

JEAN-PIERRE MÉDAILLE

1610-1669



JEAN-PIERRE MÉDAILLE

1610-1669

SOUTHERN FRANCE

BORN IN CARCASSONNE



**BORN
OCTOBER 6, 1610.**



HIS FAMILY

HIS PARENTS WERE

JEAN MÉDAILLE AND PHELIPPE D'ESTEVERIL.

JEAN-PIERRE WAS THE ELDEST OF THREE SONS.

JEAN-PIERRE

JEAN-PAUL

JEAN



HIS BAPTISM

OCTOBER 10, 1610

CATHEDRAL SAINT-MICHEL

BAPTISMAL FONT



HIS HOME



**The original
home of the
Medaille family.**

**No 48
rue Aimé
Raimond**



CARCASSONNE

HIS BOYHOOD ENVIRONMENT

THE POPULATION
about 10,000

A small but busy
manufacturing town
specializing in textiles.

JESUIT COLLEGE IN CARCASSONNE




**THE COLLEGE OPENS
IN 1623.**

**THAT SAME YEAR
JEAN-PIERRE
STARTS STUDIES HERE.**

HE IS 13 YEARS OLD.

*It was here he reflected on his
vocation and calling to the
Jesuits...*





*He entered the Jesuits and
began his formation in
Toulouse.*

1626

Toulouse

AGE 16

**Jean-Pierre
enters the Jesuit
seminary.**

Leaving
home ...





**15th of Sept 1626.
He began his novitiate here.**

NOVITIATE

**JEAN-PIERRE
IS
16 YEARS OLD.**





St. Ignatius of Loyola, S.J.



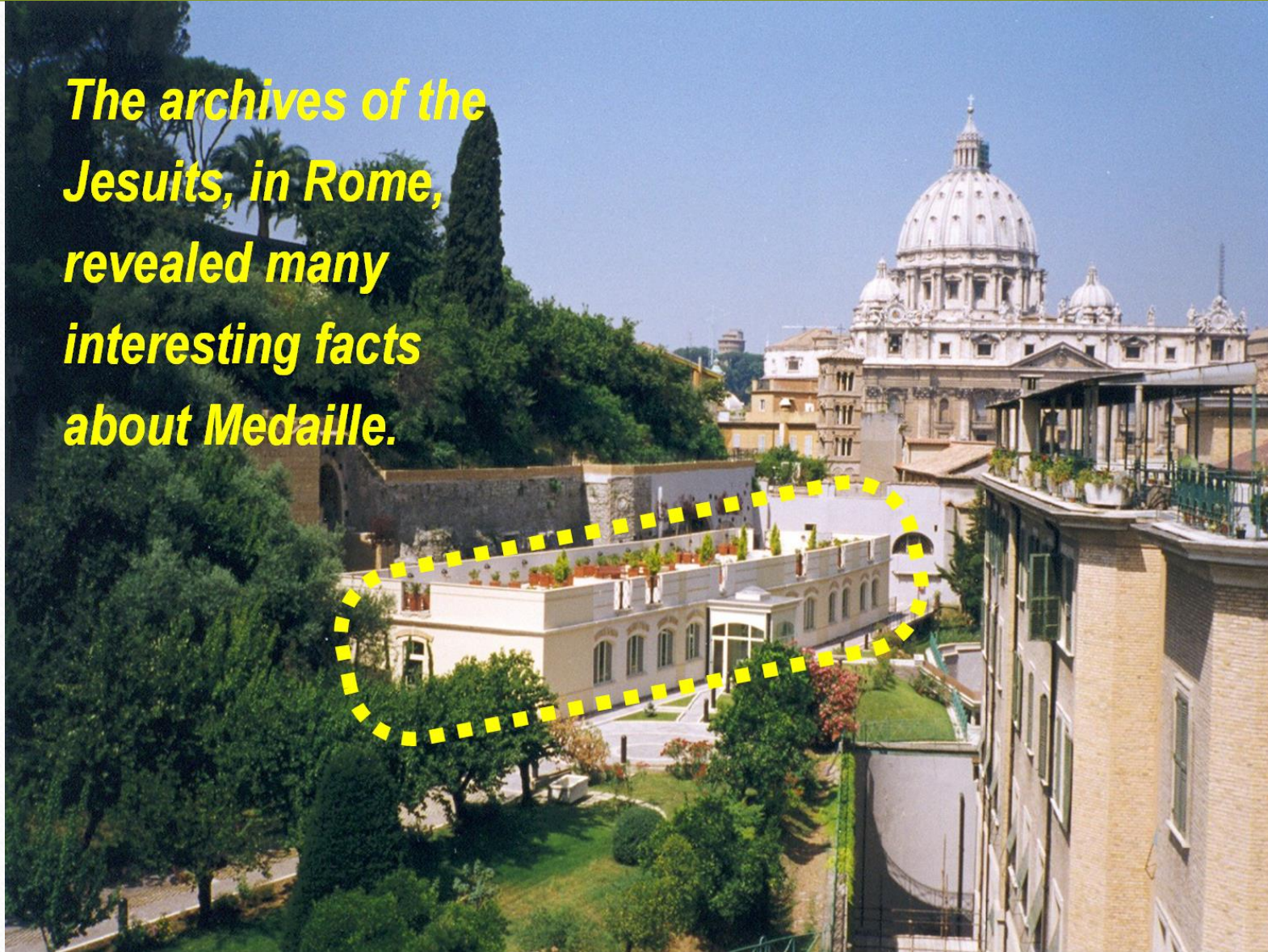
1534

**THE JESUIT ORDER
WAS FOUNDED BY ST.
IGNATIUS IN PARIS.**

**❖ WHEN MÉDAILLE
BECAME A JESUIT,
THERE WERE:**

- **13,112 MEMBERS**
- **372 COLLEGES**
- **123 RESIDENCES**

*The archives of the
Jesuits, in Rome,
revealed many
interesting facts
about Medaille.*



ARCHIVES



Thanks to study and research,
the different Archives have revealed
some rich information on Fr Medaille.

1626

That year
there were 25
first year
novices.

We can see
his name on
the list of
novices for
that year



Novitij admissi anno. 1626

Ioan. Bernico, Physicus

Vincentius Buissonier, Rhetor

Ludovicus Dasy, Coadiutor

Bernardus Arsenay, Tutor

Annaeus Vigier, Philosophus, et Iurisperitus

Petrus Coutel, Philosophus

Ioan. Pestel, Philosophus

Ioan. Petrus Medaille, Rhetor

Ioan. Vilhet, Physicus, et Iurisperitus

Ioan. Portalier, Rhetor

Godofridus Barbaston, Rhetor

Petrus Trompsal, Rhetor

Matthaeus Mentée, Sartor

Annus	Nomen	Actus	Ingenium	visus	Mutatio	Modum	Notitia
1626	Adrianus Dary	23	indigne	indigne	indigne	fine arte	5 Martij

His reports show that:

He was highly intelligent.

He was very disciplined.

He had fragile health.

15	Adrianus Dary	23	indigne	indigne	indigne	fine arte	5 Martij
16	Adrianus Dary	23	indigne	indigne	indigne	fine arte	5 Martij
17	Adrianus Dary	23	indigne	indigne	indigne	fine arte	5 Martij
18	Adrianus Dary	23	indigne	indigne	indigne	fine arte	5 Martij
19	Adrianus Dary	23	indigne	indigne	indigne	fine arte	5 Martij
20	Adrianus Dary	23	indigne	indigne	indigne	fine arte	5 Martij

PROFESSION OF SIMPLE VOWS



SEPTEMBER 16, 1628

IN TOULOUSE



1628

**FIRST
PROFESSION
OF VOWS**

**POVERTY
CHASTITY
OBEDIENCE**

HIS SEMINARY STUDIES

1626-1633



As a student,
he was part of
the Jesuit
community of
the College of
Toulouse.

