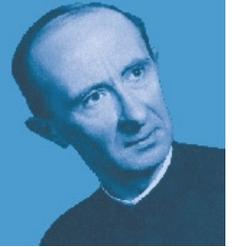


Newsletter

N°5 – January 2021

Les Amis du Père Caffarel



TEAMS OF OUR LADY (*GROUPE NOTRE-DAME DES FOYERS*)

Paris, December 25th, 1945

On the Feast day of the Nativity of the Lord

Dear Friends,

A new year is upon us. May it be a good one for your couple. I pray for you. May God be the first sought after, the first loved, the first served with you. Love one another: when charity increases in your couple, it grows in the Church, where it is a living cell. Love one another: *Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est*. Be happy: The Lord awaits this praise and those around you, this testimony. Make reparation for the countless couples where love is extinguished and who close their doors to Christ. Pray for widows whose sacrifice is a source of life for your family. Help me.

May Our Lady be an honoured and cherished Mother with you in your homes.

Henri CAFFAREL



I am delighted to offer you our best wishes for 2021, with the very words that Father Henri Caffarel used in his best wishes for... 1945. The World War had only just ended. Our pandemic, with its great tragedies on every continent, is not yet over. In 1945, the future was uncertain, today it is too.

In these best wishes of 1945, there is no allusion to the world drama. It was not Father Caffarel's custom. Is this strange? No, because he always cut to the essential, he went to the heart, he touched what gave soul and meaning to everything that could be done, to what determined the most humble or the strongest decisions in life: *Love one another*.

All of Father Caffarel's life, all of his teachings for the future years were already present in these best wishes of 1945. God is at the centre and the source of everything: *God, the first sought after, the first loved, the first served*. And the second commandment follows immediately: *Love one another*. Married love is the most beautiful praise to God and the main mission of couples: to illuminate the love of others and to *make reparation*, vivify the love that seems to be extinguished.

Father Caffarel founded a movement for widows, who offer their sacrifice for couples. He also talks about the Church, and he liked to say that couples were *the smiling faces* of the Church!

His last wishes are for us to turn to Our Lady: *May Our Lady be an honoured and cherished Mother*. With Father Caffarel, the word "honoured" corresponds to her own disposition of heart. "Cherished"? Is that not a too familiar word for him to use? Certainly not. He met so many couples, listened to the depth of their souls, that he fully knew this human delicacy that comes from God, full of mercy and tenderness.

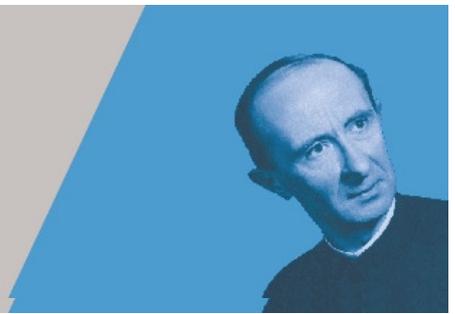
These best wishes are 75 years old and they are totally up-to-date and relevant.

Father Paul-Dominique Marcovits, o.p.
Editor of the Cause for Canonisation

Newsletter

N°5 – January 2021

Les Amis du Père Caffarel



Dear Friends,

Where do things stand with the cause for canonisation of Father Henri Caffarel? As you know, the dossier for the Cause, put together during the diocesan phase of the inquiry in Paris, was brought to Rome and left at the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in 2014. A year later, in 2015, the Congregation granted the Decree of validity that recognised the compliance of the dossier with the rules of the procedure. Currently, the *Positio* is being drafted. It is made up of 4 parts that are taken from elements of the dossier: the first two comprising the testimonies, archives and Father Caffarel's written texts have been completed; the writing up of the *Biographia*, which presents the life, thinking and work of Father Caffarel will be finished in January 2021; then it will be time to write the *Informatio*, which presents his practice of the virtues and his reputation for holiness. The entire *Positio* should be completed by the end of 2021.



The next step will be the examination of the *Positio* by two Commissions (Commission of the Consultors and Commission of Cardinals) within the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. Once the latter propose it, then the Pope can proclaim the recognition of the heroic nature of the virtues. The Servant of God, as he has been called since his case was opened, will then be declared Venerable. It will then take a miracle for him to be declared blessed (the beatification). And a second miracle for him to be declared a saint (canonisation).

The miracle is a physical, instantaneous, definitive healing, inexplicable by science, that has been obtained through Father Caffarel's intercession. The miracle will need to be presented for examination by the Congregation's medical experts and a *Positio* will need to be written on the investigation carried out in the diocese where the miracle took place.

And lastly, we must evoke the question of funding: for when the *Positio* is deposited with the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, its examination and study by the Commissions will require the underwriting of new costs in connection with the successive recognitions and the *Positio* on the investigation carried out on the miracle. Therefore, we appeal to you, the Association's Correspondents, to rekindle the generosity of the Association's subscribers and Teams of Our Lady members.

It is also your responsibility to encourage all Association subscribers and Teams of Our Lady members to fervently recite the Prayer for the canonisation of Father Henri Caffarel, in order, on the one hand, to obtain graces for his reputation for holiness, and on the other hand, for a miracle to take place through his intercession.

With all my renewed confidence and gratitude in your faithful dedication to the cause for canonization, yours sincerely,

François Genillon
Secretary to the Association of the Friends of Father Caffarel

49, rue de la Glacière - (7^e étage)

F 75013 PARIS

Tél. : + 33 1 43 31 96 21 - Courriel : association-amis@henri-caffarel.org