

Reverend Father Paul Buguet's chronicle

Instigator of a worldwide spiritual Fraternity

-
Founder of the shrine of Montligeon



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Notre-Dame
de Montligeon

1843

25th March: Birth of Paul-Joseph Buguet in Bellavilliers, Normandy, (France), his father Jean-Michel Buguet is a clog-maker, and his mother, Marguerite Bellanger, a spinner.

Paul was christened on the next day.

1855

7th June: Paul Buguet's first Holy Communion at Our Lady parish church in Mortagne, Normandy.

1862

He joined the diocesan Seminary of Sees, Normandy.

1866

26th May: Paul Buguet is ordained by Msgr. Rousselet, Bishop of Sees & subsequently appointed vicar.

1874

7th September: he was sent to become the curate of a thriving glass-manufacturing village.

1876

1st November: Auguste, Buguet, Paul's brother, succumbed in a work accident. Fr. Buguet is deeply affected.

1878

Appointed curate of the poverty-stricken rural parish of La Chapelle-Montligeon in Normandy.

1884

Bishop Tregaro approved the statutes of Fr. Buguet's "Association for the deliverance of Souls in Purgatory".

1887

After several ineffective trials at securing his needy parishioners with employment, Fr. Buguet successfully initiated the Montligeon printing press.

He also instigated that same year the 1st pilgrimage devoted to the Holy Souls.

1890

In January, release of the first publication to come off the printing press manufacture, entitled "The Hope Communiqué"

In June, Fr. Buguet launched in the Oeuvre Bulletin an appeal to fund-raise for a new church.

1891

Fr. Buguet travelled throughout France and Europe, to disseminate his apostolate.

On 19th November, he propounded the village council to exchange its parish church (too small to hold the fast-developing assemblies of pilgrims) with a larger one that he offered to get built at his own expense.

1893

18th May: Msgr. Trégaro appointed him Honorary Canon to the Cathedral.

4th October: Pope Leo XIII established the Association of Our Lady of Montligeon as Arch-Confraternity.

31st October: Bishop Trégaro instituted a college of chaplains for the Expiatory Oeuvre of Our Lady of Montligeon.

20th November: Canon Buguet was granted a private audience with the Sovereign Pontiff.

1894

The parish church Expiatory Oeuvre altar was raised to privileged altar.

That summer, Canon Buguet tirelessly partly toured the USA and Canada to spread his Apostolate further.

22nd September: launching of the new church erection.

24th November: Montligeon Printing Press Manufacture Ltd. was initiated to tender its 31 printing workers.

1895

The French regional Western Railways allotted an additional rail service to meet with the affluence for annual pilgrimage to La Chapelle-Montligeon.

19th June: a Sovereign Pontiff's brief instituted the Arch-Confraternity of Our Lady of Montligeon as Prima-Primaria.

1896

The Oeuvre chaplains and various departments transferred together.

4th June: laying and consecration of the first stone of the future new church.

1897

Rev. Buguet travelled to North America to diffuse its apostolate.

1899

In Rome, a chapel within the Santa-Maria in Monte-Santo Basilica got assigned to the Expiatory Oeuvre.

1900

The Expiatory Oeuvre opened its Roman office close to the Santa-Maria Basilica.

1902

8th February: Canon Buguet was elevated to Prelate of the Holy Father.

1903

In Montligeon, the new church and future basilica got roofed in time for winter.

1904

13th June: the Sovereign Pontiff elevated Fr. Buguet to the rank of Apostolic Proto-notary in gratitude for his charitable work.

By the end of the year, the new church main structure is brought to completion, the façade and the bell towers are yet to be erected.

1910

23rd October: in a 'Motu Proprio' Pope Pius X placed the Expiatory Oeuvre "under His special protection and that of His successors"; the Oeuvre was also granted the extensive use of the Santa-Maria in Monte-Santo Basilica in Rome.

1911

31st May: Consecration of the new church of the Arch-Confraternity of Montligeon.

1st June: First Holy Mass to be celebrated in the new church brought to completion for the 25th pilgrimage.

1913

28th October: the Seat of the Arch-Confraternity was transferred to the new church.

1916

8th June: Msgr. Buguet's sacerdotal Golden Jubilee.

In September, persistent ill health brought him to leave for Rome.

1917

Stained glass-windows are installed in the choir of the newly erected church.

1918

14th June: death of Msgr. Paul Buguet in Rome.

17th June: ensued his funerals at Santa-Maria in Monte-Santo Basilica.

1919

Tadolini's statue of Our Lady of Montligeon, commissioned by Fr. Buguet to the Italian sculptor, got positioned in the new church.

1921

16th November: on the feast day of Our Lady - Liberatrix of Montligeon, Msgr. Buguet's remains, brought back from Rome, are laid to rest in the vault beneath her new church.

1928

Pope Pius XI conferred the new church with the honorary title of "Basilica"