He studied
Philosophy,
Physics and
Metaphysics.

Antonius Ollier
Guillelmus Dupuy
Guill. Suave P^r Congr. Minoris B.V.
Ioannes Petel

Auditores 3ⁱ Anni Theologici

Ioannes Baptista Bellus
Franciscus Decoma
Ignatius Duclot

Auditores 2ⁱ Anni Theologici

Ioannes Bouclier
Iacobus Martinon
Petrus Degreu
Antonius Barge

Auditores 1ⁱ Anni Theologici

Bartholomaeus Lagrange
Ludouicus Pros
Henricus Pitletus
Ioannes Petrus Medaille
Godefridus Barbaston
Antonius Galatruac
Petrus Pros
Franciscus Petitus

Auditores Physica & Metaphysica

INTELLECTUAL QUALITIES

- Excellent
- Remarkable
- Penetrating
- Sublime
- Wise
- Above average
- Superior in
philosophy and
especially in theology.

**1633: MOVED BACK TO HIS HOMETOWN
CARCASSSONNE**



Catalogus Collegij Carcasonensis

- A. J. Joannes Ketron Rector
P. Antonius Lauedan Minister, Consultor, Confessarius
P. Petrus Leyron, Procurator, Consultor, Confessarius
P. Stephanus Taucher Praefectus Spiritus Sancti, Confessarius, Doctor, Concionator, Consultor
P. Franc. Chauiale, Praefectus Classium et Mauris Congregatus, Confessarius
1 P. Benedictus Bonnefoy Rector
5 P. Amabilis La rue Quintanus Novitius
2 M. Joannes Seruiere Humanista
3 M. Petrus Dangalieres Tertianus
4 M. Petrus Medaille Quartanus
Jacobus Perache, Sacerdos, Emplor
Joannes Piquet, Sacerdos
Jacobus Morle, Aedificans et Janitor
Joannes Despins, Coquus, Novitius

**At the end of his
Philosophy studies,
he returned to
Carcasonne for two
years as a teacher,
in the college
where he did his
first studies.**

1633-1635

**A TEACHER
TO
THE YOUNG
STUDENTS AT THE
JESUIT COLLEGE**

1635-1637

BACK TO
TOULOUSE

TWO YEARS OF
THEOLOGY

25 YEARS OLD



ORDINATION TO PRIESTHOOD



1637
TOULOUSE

Jean-Pierre is 27 years old.



From his ordination
prayer...

**“EFFECT IN ME
A MIRACLE OF
LOVE.”**

- J.P. Médaille

1ST ASSIGNMENT: AURILLAC



346 20

(Collegium Auriliacense.)

P. Joannes Dauril Rector.

P. Joannes Medaille Minister, Consultor, Praefectus maioris Sodalitatis

He spent 5 years here as: Sodalitatis Artificum, Admonitor,
Confessarius nosterum.

P. Nicolaus *Bursar.* Procurator, Consultor, Confessarius Nosterum & Exdignorum.

P. Joannes De *Counsellor.* Praefectus Ecclesiae & Sanitatis, Confessarius Exdignorum.

P. Stephanus *In charge of a lay association* Praefectus Studiorum, Consultor, Confessarius Exdignorum.

P. Joannes Baillard *organised by the Jesuits.* Concionator in vivo, Consultor, Caduista, Confessarius Exdignorum.

P. Gregorius Clavelier Praefectus Humanitatis, Confessarius Exdignorum.

1637-1642

IN-HOUSE
APPOINTMENT
AT
THE JESUIT
COLLEGE



1642

Jesuit College
in preparation
for solemn vows



**A TIME OF
RENEWAL
AND
DEEPENING
COMMITMENT**



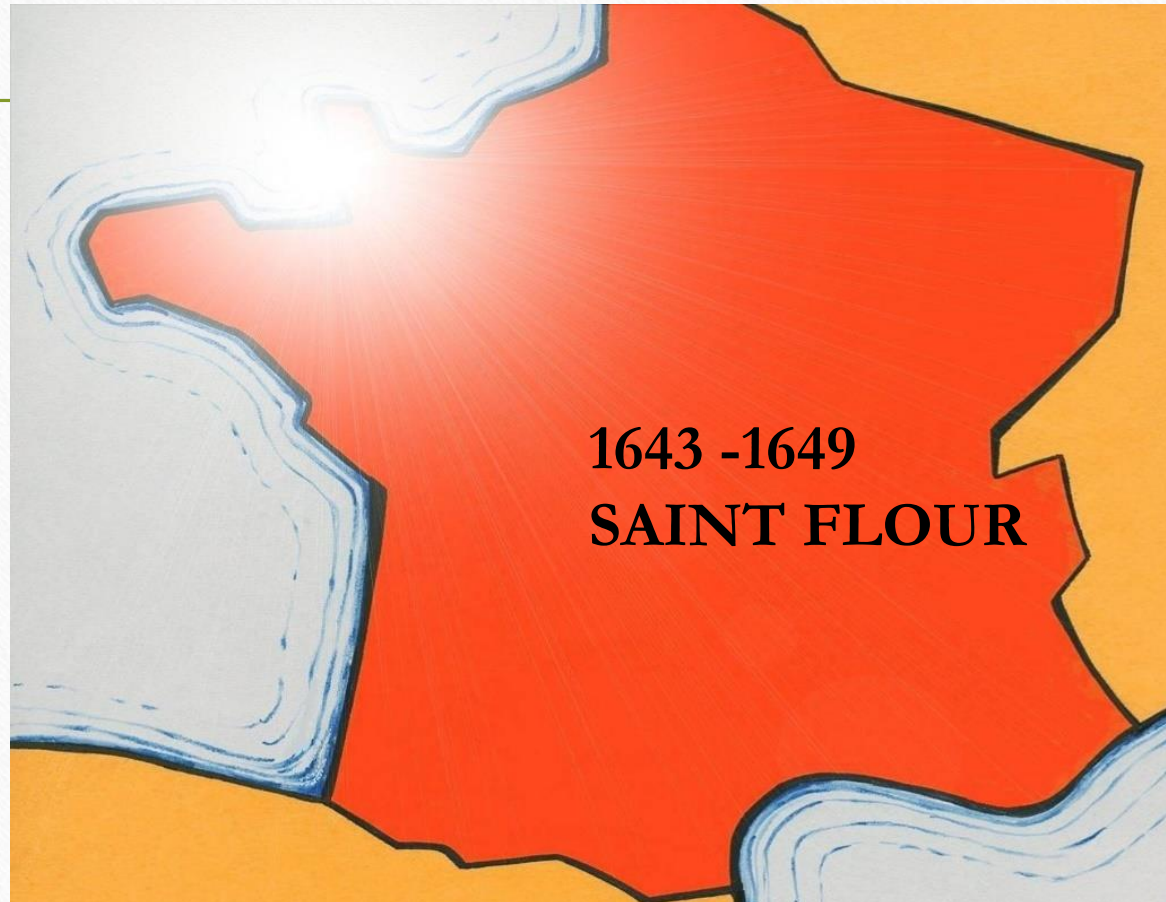
11th October 1643

FINAL PROFESSION

**POVERTY
CHASTITY
OBEDIENCE**

**4TH VOW:
OBEDIENCE TO
THE POPE
REGARDING THEIR
MISSION**

MISSIONED TO JESUIT COLLEGE





**In AUTUMN 1643
the Jesuits opened a new
COLLEGE AT SAINT FLOUR.**

**Fr. Médaille was missioned
to this college
during the years
1643-1649.**

Annus.	Nomen Patris	Actus	Ingenium	unus cap.	Mentis	Studium	Notus
1626.							
140	Ludov. Dazy. Diet. valentinus	23	medione	medioris	medioris	sine arte	5 Martij
150	Bernardus Argenay Gratianopolitani	23	Medione	firmus	magna	solo	15 May
16	Annae. Vigier Diet. Liorumont natus 24 Jul 1603		Bonum	firmus	magna	tho an 2 phis 3 junior 3 men	7 Sept.
17	Petrus Contel Jauplorans	natus 29 Sept 1607	Bonum	firmus	magna	tho 1 phis 3	7 Sept.
18	Joan. Dostel Diet. Amicenis	22 Martij 1609	Bonum	firmus	magna	tho 1 phis 2	15 Sept.
19	Joan. Petrus - Médaille Caraffensis	6 Octob 1610	Eximium	firmus sed dilex	Magna et eximia	tho 1	15 Sept.
20	Henricus Philippi Turmonensis Diet. valentinus	21 an	Bonum	firmus	plus quam medi oris prope	tho 1 phis 2 junior 2	6 Sept.

