

# Homage to Raoul Auclair

(10th Anniversary of His Departure for the Hereafter)

On January 8, 2007, it will have been ten years that Brother Raoul Auclair left “the world here below” to achieve full-flowering in “the world on-high”, the heavenly Jerusalem, the beauties of which his “beacon” book, *L’Homme Total dans la Terre Totale* [The Total Man on the Total Earth] described for us through the testimonial of great mystics. For “Jerusalem is a place”:

“A supremely well-ordered city, bustling with activity like a sublime beehive, with the multifarious, immortal and perfect life of all men, the mystical cells of the Mystical Body of the only One.... Jerusalem is a place, a concrete space. Our bodies, although they may already be glorious or will one day become so, are not floating about in a void. We will be living in the Father’s House, sheltered under the ‘Tent’ He set up ‘in the heights’ (Si 24:4), protected by ‘the vault’ (Amos 9:5) under which the Creator isolated the universe of Love from that of the swirl of the flames.” (*L’Homme Total dans la Terre Totale*, p. 471)

A new audiovisual documentary presents the life of this great prophet and theologian. Based on a text prepared by Sister Louise H elie a year ago, Sister Aline d’Amours, amid all her artistic work, set to the task of producing a video on Raoul’s life. Providentially, the DVD will be available shortly before the tenth anniversary of his death, and at a time when – without our having planned it – several collaborators in this issue of the paper quote from Raoul’s writings which are very closely tied in with the work of the Co-Redemption.

The homage to Raoul Auclair presents photographic documents of different times in his life, several of which



1985 -  
528 pages



Sr. Aline  
D'Amours



Sr. Louise  
H elie



Fr. Xavier  
Larribe

have never been published. It is a moving testimonial paid to this extraordinary man, whose spirit had been illumined supernaturally and whom we see, at the end of his life, with a tear in his eye because he was more keenly aware of the ultimate loss. Over and above the eminent author acknowledged by his peers, this documentary has us appreciate the man who, at the age of 73, left everything behind to come and settle in Quebec to live within the sphere of the Marian Work in which he had become a member, participating in its development.

The DVD is very well done. The text prepared by Sister Louise and based in part on the writings of our Foundress, the artistic talents of Sister Aline and the narration by Father Xavier Larribe contribute to making of this documentary a wonderful piece of work, a valuable souvenir not only for those of us who knew Raoul, but also for all those who have just discovered him or who will discover him through his writings. We are presenting, below, excerpts from the text of this unique documentary.

Sylvie Payeur-Raynauld

## A GLIMPSE AT RAOUL AUCLAIR'S LIFE

It was at Ambrault, in the Indre Department in the heart of France, that Raoul Auclair was born on March 4, 1906. Eleven years later, on May 13, 1917, he made his Solemn Communion, on the very day of Mary’s first apparition at Fatima, a “coincidence” that would mark his life with a Marian seal.

After having completed his studies at the National School of Art and Modelling in Paris, he worked at several jobs as a draughtsman. Then, he worked as a sales representative for a certain Mr. Delacroix, whose daughter, Suzanne, he married on May 10, 1932.

An enthusiastic man,



Paternal home and the church where Raoul was baptized.

Raoul was interested in literature, art, history, music and so many other disciplines. He had a sense of beauty; he appreciated elegance and refinement.

He was 35 years old when the major event of his life took place, on October 9, 1941, as he was sitting on the terrace



Suzanne  
Delacroix,  
Raoul’s  
wife

His mother, Germaine, and his father, Anatole Auclair.

of a cafe in Marseille. There, Raoul received an effusion of light similar to that experienced by Saint Paul, Ratisbonne, Claudel or Frossard. In an instant, his life was transported outside of time, and he saw himself as if plummeted into the divine intelligence. Having returned



Quebec - Raoul, eschatological and Marian author

to reality, Raoul summed up for himself what he had just experienced and he said simply: "I have complete knowledge!" This immersion in God occurred a second time three days later.

Shortly thereafter, he wrote, uninterruptedly, the 144 chapters of *Le Livre des Cycles*, a work for which he received the honor of a first prize in literature. The year 1941 also marked the beginning of his work with the O.R.T.F. (the French radio and television network) in whose employ he would remain for 30 years. He wrote several plays, directing and producing the broadcasts himself. After the liberation at the end of the war, he was transferred to Paris and settled at Lozère-sur-Yvette, south of the French capital.

Over the years, Raoul received numerous literary prizes. He would write some twenty works dealing with eschatology and Mariology, and some twelve plays, but, in spite of all the honors conferred upon him, he suffered much. Several times, in the darkest moments, he would disappear, seeking refuge in a shrine or in a monastery. He wrote to a correspondent:

"The old man in me is buried so deeply in those 'garments of skin' with which it is said Adam was clothed after his fall that, stripped of one, I immediately see another one appearing."

On a retreat he made at Chateauneuf-de-Galaure, Marthe Robin informed him that a mission awaited him. It was during that retreat that he consecrated himself to Mary in a complete and absolute elan, according to the formula proposed by Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort.

He also travelled abroad. After having met Padre Pio at San Giovanni Rotondo, he wrote to a friend: "Must I not henceforth remember the half serious, half ironical warning given me by the most venerable Padre Pio: 'You, write, but write well, otherwise beware'."

On February 19, 1966, he gave a lecture on the apparitions of the Lady of All Peoples and, the following year, he published these messages in French. This book, which drew the attention of the francophone public to these apparitions, also gained Marie-Paule's adherence and that of the members of the Marian Group who, thanks to him, discovered the Amsterdam apparitions.

