

MAILBAG: Thanks to Josie for her beautiful testimony from Knock, Ireland's Marian shrine a sacred place of pilgrimage, since the apparition of Our Lady on August 21, 1879.

"Thank you Jesus for the many blessings received through the joyful participation in reading "Reflections Blessed Peter Vigne" for July-August 2023. I thank God for his intercession and for the many people involved in bringing us, the readers one step close to Jesus as a result of this beautiful and comforting message for all the pilgrims on life's journey. Peter Vigne reminds us that God is our true and trusted friend who never abandons us....He is continually reaching out to us in so many ways. His listening heart is filled with unconditional love to help, guide and support us in all our needs in this life as we look forward patiently to living with Jesus in our true eternal home in the Kingdom of Heaven with Mary, and all the angels and saints" J.K. KNOCK Co. Mayo.

WYD: BURGOS-SASAMON;

From July 25 to August 7, our two communities shared the comings and goings of WYD groups on their way from France, heading to Lisbon. 728 young people and their companions travelling from Burgos Cathedral and as far afield as France stopped for a meal and a restful break in the park in Sasamón. It was really appreciated after a long journey by coach from Nancy-Toul, Ardèche, Rouen. Here are a few short extracts from letters we received from them:



"Thank you for your very warm welcome, I really appreciated it...The people of Lorraine are eternally grateful!" » *"May you be richly blessed for your fraternal presence, your sense of welcome... quite simply for who you are: Sisters consecrated to the Lord! THANKS. Pierre-Yves Michel, bishop of Nancy-Toul (and former bishop of Valence)"* » *"As an Ardéchois, I am always moved to find the Bl. Peter Vigne in your houses. Faith has no boundaries. Another big THANK YOU for your welcome on the occasion of WYD in Lisbon. P. Daniel*

»

On August 7, 342 young people from the diocese of Rouen, returning from Lisbon, arrived at 3:30 a.m.: *"What could be better than sleeping outside, on the fresh grass...the view of the stars was magnificent. A beautiful location. We entrust the diocese of Rouen to you and may God bless you."* *"Incredible and magnificent paella shared together! Enjoyable break with you in Sasamón."* » *"A thousand thanks for your welcome, your joy and your smiles! We ate well, we slept well, and we prayed well! Amen."* ***"Excellent paella eaten al fresco in the Spanish sun!"*** *A big thanks to you Sisters, for all the young people from the diocese of Rouen whom you welcomed on the way back from WYD. Thank you for your good organization."* This stop in Sasamón was noted in their diaries as a pause for thought: *"how do I get back to my daily life?"* » Our prayers go with them as they seek to implement what they received in Lisbon, and we entrust them to Peter Vigne who must have been delighted to see them chez-nous!



The Sisters from Burgos and Sasamon SPAIN

RELIGIEUSES DU SAINT SACREMENT

MAISON MÈRE : 113, AVENUE VICTOR HUGO 26000 VALENCE - FRANCE



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In Europe a new school year begins whereas other continents are getting ready for the end of year exams. The attached text is taken from the chapter on education of young people. Without a doubt Peter Vigne would insist on its **importance and urgency today, for the good of young people and for society in general!**



The focus of his reflection is to encourage children and young people

to make the best use of their study time and succeed in doing so.

One could also "extend" this encouragement to people of any age, job or occupation. Peter Vigne wants us to live a life of goodness and to spread it far and wide. That doesn't necessarily mean doing great things but doing things with "great" love and knowing how to say often: **MY GOD I THANK YOU, because from you comes all that is GOOD**".

Encouraged to do good

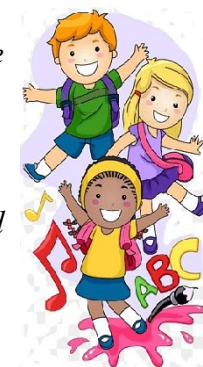
"We could lead the person we are praising to believe that his virtuousness depends solely on his own will and that consequently he is the author of his own goodness...."