In the triennial reports
during his years in Saint-Flour:
Father Médaille is said to have:

- a balanced temperament
- a great talent for instructing and directing souls.
- in administrative work, he is capable, competent, natural flair for human relations.
- remarkably good judgment, tact, apostolic sensibility!

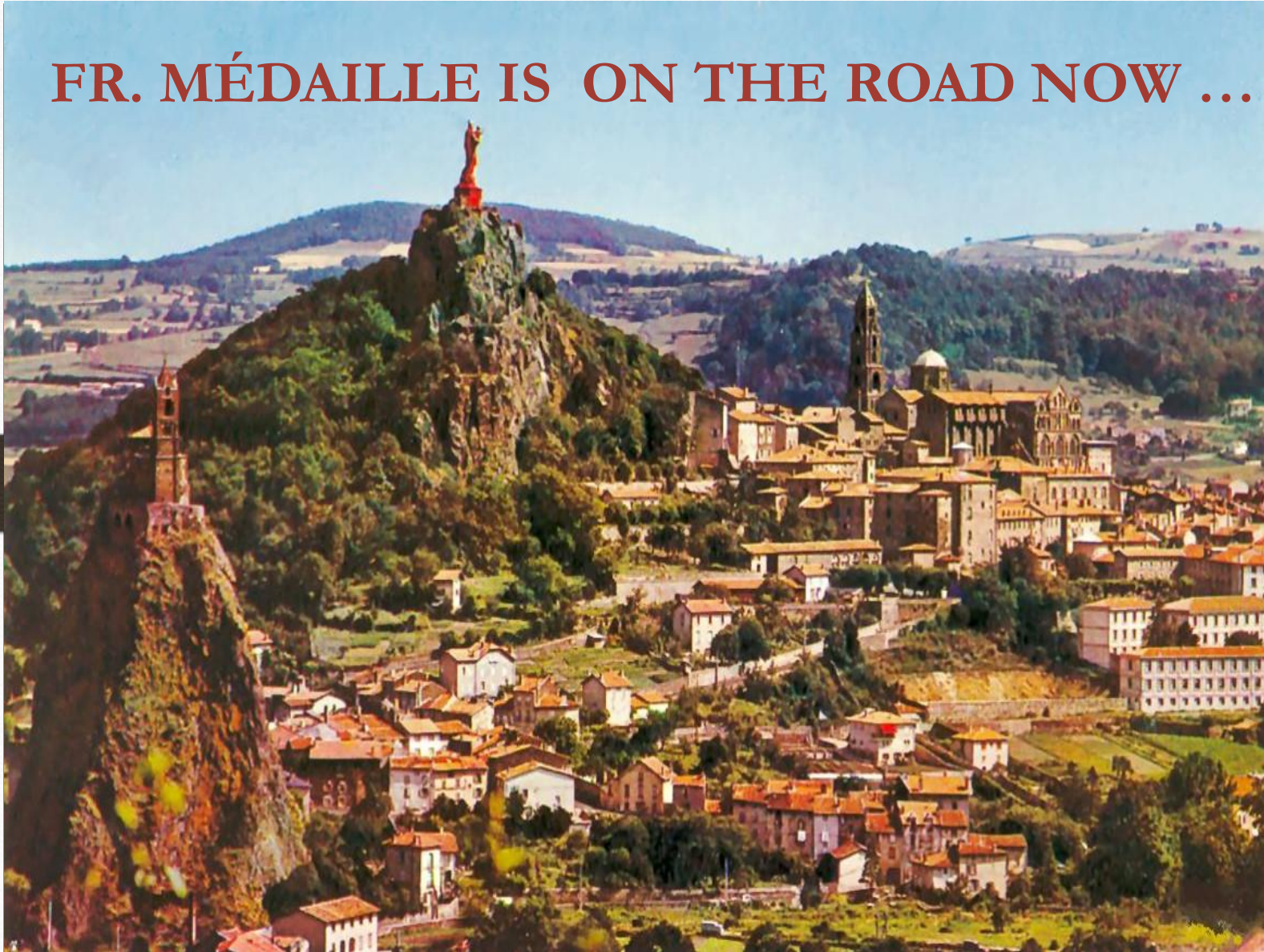


HIS PASTORAL WORK

1646 - 1651

AROUND SOUTH-CENTRAL FRANCE

FR. MÉDAILLE IS ON THE ROAD NOW ...



VISITS LE PUY...

- **PARISH MISSIONS**
- **SPIRITUAL
DIRECTION**
- **CONFESSOR**



THE JESUIT
RESIDENCE
AND
CHURCH
IN LE PUY.



L'EGLISE DU COLLEGE

Church opened with its
first Mass on
December 24, 1618.

AROUND 1646... IN LE PUY

Father Médaille met with some women who had a desire to consecrate their lives to God and serve their dear neighbours “outside the cloister”.





The Spirit is doing something new ...

