MAILBAG..... ECHOES from the SANCTUARY LAMP !

"I particularly liked this last "Reflections of Blessed Pierre Vigne", concerning the lamp that burns day and night. Indeed, I confess to having a very different impression depending on the church I enter, a non-catholic Church, a mosque. When I enter a non-catholic Church or a mosque, I can clearly see that it is a place of prayer, of meditation, but I don't have the same impression at all when I enter a Catholic church because, immediately my gaze is drawn to the small lamp installed near the Tabernacle. It indicates to me the presence of the Blessed SACRAMENT, that is to say the presence of Christ. This little lamp tells me a lot about Christ's desire to be close to me, offering me his love. Drome FRANCE

We read together "the lamp that burns day and night"...Peter Vigne gave us a beautiful text that serves us today... I will see the little lamp in another way; I will look at it consciously and remember Peter Vigne's message...I liked his reflection which gives more meaning to what we see and calls us to greater awareness, perhaps we forget a little...It is a light that must be followed in everything it tells us. It calls us to rekindle faith, hope and love... It is a sign of the Presence of Christ and directs us to it..." Amigos de Pedro Vigne.-Burgos-SPAIN

"I don't want to let this month go by without saying a word about Reflections for May and June, which I found particularly inspiring. Thank you Father Vigne for this prayerful reflection. It invited me to look again at the sanctuary lamp, plain or ornate, and discover its message of "Presence" ... God is here. Every time I enter the church, my eyes are now drawn to the tabernacle and the lamp that burns day and night. The lamp also reminds me that my mission is to be a "sanctuary lamp" burning for the Christ whom I receive and carry within me and to bear witness to that Presence. How? Reflections for May-June 2022 is a wonderful invitation to explore again the Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, what it means for me today, its impact and its challenges". Sr. Christina Fitzgerald. IRELAND

>>>>Thank you Father Vigne for giving us messages that speak to us today...and thank you to the readers who share their reflections and thus enrich this leaflet. Others will appear in the next issue.

LET US CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR PEACE so necessary and urgent in the face of daily atrocities and for the victims. We risk forgetting them now that the war has dragged on.





During these beautiful months we will celebrate two very special feasts welcoming their message of hope and light: August 6 the Transfiguration, August 15 the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary... including of course July 8, the feast of Blessed Peter Vigne...as well as the anniversary of his birth August 20 and his baptism August 24. No doubt you will have many other special family or community occasions to praise the Lord!

ALL FOR YOU ...

My Sweet Jesus, I feel unable to praise you as I ought, and so I implore the Blessed Virgin Mary, your gentle Mother, to do so for me. I acknowledge and adore you just as she did, when she was filled with the joy I now experience. From this day forward I accept you as the One who reigns in me. *My body is your throne, my spirit is yours;*



be my Lord and Master forevermore. I place all my trust in you. *By your grace let nothing within me ever resist your* love. That is how I want to serve you all the days of my life. *I renounce in advance everything that could displease you* as I go forward in life. I am yours and I want to be yours for ever. Jesus, you are my sole desire

in whom I will one day have everything. »

HN 1. 196 - 197

Tugne no comiltionnaive.

July 8 Feast of BLESSED PETER VIGNE.

Since his Beatification the Church has celebrated his liturgical feast on July 8. This year, in the Church in BOUCIEU LE ROI, Fr. Matthieu Loua will celebrate Mass at 1100 hrs., in honour of Bl. Peter Vigne. We are all invited to join in praise and thanksgiving to God for what this "ardent preacher of the love of Christ" has been and continues to be in our time.



RIGHT TO THE END; 8 JULY RENCUREL......12 JULY BOUCIEU

In March 1740, Father Vigne had to suspend his missions due to illness. "Being unwell and confined to bed, but nevertheless of sound mind, memory and understanding", he draws up his final will. At 70 years of age perhaps it was time to stop? But to rest? "our intrepid missionary of the Good News wouldn't hear of it" Perrossier tells us.