Children need to be encouraged to practice virtue and to shun sin, but one must praise them wisely, encouraging them to continue on the path of goodness.

Besides, this is how they discern what is worthy of merit and what God loves most!

Furthermore, those who hear words of praise are much more inclined to put into practice what they hear.

*However, we must make sure to impress upon the children that **God is the principle of all the good we do.** All wisdom comes from him, and without him we cannot entertain a good thought or accomplish a good deed in view of our eternal Happiness".*



R.of L. 180

Wigne p. 180

Basically
there is but one problem,
one sole problem
for the world - how to give
men back
a spiritual significance,
spiritual anxieties.
How to rain down
on them
something resembling
a Gregorian chant.
We can no longer
continue
to live by dealing
only with fridges,
politics,
budget reports and
crossword puzzles.
We can no longer
progress like this.

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

—WORD OF GOD—

Referred to by Peter Vigne in the text

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15, 5

We are not competent of ourselves to take credit for anything as coming from us. **Our competence comes from God .**

2 Cor. 3,5

Thus says the LORD, Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength, or the rich man boast of his wealth. But if any wish to boast, let them boast of this: that they understand and know me. For I am the LORD who governs the earth with unfailing love, justice, and righteousness. In these things I delight says the LORD.

Jeremiah 9, 22-23.

PETER VIGNE, BOOKS AND MISSION

On September 19 we remember Peter Vigne's priestly ordination 329 years ago!

From 1694 to 1740 his life as a priest was fully given to the mission of proclaiming the Good News in the villages and towns where he was sent to awaken and invigorate the faith of the "dear Christians" who were quite abandoned or all too often forgotten!

However, he wasn't contented just to preach a mission and move on without further contact. For this reason he made time to write books to **sustain the fruits of the missions** among those who could read and then share them with those who felt excluded.

"In the small room that serves as his bedroom, Peter Vigne is probably the only inhabitant of Boucieu "burning the midnight oil". He has been writing now for some time.

This activity is also part of his apostolate and frequently his books continue his missionary work, reflecting the same spirituality, the same passionate love that sets his own heart on fire. Any free time available to him he uses to compose books of doctrine and **meditations**. These are not presented as scholarly works but as words to **awaken the soul and stimulate the spirit**. His sole focus is on the simplicity of the Gospel.....and anyone interested in getting to know him better will discern a man who is humble and unassuming.

Since he doesn't speak for the sake of speaking neither does he want to presume empty eloquence. He certainly disapproves of those who act in such a manner: "*You are, in the presence of those who delight in listening to you, like tunes of pleasant music, which they hear with pleasure but then fail to practice,*" he writes, with good reason in his book *Heures Nouvelles*.

After a few minutes reflection he turns over the page and continues writing. It's already late into the night, but he knows that **his missionary outreach is to maintain the impact of his sermons after his missions**.

Excerpt from the book: *Pedro Vigne, el riesgo de ser humilde*



Each "Reflections" allows us to read a few extracts from his books, hoping that they will also nourish our faith today and help us to live it on a daily basis, as pointed out in the letter in this month's mailbag.



October: month of the ROSARY



Against the background of the words *Ave Maria* the principal events of the life of Jesus Christ..... put us in **communion with Jesus through the heart of his Mother**. At the same time our heart can embrace in the decades of the Rosary all the events that make up the lives of individuals, families, nations, the Church, and all mankind including our personal concerns and those of our neighbour, especially those who are closest to us, who are dearest to us. Thus **the simple prayer of the Rosary marks the rhythm of human life**.

The Rosary mystically transports us to Mary's side as she is busy watching over the human growth of Christ in the home of Nazareth. This enables her to train us and to mould us with the same care, until Christ is "fully formed" in us.

..Confidently take up the Rosary once again and rediscover it in the light of Scripture, in harmony with the Liturgy, and in the context of your daily lives.

John Paul 11 Apostolic Letter on the Rosary October 2022

"Jesus, gentle Saviour, honoured Mary his Mother with his light and filled her with his love." Peter Vigne