



5 October 1818 – 5 October 2020

202 years of History

PART 1

1.1: There were times when Claudine felt her world falling down around her

Claudine continued to visit her brothers whenever she could, but on the afternoon of the 5th January 1794, arriving at Place des Terreaux, she met a group of 43 condemned men who were being led to the Brotteaux to be shot; among them she recognised her brothers. She was able to draw near to them, hear their message of forgiveness and receive the letters they had written to the family. Gladly, more dead than alive, followed the convoy to the place of execution. There she witnessed her brothers' hideous death.

1.2: Our world falls down around us when...

- ...our mission is rendered impossible by the political situation
- ...the peripheries are no longer where they used to be
- ...our training is not relevant to current needs
- ...illness takes us by surprise
- ...our financial or human resources are insufficient

1.3: Sharing

PART 2

2.1: However, God continued to speak to her in and through her reality

For Claudine, the greatest misfortune was to live and die without knowing God. The lot of those children, deprived of the goods of this world and destined to grow up without ever hearing the name of God, made her shudder. If when she was out, she met one of these poor children in tatters on the streets, she was moved to tears. Together with some of her friends, she sought a solution to remedy this great misfortune. Assembled as a group, they planned how to go about rescuing from their ignorance at least some of these young girls and training them to lead Christian lives.

2.2: *We hear the Spirit's voice when...*

- ...people seek to nurture their deep, inner self
- ...the Pope urges us to go out to the peripheries
- ...lay companions want to live and share the charism
- ...people express a desire to live a more harmonious lifestyle
- ...new realities call us to respond

2.3: *Sharing*

PART 3

3.1: *Moved by this incarnate God, she responded, step by step, throughout her whole life*

On the afternoon of the 5th October 1818, after vespers, which had been sung at St. Bruno's, Claudine said to her mother:

"Mother, there is a lot of work to be done at Pierres-Plantées and it will be very late when we finish, I'm going to spend the night there."

"All alone?"

"Oh no! As well as Jeanne Burty and the girl, Françoise Blanc will also be there tonight. Goodbye, Mother, see you tomorrow. Sleep well!"

Claudine set off for the house at Pierres-Plantées...

3.2: *Taking a step towards "Pierres Plantées" implies...*

- ...leaving behind family, friends, personal projects, homeland
- ...overcoming the fears that paralyse us
- ...daring to be different
- ...letting go of structures that do not facilitate an urgent response
- ...making counter cultural choices

3.3: *Sharing*

*Are we ready to take a step towards
our "Pierres Plantées"?*