*Illumination by
Mary Southard, CSJ*

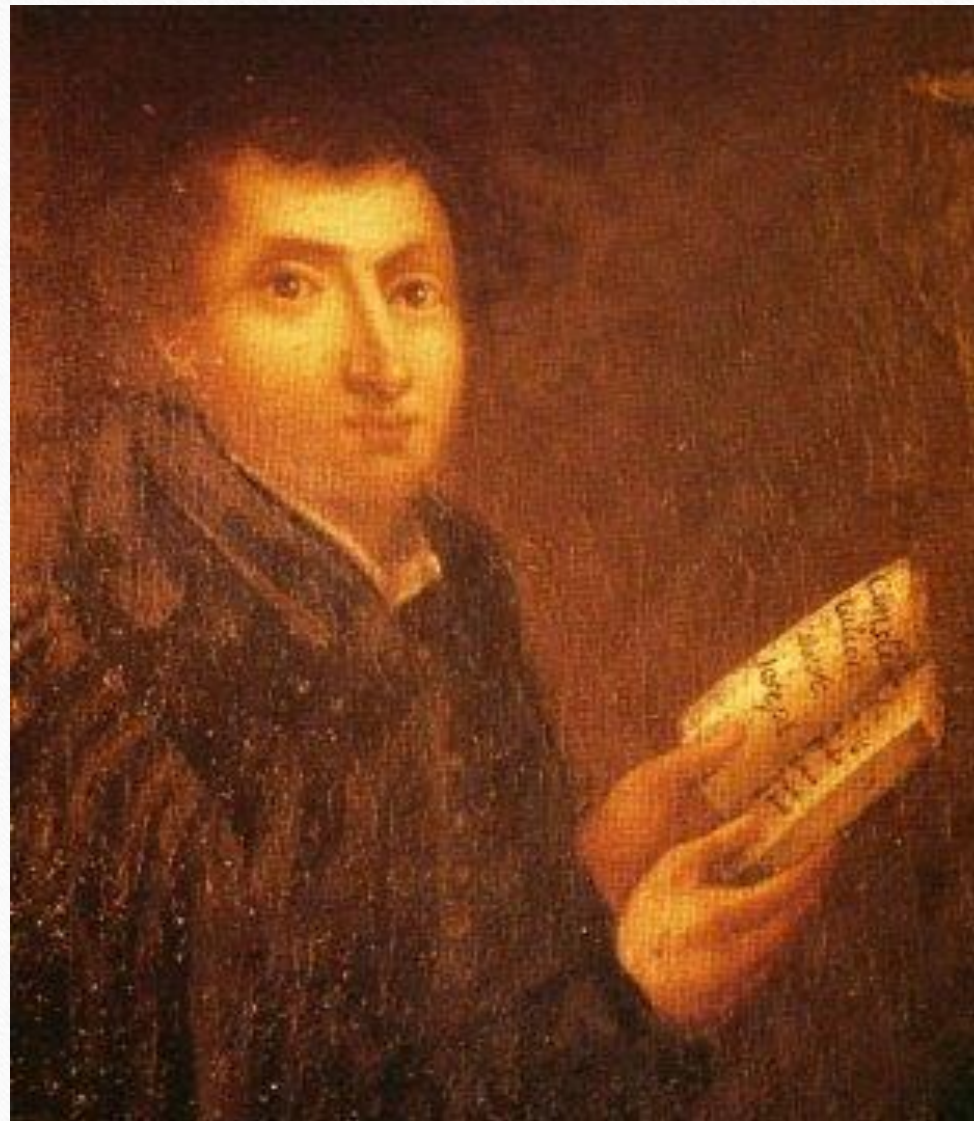


Religious life
for women up
until now had to
be

- ✓ Cloistered
- ✓ Monastic
- ✓ Canonical

FOUNDER OF THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

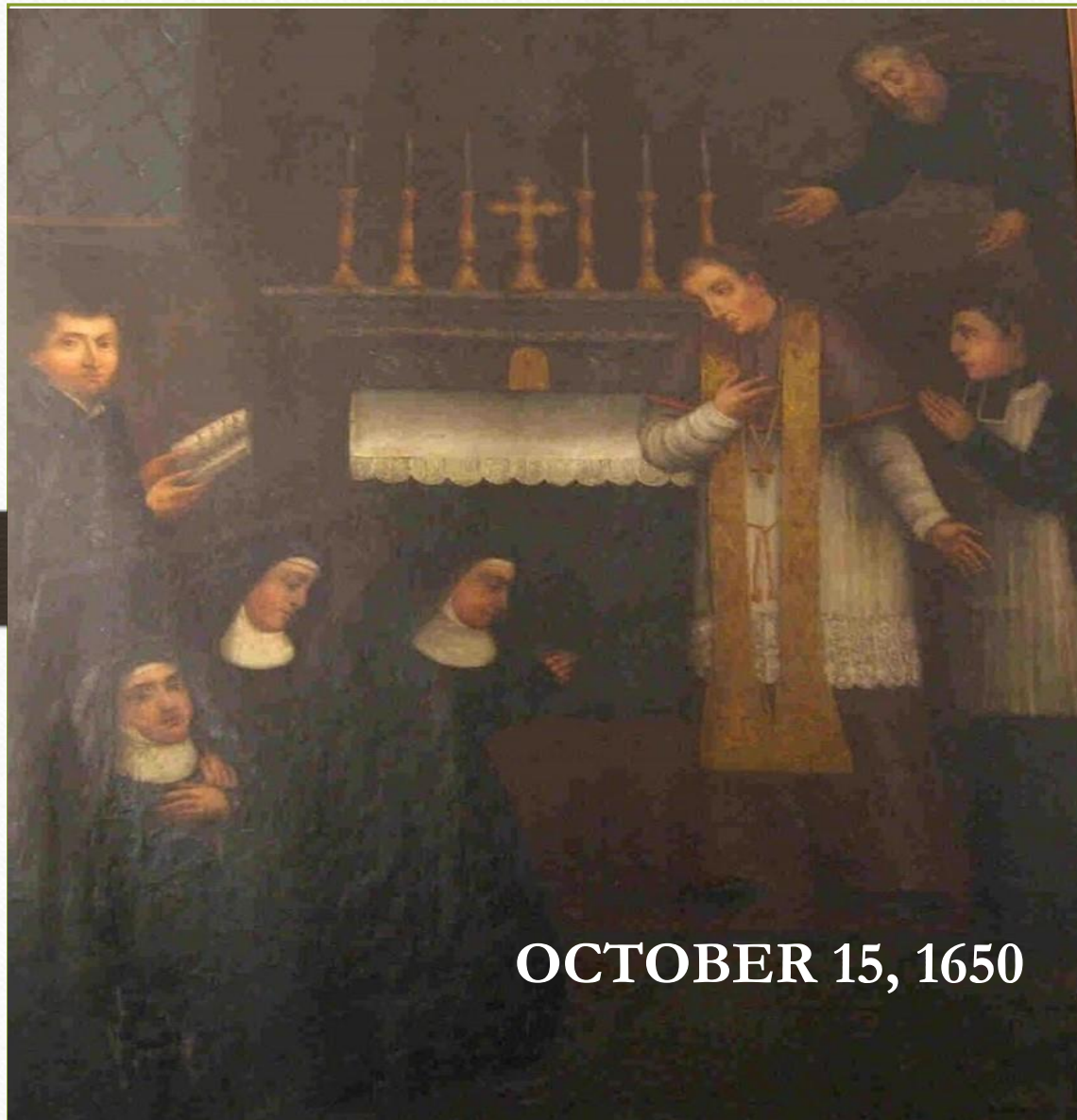
OCTOBER 15, 1650



BISHOP DE MAUPAS

We can suppose that Father Médaille met with the Bishop many times before the official recognition of the Sisters of St. Joseph was made public.





