

Venerable Pierre-Bienvenu NOAILLES

Priest-Founder of the Holy Family of Bordeaux



Bulletin n° 3/2025
October 27, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Family of Pierre-Bienvenu Noailles,

Autumn is the time when, as October 27th approaches, we renew our gratitude for the gift of the life and the work of our Good Father. In the Church we continue on the Jubilee path under the banner of HOPE, and we reflect on what it means for us, for the world, for the whole of creation. For us, hope remains always deeply rooted in God Alone and in His Incarnate Love – in Christ our Lord.

On what do we base our Hope? – a question that increasingly preoccupies many people who, in a constantly changing world, so full of instability, are trying to find the rock on which to anchor their Hope.

This rock is God and God's faithfulness. The author of the Letter to the Hebrews expressed it beautifully: "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful" (10:23). The Good Father, for his part, puts it this way: "The Good God is faithful in His promises: He will not fail you" (Letter to Sister C. Grosseval, July 1, 1848).

Our fidelity must be the response to God's fidelity, and our Founder emphasized its value many times, notably by saying: "To be faithful means to persevere in one's affections and one's duties, no matter what obstacles or sacrifices turn up. This virtue, so rare among men, is the greatest sign of honour and that a subject can give to his prince, a friend to a friend, a spouse to a spouse..." Of course, these words reflect the thought and language of the time in which the Good Father lived, but the depth of their meaning remains unchanged.

Let us reflect:

- To what extent is my hope anchored in God alone?
- Am I an apostle of hope for those whom God places on my life's path?

Dear sisters and brothers,

Today I come to you with a special request. Each and every one of us certainly has in our lives a personal experience of encountering our Good Father – in his writings, through his words, perhaps in connection with prayer... As far as possible, I invite you to share this experience. These are not those deeply personal things that we keep in the depths of our hearts, but the experiences that we can and want to share. God's action in our lives through the Good Father is a sign that his charism is still very much alive, and sharing it can also be helpful in the beatification process.

I therefore ask you to please send them to the following address: mkinga.bartos@sfbint.org

Thank you in advance!

Sr M. Kinga, Rome.



God our Father, who put into the heart of Pierre Bienvenu Noailles the grace to surrender himself unreservedly to your love, and inspired him to found a Family modelled on that of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, grant us to live according to the same spirit for the extension of your Reign and your greater glory.

Grant also that we may rejoice in the glorification of your Servant the Venerable Pierre Bienvenu Noailles, and obtain for us through his intercession...

We ask this through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

The Good Father intercedes

In the past...

This year marks the centenary of a particular event that can undoubtedly be described as a miracle.

On July 8, 1925, in Aurice, in the Landes region of France, a young woman, Germaine Ducourneau, had both of her feet severed by a mowing machine:

She herself describes it as follows: "On July 8, 1925, during the full wheat harvest, in the presence of many people working at the harvest, I had the misfortune of falling on the blade of the ox-drawn mowing machine. Freshly sharpened, it severed my feet, almost completely separating them at the ankle."

The doctors' testimonies paint an even more shocking and, humanly speaking, hopeless picture:

"...a cut with scissors on both Achilles tendons would have caused both feet to fall off. We removed five or six slices of bone from the right foot in particular, comparable to slices of sausage... The patient was completely bloodless." (Dr. Fournier).

"The feet seemed to be held on only by the Achilles tendons. Both talus bones were severed into several slices. Profuse bleeding had made the patient's condition very serious. A blood transfusion seemed necessary. We also thought that an amputation of both feet would be unavoidable... the condition was extraordinarily serious." (Dr. Dutoya)

The nurse testified:

"Both feet were cut off, nerves, veins, arteries; the bones were sawn into slices like sausage, only the Achilles tendon held the poor feet on... she didn't have enough blood to supply the heart... Tetanus was greatly feared, as well as gangrene because of the dirt in the wound, which was full of earth, blades of grass, and pieces of clothing."

A Sister of the Holy Family, who was nursing the patient, placed the relics of the Good Father on her feet, and the Sisters began a novena.

On the night of July 8-9, the patient's condition suddenly improved to such an extent that the doctors deemed a blood transfusion unnecessary. Moreover, although there were no antibiotics at the time, no infection developed!

On August 29, Mrs. Germaine Ducourneau left the hospital under her own power... The healing was rapid, complete, and lasting.

Let us pray to God that, in light of current research, this miracle may be recognized and confirmed.

...and still today

Thanksgiving for the intercession of the Good Father in the following requests:

- return to faith and communion with the Church
- health of soul and body for a young boy
- the grace of marital fidelity

Also, a renewed request to notify us regarding any graces received (email below):

Website :

www.saintefamillebordeaux.org

Secretariat of the Cause:

secgen@sfbint.org

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