioceses ...”

Bishop Gueneley, took these words to heart as he had no contemplative community in his diocese of Langres, France. He was looking for a community to come and develop a centre for prayer and hospitality – and there

was a large convent in his diocese which soon would be empty as the elderly La Sagesse Sisters were leaving.



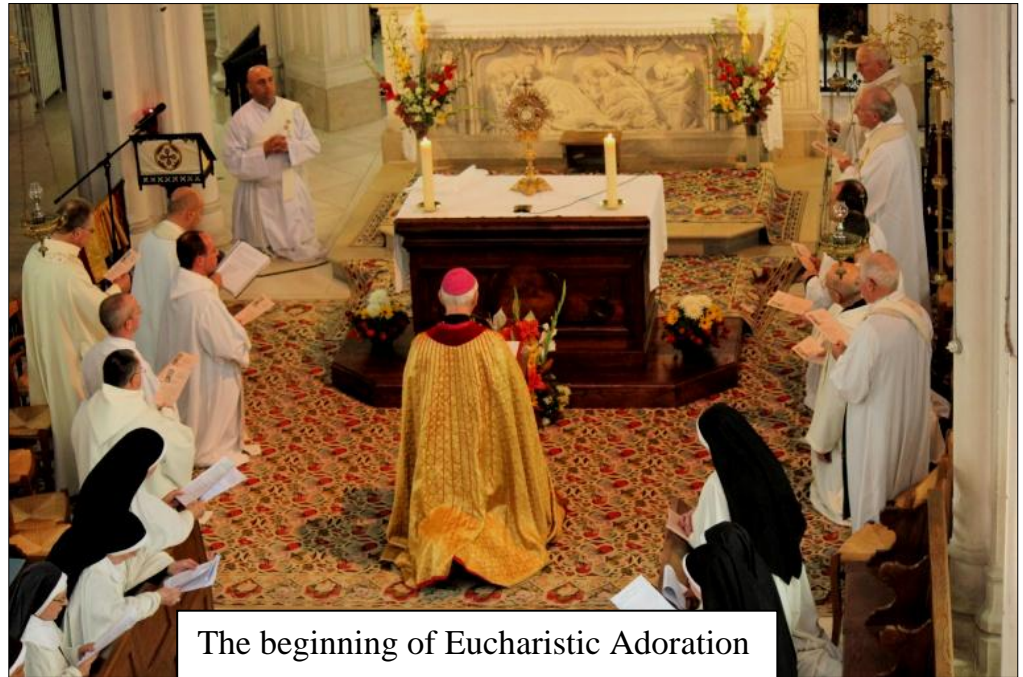
Birthplace of Marie Adele Garnier

The Bishop’s search for a contemplative community led to our Congregation through Abbé François Touvet, the parish priest of Grancey-le-Château who had come to know the Congregation when we had obtained a copy of Mother Garnier’s baptismal certificate.

In December 2012 at Bishop Gueneley’s invitation, an initial visit was made to St. Loup to see the property and meet the La Sagesse Sisters living there. Their Convent of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, founded in 1836, was built on a seven hectare property, and had a beautiful 1875 Gothic Church. It is in the village of Saint Loup sur Aujon which now has a population of about one hundred, and is set in beautiful countryside. It is three hours by train from Paris and extraordinarily, is just 28 km from Grancey-le-Château, the birth place of our saintly Foundress. In fact, the very house where she was born is still there, though it now is a tourist centre!

This invitation came as a great surprise! After much prayer, a Congregation-wide consultation was made. (We were, after all, in the process of making an African foundation!) It did seem that the Sacred Heart and Mother Foundress were calling us back home to France!

The first group of sisters bound for St. Loup left Tyburn Convent, London very early on the 4th September 2013 and a second group arrived in Paris from Latin America a few



The beginning of Eucharistic Adoration

days later. They formed a new and rather international Community of eight consisting of Australian, Chinese, Ecuadorian, Filipino, French, German and Peruvian Sisters – and it seemed that Mother Garnier, herself, was welcoming them. No sooner had they arrived than they heard that a wolf had been seen wandering around the area. Mother Garnier had once written that when she was a governess and was returning from her nightly Eucharistic Adoration she had been followed several times by a wolf (in French “loup”). As she was not attacked, Mother believed that it was protecting her.

The preparations for the solemn inauguration of the new monastery began immediately, with much cleaning and beautification needed in the Church as it had not been used for 40 years.

On the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, the Congregation’s powerful patron, more than 250 enthusiastic people came to warmly welcome the new community. The happiest of them all was Bishop Gueneley who had a wide smile as he processed up the aisle for Holy Mass. His ten concelebrants included monks from Pierre-qui-Vire and Flavigny, and there were also many religious (and photographers!) present for what was a truly heavenly Liturgy.

After the ceremony the guests joined the new Community for the reception in the Village Hall, a short walk from the monastery Church.

The guests were surprised and delighted to learn that one of the community, Mother Mary, actually IS French and when they heard it, they cheered! Next was a Conference given by Bishop Gueneley and Mother General on Mother Garnier, and our monastic vocation, followed by Vespers which ended with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the beginning of Eucharistic Adoration which we hope will continue there until the Lord's return.