OCTOBER 15, 1650

FIRST SIX SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH

Francoise Eyraud

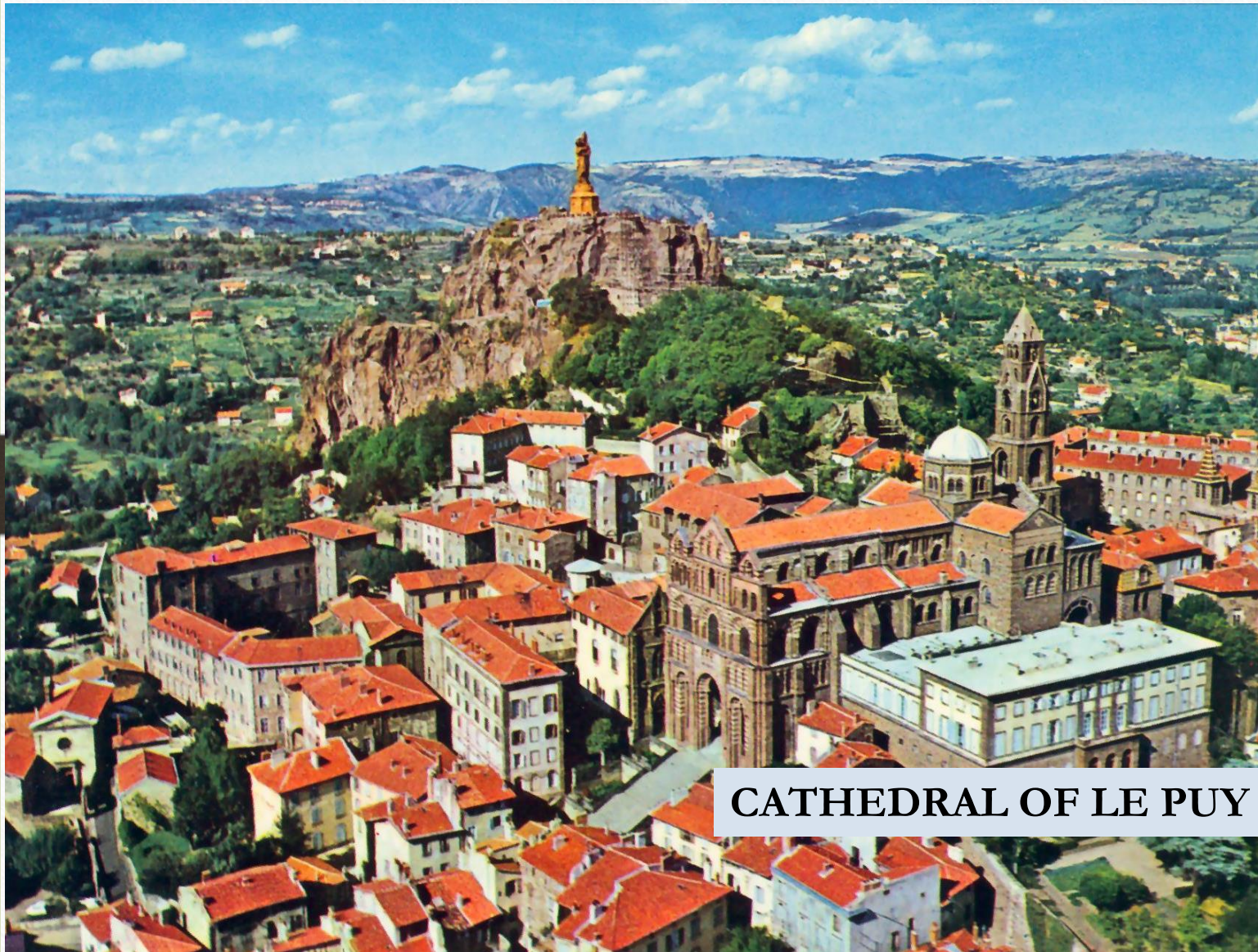
Clauda Chastel

Marguerite Burdier

Anna Chaleyer

Anna Vey

Anna Brun



CATHEDRAL OF LE PUY

**AN-EXTRA-ORDINARY
CALLING
FOR JEAN-PIERRE
MÉDAILLE, S.J.**

**God's instrument
for the church,
the sisters,
and the world!**



NOTRE DAME
CATHEDRAL
IN
LE PUY



**BLACK MADONNA
IN THE SANCTUARY OF
NOTRE DAME
CATHEDRAL**



**THE FIRST KITCHEN
OF
THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH
IN LE PUY, FRANCE.**



LE PUY, FRANCE

They went out daily in pairs
to serve the needs of their
dear neighbours.

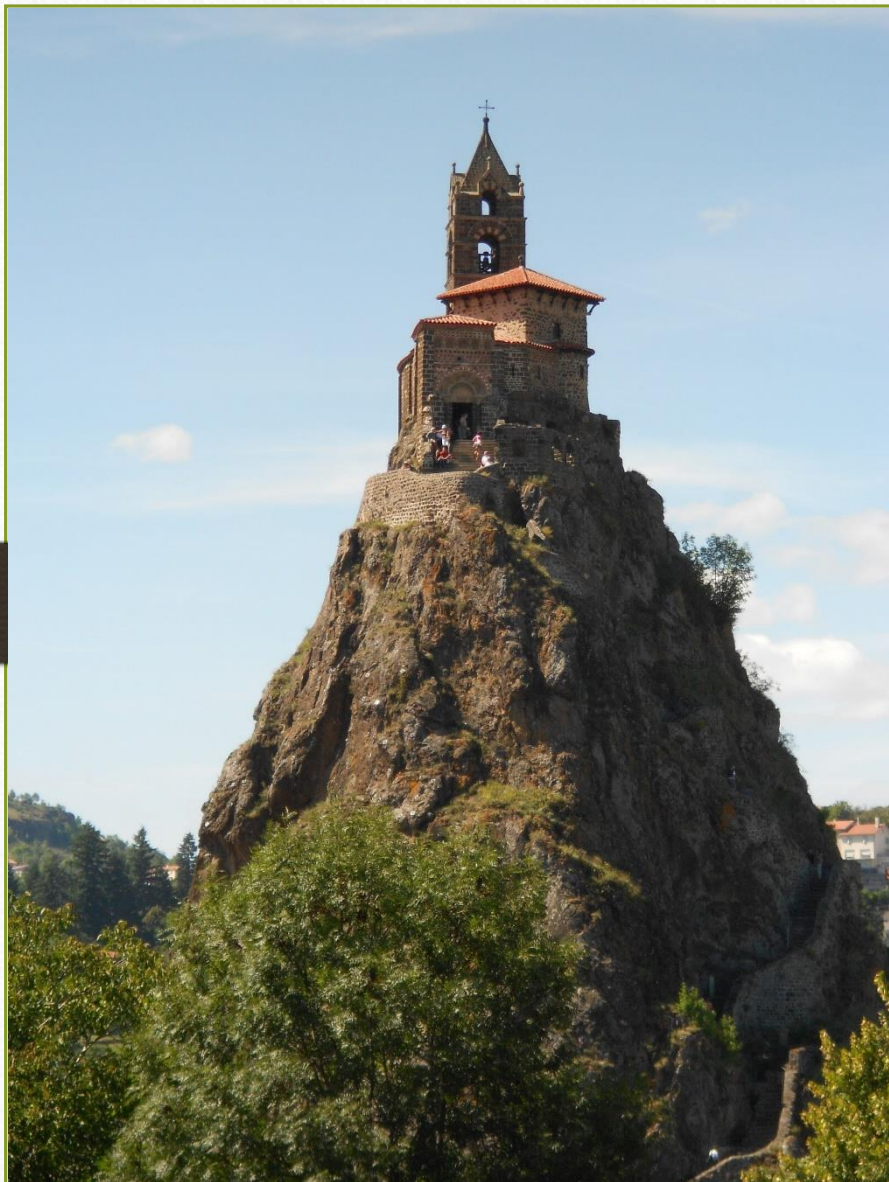
CIRCLE THE CITY WITH LOVE!



