



Grégoire Giguère
1925-2007

“Come, Good and Faithful Servant...”

On Friday, September 28, 2007, Grégoire Giguère, Marie-Paule's brother, passed away in a car accident. He was a man deeply committed to serving various causes in his milieu: he was the Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus (regional officer) for a number of years, a member of the Catholic Parents Association, a municipal councillor and President of the OTJ (for young people), etc.

He assumed important responsibilities within the Marian Work:

– He was the Prior (officer) of the Province Mary Queen of Canada of the Militia of Jesus Christ when this Work became associated with the Army of Mary.

– On May 29, 1987, he was appointed the first General in Chief (national officer) of the work of the Oblate-Patriots.

– During the triduum of May 2004 at Spiri-Maria, he was received among the first group of the Knights of the Lady.

He deserved this last title, “Knight of the Lady”, in a special way, for he helped Marie-Paule in so many ways through all the trials she endured in her life and he came to her defence on numerous occasions.

The funeral Mass was celebrated at Spiri-Maria on Saturday, October 6, 2007, by Father Eric Roy who concelebrated with 21 confreres Sons of Mary for our “pseudo-schismatic” members (can we be schismatic when we are always faithful to God's plan, He who is the supreme Authority within the Church?), who had come from a few Canadian provinces and the United States, and who were so numerous that the chapel could not contain them all, so that a large number followed the ceremony on giant screens set up in the basement and in the chapel of the neighboring Residence.

At the same time, a commemorative Mass (without the presence of the body) was celebrated in the parish church, concelebrated by five priests, the parish priest, Father Denis Bélanger, and Father Fernand Perron; two cousins of the deceased, Fathers Doric Giguère, a Missionary Father of Africa (White Father), and Gervais Giguère, a Missionary Father of Marianhill, and Father Simon Roy, a White Father.

Following are excerpts from the homily given at Spiri-Maria by Father Denis Laprise, in order to render a final homage to Grégoire who was a man highly

respected by all.

“Come, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Master”

These words are the call Jesus made to His servant Grégoire....

“The accidental and unforeseeable departure of our brother Grégoire was tragic for all the members of his family and his friends. But who can penetrate the depth of the mystery of human sufferings? Who can understand the reason for certain trials and comprehend the divine plan for our life? So many questions that come to mind at this time and for which we would so like to have an answer or, at least, to receive a bit of light in order to soothe our pain. But the light can only come from God.

Today, this man who, for years, was immersed in the business world where he excelled – and you are the witnesses of this –, gathers us around his coffin. His mortal remains remind us that everything passes, and the only thing that remains worthwhile, in the Lord's eyes, are the good works accomplished. And they are numerous. Without wishing to go into the merits of his 82 years of life, it is appropriate to mention the kindness and fidelity of this man as a citizen and as a Christian.

“He demonstrated, first and foremost, a great nobleness of soul and heart.... Grégoire was a good man. This adjective sums up his entire life, so to speak. All those who had anything to do with Grégoire are unanimous in declaring that he showed unflinching devotedness and an ever active charity....

Grégoire was a universal man. His constant concern for the truth in the light of God made of him a man of peace who distinguished himself by that very deep desire for unity. With his wife, Odette, he worked at it every day and brought together all the families....

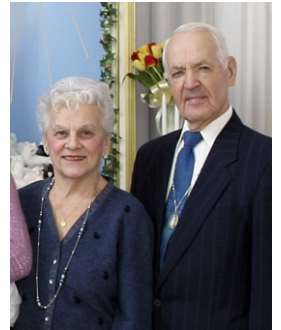
“Where did he get his strength? In prayer and especially in his devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary; the prayer of the rosary and the recitation of the fifteen decades was his favorite prayer. But he had an unshakeable trust in Mary, Lady of All Peoples, Co-Redemptrix, Mediatrix and Advocate. Grégoire was a Marian apostle; as a member of the Army of Mary, he was always available to serve the Blessed Virgin. This providential Work was, so to speak, his entire life. For his eldest sister, Marie-Paule, he was always the guardian angel, the defender, the protector and the confident. For all of us, he was a father, a brother, a friend.... There

you have what this good and faithful servant was who has now entered into the joy of His Master, into the heart of the Father's Heart.

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After the funeral Mass, Grégoire was interred in the cemetery next to Sainte-Germaine de Lac-Etchemin church, next to his parents and the other deceased members of his family.

A final memory of Grégoire: Last September 12, Marie-Paule had been informed by Heaven that there would soon be a death in her family (these graces will be recounted in the next *White Book*). On the same day, she informed Padre Jean-Pierre, Fathers Victor and Eric, as well as a few Sisters who collaborate with her. A short time later, Grégoire and his wife Odette came to see her in her office, and at the end of this meeting, Grégoire, with a deeper emotion than usual, went to greet Marie-Paule whom he held tightly in his arms, telling her once again how happy he was in the Army of Mary: “we feel such a



**Grégoire
and his wife
Odette
Laliberté**

–
**50th wedding
anniversary**

strong love”. – “Yes, it is a fraternal love....” Marie-Paule commented. Then, as Odette came up to embrace both of them in her arms, Marie-Paule concluded this last memorable meeting with these words: “It is a celestial love.” – “Yes, celestial,” Grégoire replied in turn.

Is there a better expression to describe the current of divine and Marian love that prevails within the Work and at our gatherings in Marie-Paule's wake? And this, in spite of all the crosses that may arise. In the heart of the Father's Heart, we live, in truth,

“A celestial love.”

Sylvie Payeur Raynauld

On the web site of Radio Love, under the section “Videos”, at the following address: www.radioamour.com/RA_videos.html, you may view (but in French only) the funeral Mass that was held for Grégoire Giguère at Spiri-Maria on October 6, 2007.

The “condemnation” has finally been handed down... just before the feast of the Triumph of the Cross on September 14... your birthday. What a thoughtful gesture on the part of the ecclesial authorities!!!... to wish you a happy birthday. In our turn, we want to assure you of our best wishes, sincere, affectionate and grateful.

Faithfully,

– Monique and Guy Larribe

If the writings of the religious authorities seem to be constantly threatening the directors of the Army of Mary, the eloquent testimonials of the members, on the other hand, tangibly present the solid basis of this divine Work and, of course, the many graces it brings with it and of which it is a sign. – J. Bélanger