In July, just a few months later, he was called to preach a mission in RENCUREL. He undertook the long and difficult journey through the mountainous paths of the Vercors to Rencurel. There, he edifies everyone by his preaching. The feast of Corpus Christi was a sweltering hot day. Peter Vigne uses up all his energy reviving the faith of those who came to listen to him. He preaches ardently on the Eucharist, the Sacrament of the real presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Overwhelmed with fatigue and weakness, he sees crowds of people waiting for him for confession, but feeling unable to continue his colleagues had to carry him to his



room. Peter Vigne, our courageous missionary died on Friday July 8 at four o'clock in the afternoon. For 24 hours his body was displayed in the church to respond to the multitude who wanted to see him again and venerate him. This was followed by the celebration of his funeral Mass of thanksgiving. On Sunday July 10 the missionary's final journey begins. By evening the funeral cortege arrives in Saint-Roman, where Father Vigne had preached a mission in 1732. His body is taken to the church

where it remains for the night. At dawn on Monday 11, the funeral procession sets off again, crosses the Isère river by boat, and arrives in Tain at the end of the day. Having crossed the Rhône, it is in Tournon that once again the missionary will spend the night in the chapel of the Penitents in the church of St Julien. A large crowd turns out to welcome him with great fervour and the next day following a solemn celebration at dawn, the funeral cortege leaves for Boucieu. An enormous crowd accompanies the procession and extraordinary events take place, for example, a blind man regains his sight, etc "the entire town will bear witness to it". At St Barthélémy le Plain the remains are taken to the Church, likewise in Colombier le Jeune where Peter Vigne preached two missions in 1711 and 1712 and where he met Louise Bouveyron with whom he would found the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. The Penitents of BOUCIEU came to meet him and carry him to the church of St John where again



time. During the removal of his body from Rencurel to Boucieu it is said that everyone wanted to see PETER VIGNE'S FACE and kiss his hands! Signs of deep affection, admiration and trust in the power of his intercession! At the end of the day his body was placed in the tomb where it still remains and where people continue to entrust their many intentions to him. Why recount this journey of 68 km if not to note that everywhere those who had benefited from Peter Vigne's missionary service wanted to show their thanksgiving to God for the gift he gave them ... and we continue with them today. B.R.

A Journey Begins August 20-24

Peter Vigne was born in Privas in 1670 on August 20 and on the 24th he received the Sacrament of Baptism which he would later fulfil by becoming a "priest and missionary" as he liked to sign his name, because thatwas his deepest identity. And it was this "face" that everyone wanted to see again in July 1740.

A face that reveals simplicity, energetic kindness, generosity of "heart" given in finem, to the end!

This August 20, 2022, all are invited to spend a day with the international community of the Religious of the Blessed Sacrament in **RENCUREL.** Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. The invitation is open to all near and far, and from a distance many of us will be united in spirit, in RENCUREL where Peter Vigne preached and celebrated the Eucharist one last time.

A JOURNEY ENDS?

If you have free time and want to embark on an interesting journey, in reality (or via the internet!!), you can follow Peter Vigne's last itinerary, from Rencurel to Boucieu le Roi! This would allow you to visit those places where he "sowed the seeds of God's Word of love and forgiveness". St Pierre de Chérenne, Beauvoir en Royans, St Romans, Chatte, St Hilaire du Rosier, St Lattier, Chatillon St Jean, Triors, Mours, Peyrins, Chanos, Mercurol, Tain, Tournon, St Barthelemy-le-Plain, Colombier-le-Jeune. And of course Boucieu le Roi.

It is a beautiful journey to take in the company of "the great servant of the Eucharist, whose fervour shines out *like the Sanctuary Lamp*" said Louis Pize in the preface to Peter Vigne's biography written by Thérèse Ardouin in 1966.

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This text from Pope Francis shows us clearly the source of **Peter Vigne's missionary** life—JESUS: "I am yours and I want to be yours for ever". This conviction, day after day, shaped the face that his "dear Christians" wanted to contemplate one last time! A call to all of us to be missionaries...daily.

A true missionary, who never ceases to be a disciple, knows that Jesus walks with him, speaks to him, breathes with him, works with him. He senses Jesus alive with him in the midst of the missionary enterprise. Unless we see him present at the heart of our missionary commitment, our enthusiasm soon wanes and we are no longer sure of what it is that we are handing on; we lack vigour and passion. A person who is not convinced, enthusiastic, certain and in love, will convince nobody. Evangelii Gaudium 266