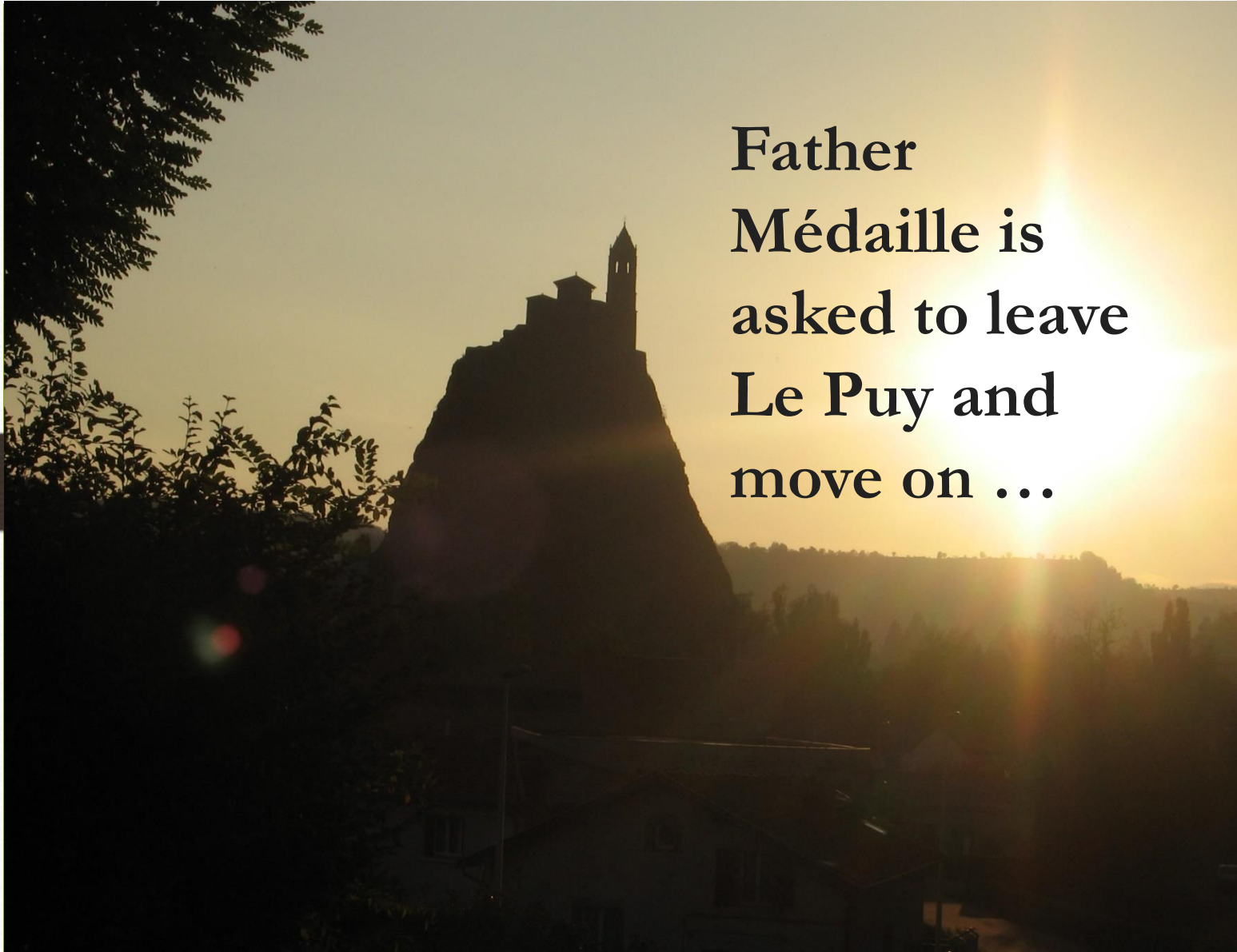
LE PUY

ALONG THE
STREETS

where it all began ...



CHAPEL OF ST-MICHEL
d'Aiguilhe Le Puy-en-Velay



Father
Médaille is
asked to leave
Le Puy and
move on ...

**FATHER MÉDAILLE
LIVED HIS OWN
MAXIM**

“Continue the good works you have begun until near their completion, and then, if you can do so, let them be finished by somebody else who will have the credit for them in the eyes of others. Then you will have greater glory in heaven.”

(M.P. 3:15)



1651

MISSIONED
BACK
TO
AURILLAC



1651

Father Médaille is moved back to Aurillac, further away from Le Puy.



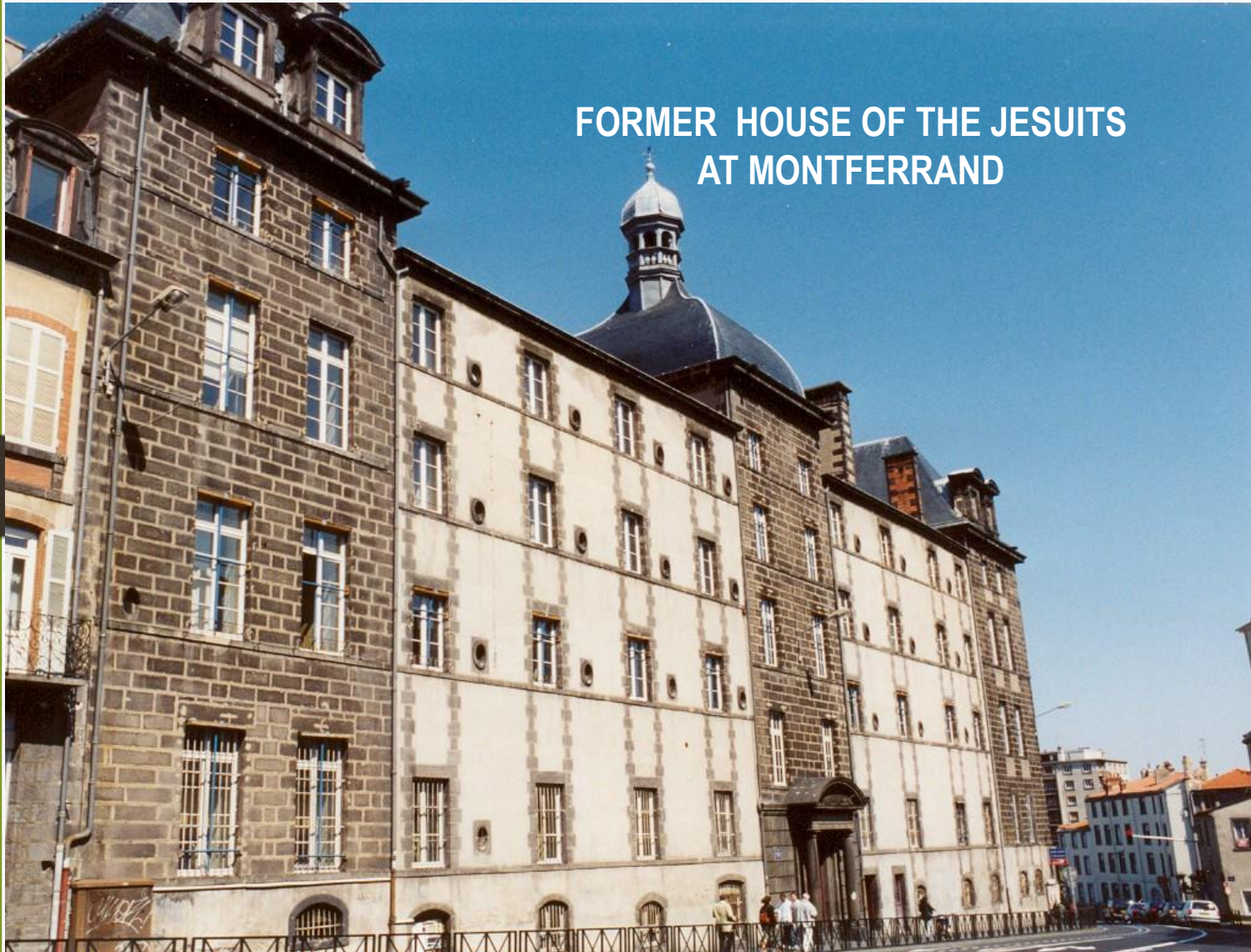
**AT AURILLAC
FATHER MÉDAILLE
IS
IN-RESIDENCE.**

**He is the
Assistant Superior
of the College.**



HIS MISSIONARY WORK

1654 - 1669 (FIFTEEN YEARS)
AROUND SOUTH-CENTRAL FRANCE



FORMER HOUSE OF THE JESUITS
AT MONTFERRAND

October 1654

Fr. Médaille is transferred to the College of Montferrand. He was aged 44 at this time. He had a great gift for missionary work.

His superiors said

“He was a born missionary.”

This was the time when rural missions were at their peak for the Jesuits. Fr. Médaille was a great mission preacher.

1657

MAXIMS OF PERFECTION

WRITTEN BY JEAN-PIERRE MÉDAILLE, S.J.



THE PREFACE

Christian soul, chosen by God to live the perfection of the Gospel in religious life or in the world, read the following Maxims attentively, meditate on them frequently and I hope through Divine Goodness that they will enlighten you, let you know in what great virtue consists, and help you to practise it.

Read and re-read them often with profound attention, weighing even their least words. There are very few words that do not have their own special meaning and that do not shed new light on truths which they explain...

HE WROTE THE MAXIMS OF PERFECTION

128 wisdom sayings!