#### RAOUL AND THE ARMY OF MARY

In December 1971, Raoul received a letter from Marie-

Paule who gave him some precise information on the Work, on the Lady of All Peoples. She also sent him a copy of the first issue of the review *The Army of Mary*. He immediately perceived the need for this divine Work in this time when the Church is in the throes of the most perilous torment in its history.

Two years later, in 1973, he met Marie-Paule who had gone to Paris with Father Philippe Roy, her mother, Laura Bégin, and Mrs. Rose Dessureault, the godmother of the Army of Mary. At that time, Marie-Paule informed Raoul that he would one day be associated with the Army of Mary in a special way.

After his wife Suzanne passed away in February 1976, Raoul was now free and he offered his services to the Army of Mary. The following May 13, he began, with joy and emotion, the reading of the volumes of *Life of Love*, the unique nature and mystery of which he grasped.

In 1977, at the request of the directors of the Army of Mary, he undertook a lecture tour in Canada and the United States, inviting his listeners to be attentive to the signs of the times. On March 25, he received the blessing of a Son of Mary with the special formula (given by Heaven), so that he might become "*the greatest theologian of all times*".

Through his knowledge, Raoul came up with notions that have permitted us to understand what the Co-Redemption really is. At the end of the 1970s, during which time Marie-Paule ascended in an impressive manner the different worlds of the total Earth, the understanding Raoul had of the Total Earth allowed him to support Marie-Paule by explaining to her what she was experiencing. As for Marie-Paule, she confirmed, through her experience, that Raoul's inspiration was authentic.

Raoul settled in Quebec definitively in December 1979. During the three years that followed, he was the editor-in-chief of *L'Étoile*, the Work's paper that replaced the paper *Marie*. He also continued his work as a writer, now publishing his books through his own publishing house, "Les Éditions Stella".

On October 15, 1987, he took the habit of the Sons of Mary. Later, to one of his confreres, he explained the reason for his gesture in these terms: "I understood that I had to enter the Community in order for Raoul to disappear."

Raoul, a man who was accustomed to giving orders, had worked seriously at his

interior reform, and he abided by the Community life that would be his way of life for a little more than nine years. Hospitalized on December 26, 1996, he died quietly and peacefully on January 8, 1997.

#### HOMAGES TO RAOUL AUCLAIR

An author and playwright honored in France in the 1960s and 1970s, Raoul Auclair had progressively slipped into oblivion, dedicating himself to the Work of the Army of Mary, so scorned and decried. But the Work did not forget him and, on three occasions, Marie-Paule rendered him a vibrant homage.

First of all in 1984, during the pilgrimage the Army of Mary made to Europe in honor of the Apocalypse, Marie-Paule presented him, in Lourdes, with a reproduction of the Lamb of the Apocalypse done in enamel on a copper base. Here is an excerpt of what our Foundress said on that occasion:

"For us of the Army of Mary, it is to Mary Immaculate in particular that our gratitude rises for the invaluable contribution Raoul has made to our Work since his arrival on Canadian soil. He has made it possible for us to define, in the context and light of eschatology, the role the Army of Mary is called to play in this end of the times, in the wake of the Co-Redemptrix, the "One Sent" by the Father and the Son to drive out Satan and to announce the Holy Spirit.

"With Raoul we have lived unforgettable hours. So many young and not so young, have understood, after reading his writings, the grandeur, at once sublime and tragic, of the time through which we are passing, this turning point between two worlds, one already finished and the other yet to be revealed. Motivated by this new faith, they have come back to the path of the Church and the practice of religion. In the steps of him who has thus opened to them the way, they have set out to conquer this new world whose nature can already be discerned and whose first beginnings have already been seen....

"It is with a deep joy that the Knights of Mary associate themselves to the offering of this humble gift of the official emblem of the 'Pilgrimage of the Apocalypse' presented to the 'witness of the Apocalypse' which you are and to whom we reiterate our most sincere tribute as well as the assurance of our prayers."

In 1987, during a pilgrimage in Italy, Raoul received the medal of literary merit for

his eschatological and Marian works.

Finally, on May 31, 1994, Marie-Paule rendered him a final homage during a pilgrimage of the Work to Austria. Our Foundress recalled that "this man of great literary ability, having grasped the mysterious message of *Life of Love*, did not hesitate to leave Paris, his friends, his great renown as a writer (an international renown), in the lofty aristocratic places in which he evolved, in order to come and live in New France, with us little ones, sublime moments as he came to know the celestial interventions and their realization."

And, before offering him a statue of the Lady of All Peoples, our Foundress ended the homage with these words:

"May Mary, Mother and Lady of All Peoples, welcome you into her paradise and reward you for so much work accomplished for her with love."

It was with emotion that Brother Raoul received this homage, desired and requested by God who, in this way, apposed a divine seal upon his work and his entire life.

#### THE PROPHET

In July 1960, Raoul wrote to a lady friend:

"It will be necessary to be strong during the time of fulfillment for those who are born today. They will experience times of seduction; they will have to resist something that will be almost irresistible... Now, there is no longer any other alternative. We must make saints of the children with a view to the days of the great Passage.

"Those who will be strong because they will be pure, will live through some terrible and yet wonderful times, the bliss they will enjoy, even here below, will be in the measure of the dangers that will assail them and over which they will be victorious only through the most perfect charity and the most total surrender to God, or rather, to Mary who was offered by God to men as the ultimate recourse in the darkness that will cover the earth."

Raoul delivered himself over to Mary with a childlike love and he entered into her mysteries with a joyous faith. He departed, open to the Light in which everything lives anew, leaving behind him an impressive literary work. Future generations will understand that Raoul "fulfilled" perfectly the blessing that promised to make of him "the greatest theologian of all times"!

(Excerpts from the documentary dedicated to Raoul Auclair)