The Beatification of Fr. Louis Brisson

Founder of the Oblate Sisters and the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

22 September 2012
Troyes, France

a university pilgrimage
AFFIRMATIONS OF HOLINESS...

the voice of the People
- reputed in Troyes … with the opening of the cause
- sustained by the Oblate Sisters and Oblates of St. Francis de Sales … through the promotion of the cause

the voice of God (grace)
- manifest in a life of heroic virtue
- revealed in a supernatural act

the voice of the Church
- verified through historical, medical, & theological examinations
- affirmed by the bishops, cardinals, and pope

Throughout her history, the Church has always celebrated holiness as an expression of the "wonderful things' the Lord works in the life of his People. (Congregation for the Causes of Saints)
**Biographical Highlights**

**Plancy**
- place of birth & death
- vocational experience

**Troyes – Visitation Monastery**
- chaplain & confessor for 40 years
- Mother Mary de Sales Chappuis

**Diocese of Troyes**
- director of the Association of St. Francis de Sales

**Oblate Sisters**
- “oeuvres ouvrières” (youth clubs)

**Oblates**
- schools
- missions

*Throughout her history, the Church has always celebrated holiness as an expression of the “wonderful things’ the Lord works in the life of his People.* (Congregation for the Causes of Saints)
Steps Along the Way …

1938 … cause opens in diocese of Troyes
1964 … cause introduced in Rome
1980 … *Positio super causae introductione* published

1981 … diocesan investigation of miracle
1995 … decree on the validity of the process
1998 … *Positio super virtutibus* published
2009 … decree on heroicity of virtues
2010 … *Positio super miro* published
2011 … decree affirming miracle

2012 … Rite of BEATIFICATION (September 22)

*Throughout her history, the Church has always celebrated holiness as an expression of the “wonderful things’ the Lord works in the life of his People.*  (Congregation for the Causes of Saints)
The Rite of Beatification

LITURGICAL ELEMENTS: during celebration of the Mass, after the penitential rite and before the “Gloria”

Request for beatification
The Diocesan Bishop formally requests that the Venerable Servant of God be inscribed among the Blessed.

Biography
The Postulator of the Cause reads a biographical summary of the life of the Venerable Servant of God.

Apostolic letter
The Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints reads the papal letter by which the Venerable Servant of God is declared “Blessed” and announces the date (in this case, October 12) on which a limited cult (worship) may be celebrated in memory of the newly Blessed.

Acclamation
The Congregation responds, and an image of the Blessed is unveiled.

Veneration
A reliquary is brought forth in procession and is placed near the altar.

Thanksgiving
The Diocesan Bishop expresses thanks to the Holy Father.

Sign of peace
The Diocesan Bishop, the Postulator of the Cause, and the Superiors General, share a sign of peace with the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation.
APOSTOLIC LETTER of Pope Benedict XVI:
read by Angelo Cardinal Amato

We, having graciously welcomed the desire of Our Brother Marc Stenger, Bishop of Troyes, as well as those of numerous other Brother Bishops and many of the Faithful, and after having received the opinion of the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints, by virtue of Our Apostolic Authority, We agree and grant that the Venerable Servant of God Louis Brisson, Priest and Founder of the Oblate Sisters and the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, Apostle of the youth of the working class, Witness of the charity of Christ after the example of the Holy Bishop of Geneva, may henceforth be called “Blessed” and that his feast may be celebrated each year on the 12th of October.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Given in Rome, at St. Peter’s, on September 14, 2012,
in the eighth year of my Pontificate.

Throughout her history, the Church has always celebrated holiness as an expression of the “wonderful things’ the Lord works in the life of his People.” (Congregation for the Causes of Saints)
Throughout her history, the Church has always celebrated holiness as an expression of the “wonderful things’ the Lord works in the life of his People. (Congregation for the Causes of Saints)
Throughout her history, the Church has always celebrated holiness as an expression of the “wonderful things’ the Lord works in the life of his People.” (Congregation for the Causes of Saints)