MAXIM OF PERFECTION

Have only one desire
throughout your life:
to be,
and to become,
what God wants you to be
in nature, in grace,
and in glory,
for time and eternity.

M.P. 10:6

MAXIM OF PERFECTION

Never go ahead of grace
through imprudent eagerness
but await its moment in peace,
and when it comes to you,
follow it with great gentleness and courage.

Once you have obeyed,
take care lest complacency rob you
of the fruit of your obedience.

M.P. 6:9

MAXIM OF PERFECTION

Anyone who knows how
to let God act in and through
him/her
without too much interference
on his/her part,
does many things in a short time
and never loses peace of heart.

M.P. 7:5

1660

THE EUCHARISTIC LETTER

FATHER MÉDAILLE RECEIVED A DIVINE REVELATION
CONCERNING THE 'LITTLE DESIGN'



1660

THE ONLY COPY
EVER FOUND
IS IN THE
ARCHIVES
OF THE SISTERS
OF ST. JOSEPH
IN LYON, FRANCE.



**THE EUCHARISTIC LETTER
WAS NOT CIRCULATED
MUCH AMONG
THE SISTERS
IN THE 17TH CENTURY.**



MOUNTAINS OF AUVERGNE

After his long and arduous years, travelling the mountainous region, in both good and bad weather, his health, which was never good, began to show signs of weakness.



**In Autumn 1669
Fr. Médaille's
health was failing
and he was
relieved of his
work on the
missions.
He was sent to the
Jesuits retirement
home in Billom.**

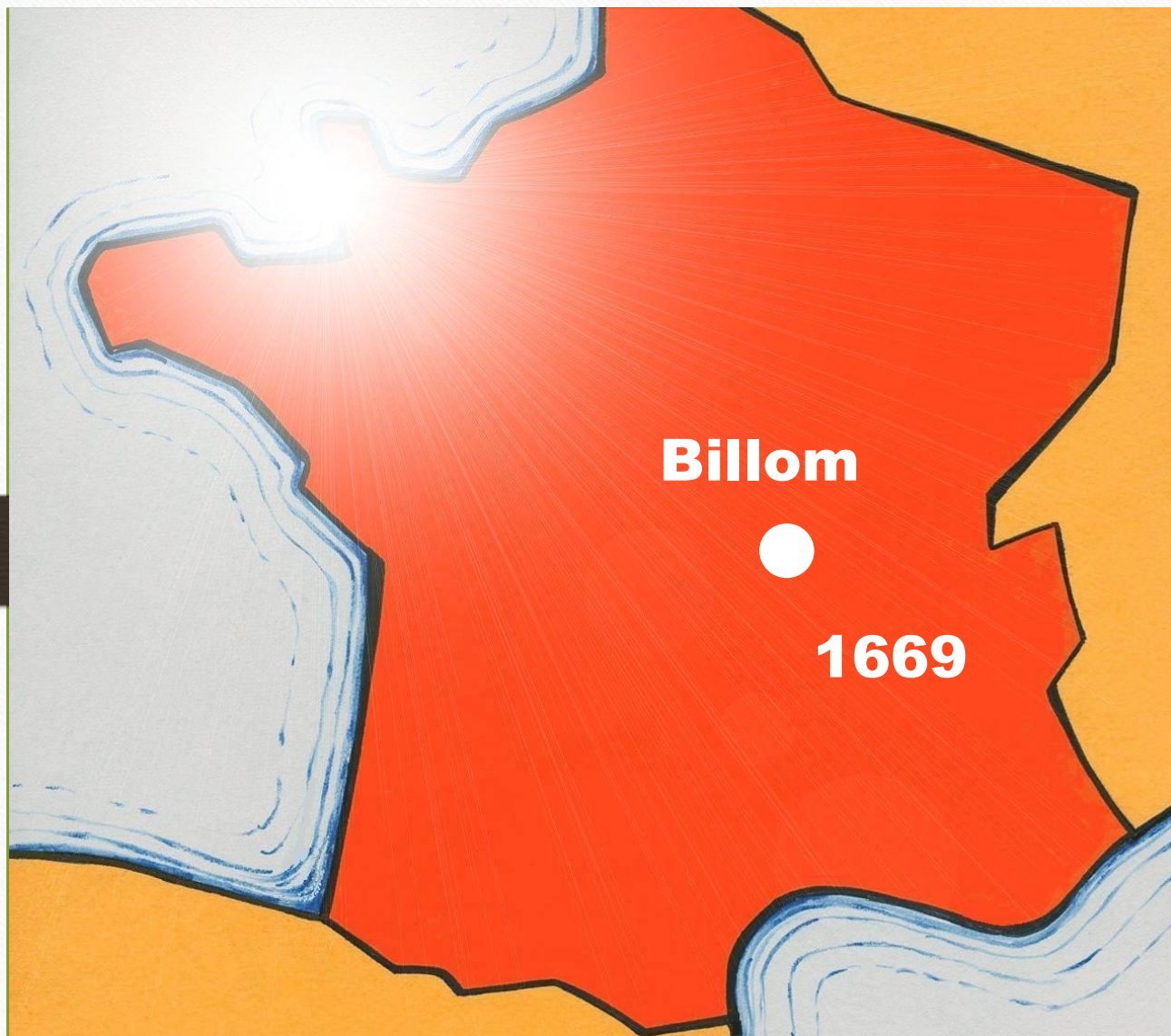


**He had always travelled
on foot or on horseback.**



**In winter,
the climate was
harsh.**

**All this took its toll
on his health.**



This “traveller on the
road of God’s glory”
moved into the Jesuits’
Retirement Home.



BILLOM
where
Fr. Médaille
spent his
last days.



OCTOBER, 1669

ENTRANCE

TO THE

JESUIT HOUSE

AT BILLOM.





**The Jesuit House
at Billom.**

**Father Médaille is
listed as being a
confessor.**

~ Collegium Bitomense ~

1. R. P. Petrus Rodelle, Rector 6. Junij 1667. —
2. P. Bernardinus Gregoire, Minister, Confessarius Externorum
Praefectus Ecclesiae, & Catechista fratrum, Concionator per
Aduentum & Quadragesimam Extra urbem. —
3. P. Ignatius Gras, Senex, Confessarius Externorum. —
4. P. Paulus Guillelmus Depins, Infirmus. —
5. P. Nicolaus Girardon, Procurator, Confessarius Externorum, Consulto
6. P. Annaeus Dumas, Confessarius Externorum. —
7. P. Jacobus Martin, Confessarius Internorum & Externorum. —
8. P. Joannes Medaille, Confessarius Externorum. —
9. P. Henricus Lillet, Confessarius in Sacristia. —
10. P. Nicolaus Boutet, Admonitor, Praefectus Spiritus & Sanitati
Confessarius Internorum & Externorum, Consultor. —
11. P. Ignatius Antonius Degau, Confessarius Externorum. —
12. P. Carolus Ludovicus Barthomyuat, Confessarius Externorum
— eum habens Pauperum & Aegrotorum. —