There was one rather special guest on the day: an eleven year old girl named Anais Wagner. She had become critically ill with an incurable congenital heart disease at the end of 2012 – the same time that Bishop Gueneley had invited us to come to his Diocese. The Doctors said that without a heart transplant Anais would die but they thought that finding a match for a child her age would be practically impossible. Meanwhile, she was fitted with a temporary mechanical heart. When our Mothers visited the St. Loup property in December, they met the five La Sagesse Sisters living

there, told them all about our Mother Foundress and gave them some copies of the French translation of Don Piga's book "The Path of Mother Adèle Garnier". The La Sagesse Sisters were convinced that Mother Garnier is a saint, and so, when the Wagner family came to their convent to beg for prayers for a cure for Anais, the La Sagesse Sisters organised prayers through the intercession of Mother Marie Adele, praying daily for this intention. Then in July 2013, they received the news that the family of a young girl who had died was happy to donate her heart. Anais was then able to have the transplant which was very successful. She has made a full recovery and was present at St. Loup for the inauguration of our monastery. Thanks be to God!

But the joys of the day were not yet over! The day after the Inauguration Ceremony a Monsignor arrived from Rome with a



gift from Pope Francis! Our Holy Father had been so pleased to hear of our new Foundation in France that he sent the monastery a beautiful golden chalice which had belonged to Pope Gregory XVI, the Pope in 1838, the year when our Mother Foundress was born. He had celebrated Holy Mass with it, himself, and had wanted the community to have it! It was an amazing gift!

So, solemnly blessed, and with Papal encouragement, the new community settled in. Many things urgently demanded attention. There was the language, so the French lessons

have been continuing, and much time has been devoted to practising the Divine Office and the chants for Holy Mass in order to be able to sing them well.

Then the former convent needed to be transformed into a monastery: a section was rearranged to serve as a conference area, with facilities for visiting groups. Another area has been set aside as a guesthouse for retreatants and pilgrims and a part enclosed for the community.

Early in his pontificate, Pope Benedict XVI likened a monastery to a park in a city, where it serves as a “green lung” and provides oxygen for all the inhabitants whether or not they are aware of the dynamics of tree respiration. Similarly, a monastery serves as a spiritual generator for the neighbouring area whether people are aware of its presence or not.



The beating of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus in the tabernacle always draws souls. At St. Loup people of all ages and nationalities are being drawn to share in the Adoration. The villagers have been invited to register for a regular timeslot and others come when they can. In April a 14 year old girl came on the First Friday for night adoration, and a Confirmation group from Grancey-le-Chateau on three days retreat, joined the

community for Holy Mass and the Divine Office. On their last evening they did all night adoration.



St. Benedict promised that guests “would never be lacking” in a monastery. Since Tyburn Monastère du Cœur Eucharistique de Jésus is

on the pilgrimage route for both the Via Francigena and Santiago de Compostela walks, the guesthouse is very busy in summer. A group of pilgrims came from England with horses and bikes raising money for Alzheimer’s.



A number of youth groups, confirmation and scout groups from the dioceses of Langres, Dijon and other parts of France have come for retreats. The community were honoured to welcome the new Bishop Joseph de Metz-Noblat with all the deacons of the diocese and their wives. All the seminarians from the Seminary de Lille came for a prayerful visit. The Catholic University Centre from Dijon came on a discernment weekend with their chaplain and the diocesan vocations director. Some of these groups joined us for all the Liturgical hours and spent hours in adoration.

The monastery also works to foster the spiritual life. On 25th January, feast of the Conversion of St Paul the community had the joy of receiving their first novice oblate, Mme Dominique, who took the name Sister Francois-Dominique of the Sacred Heart. Sr. Francois-Dominique has already been seen, Rule in hand, speaking to groups about being an Oblate.



Besides Benedictine spirituality, the community is eager to spread knowledge of Mother Garnier and her Eucharistic spirituality.

On Pentecost Sunday, 8th June 2014, the Presentation for the French edition of Don Gianmario Piga's book, *The Path of Mother Adèle Garnier (Le Chemin de Mère Adèle Garnier)* was held, and a talk on Garnier spirituality was given by Rev Fr Emmanuel OSB from the Abbaye Saint Joseph de Clairval at Flavigny. In October a further conference on Mother Garnier was given by Fr Emmanuel.



Noblat's arrival with his Cossack hat covered in

snow was greeted with a cheer! All the religious processed into Mass carrying a lighted candle and singing enthusiastically, with faces

In the Year of Religious Life, for the Day of Consecrated Life, the community invited all the religious of the diocese to a celebration. An enthusiastic response was received and preparations were made. On February 2nd it was snowing, and while, alas, many could not come, 18 were able to be present. Bishop, Mgr. Joseph de Metz-



aglow. Refreshments followed. It was a day of rejoicing!



Sr. M. Narcisa

Another great day of rejoicing for the community and the Church was Pentecost Sunday, the 8th June 2014, when Sister M. Narcisa of the Angels Alvarez-Montaña, our third vocation from Ecuador, made her monastic profession. Sister's Mother and cousin came from Spain to be present at the ceremony.



And beyond the great and glorious days of rejoicing, the regular rhythm of Eucharist Adoration, singing the Divine Office, monastic work, welcoming guests and community recreation continues. Every religious community is a beacon of hope to the world and witnesses to the faithfulness of the Lord. Tyburn Monastère du Cœur Eucharistique de Jésus by its very existence proclaims the coming of the Kingdom !



Every day the community prays for all those who make the miracle possible!

*I have come to cast fire upon the earth
and would that it were already kindled*

Tyburn Monastère du Cœur
Eucharistique de Jésus



Our monastery is working for the vital **re-evangelisation** of this region of France.

To continue receiving visitors and conference groups; welcoming pilgrims and prayer groups; encouraging participation at Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and the Divine Office

we need to:

- Finalise the purchase of the monastic property, and
- Upgrade and refurbish the buildings to comply with current French law for public access, and fire and safety requirements.

If you can help us, please [contact us](#):

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