

THE TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS

On the occasion of the liturgical celebration of the feast of the Triumph of the Cross, the patronal feast day of the Army of Mary, special ceremonies were held at the Eucharistic and Marian Center Spiri-Maria on the two weekends surrounding September 14, that is to say, on September 9-10 and 16-17.

Saturday's program, set under the theme of the "Triumph of the Cross", presented a solemn Way of the

The morning began with Father Victor Rizzi extending, on behalf of Mother Paul-Marie, a cordial welcome to all our members who came from various Canadian provinces, the United States and France. He reminded us that if we were celebrating on this day the triumph of the cross, "we must also follow the painful cross", and he announced the program for the forenoon: a "Way of the Cross adapted for this time which is our time'."

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

This Way of the Cross set, side by side, the Passion of the Redeemer with that of the Co-Redemptrix. As Raoul Auclair mentioned in his preface to *Life of Love*, there is configuration between the Redemption and the Co-Redemption, as we can see from the stages of Marie-Paule's life.

Father Maurice Péroquin led the Way of the Cross, the text of which was drawn from the publications of the Work and from the Gospel. Before each station was announced, a young man or a young woman solemnly carried in a tableau representing that station and, in the sanctuary, presented it for the veneration of the faithful, during the time of the meditation for that station.

The meditations were read by different couples: the



Spiri-Maria, September 16, 2006 - The young men and young ladies who carried in the fourteen stations of the way of the cross during the morning program.

man commented the Redeemer's Way of the Cross while the assembly contemplated the tableau of that station, after which his wife read a text concerning the Passion of the Co-Redemptrix.

"Every mystical Work has points in which it configures with the Passion of Christ," our Foundress wrote. "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross every day and follow me' (Lk 9:23). The more a soul abandons itself to the holy will of Christ and the more it seeks to give itself for humanity, the more it is configured with Christ's Passion."

This was all the more true for Marie-Paule who could affirm: "Since my childhood, my love for Jesus has been so strong that I have never

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(Excerpt from the dialogue of reception of the Knights of the Lady)

That is what the Heart pierced by the sword, enclosed in the altar of the Holy Sacrifice in the chapel of Spiri-Maria, wishes to recall to us, that symbol par excellence of a Love that gives of itself totally.

We should also indicate that this Way of the Cross was punctuated by a few hymns interpreted by the Choir of the Immaculate, including "Marie et le Prêtre" [Mary and the Priest], "Le Crucifix" and "Coeur transpercé pour nous" [Heart pierced for us], all of which helped each one to meditate and adore God in His mysteries.

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

The afternoon program consisted of a Eucharistic and Marian hour on the

theme of love; it was followed by Mass.

On September 9, the Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Father Bruno Ruel who concelebrated with 20 confreres, while on September 16, Father Eric Roy presided, assisted by 22 concelebrants.

Ceremony of the Taking of the Habit and the Entry of a Postulant

On September 16, a ceremony of reception in the Community of the Sons and Daughters of Mary was added to the Mass: Andrée-Anne Caron, from St.-Ulric, took the habit of the Daughters of Mary, and Emmanuel Gaudreault Raymond, from Laval, committed himself as a postulant in the Community of the Sons of Mary.

Sylvie Payeur-Raynauld



The taking of the habit by Andrée-Anne Caron, accompanied by her parents, Yolande and Alain Caron, of St.-Ulric.



Commitment as a postulant by Emmanuel Gaudreault Raymond, of Laval, son of Ginette and Jean-Marcel Gaudreault.