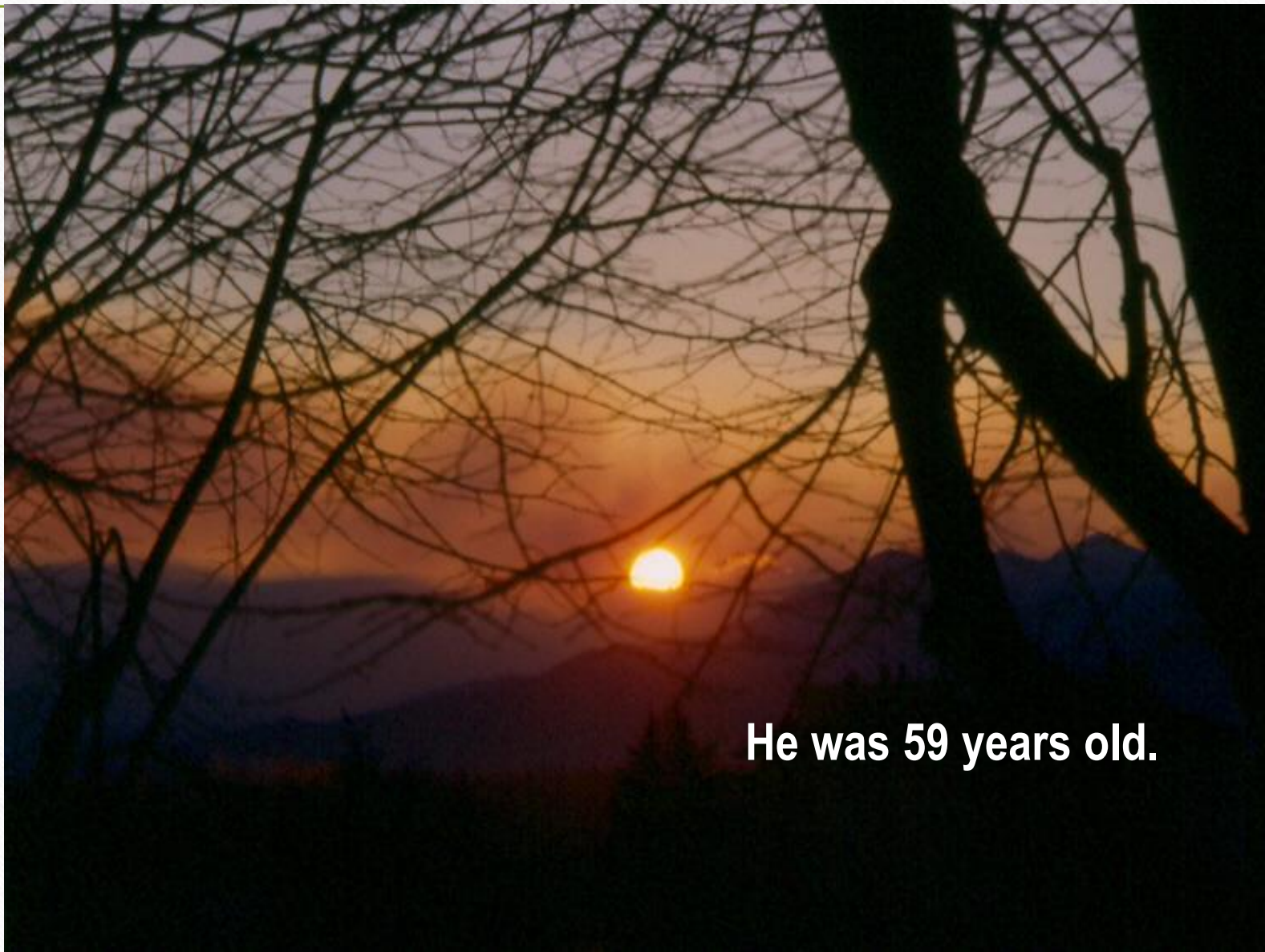
ARCHIVE ENTRY



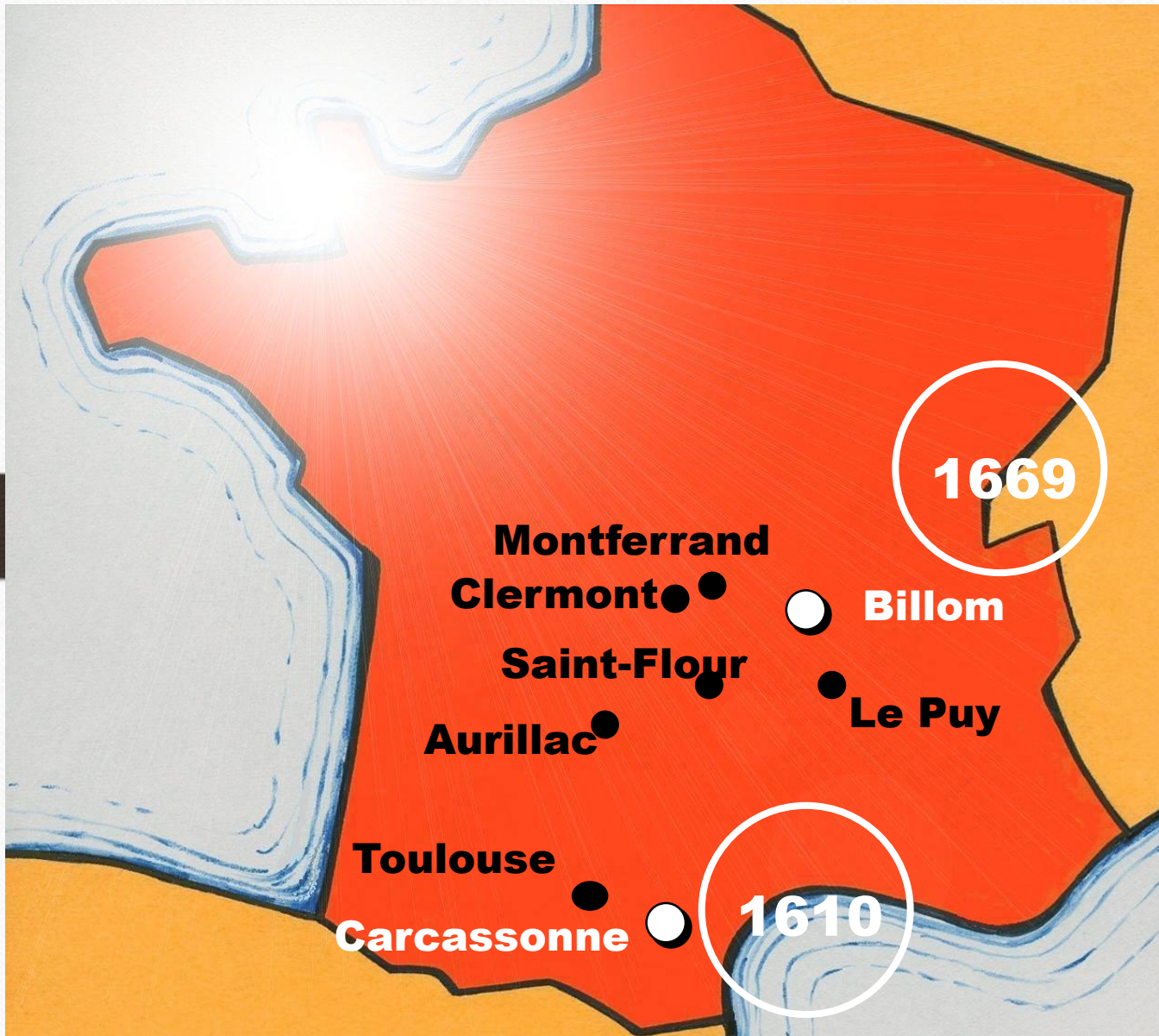
HE SPENT
ONLY
THREE MONTHS
IN FEEBLE
HEALTH
HERE
IN BILLOM.

He died December 30, 1669





He was 59 years old.



**JEAN-PIERRE
MÉDAILLE S.J.
HAD BEEN
A JESUIT
FOR 43 YEARS.**

obierunt in Dno

p. Ioannes petrus medaille p. Billomi 30^o decem. 1669
p. guillelmus Chabron p. Tolosæ 24 Ianuar. 1670
p. Amatus Miquet p. Conchis in diocesi Ruthenenſi —
1^o februarij 1670.
p. Antonius Lauedan p. Cadurci 9^o februar. 1670
p. Ioannes gasper p. Tolosæ 17^o februar. 1670.
p. Iosephus de belinais ſcholatt Approb. Anicij 16 maij 1670
petrus blandinieres Nouitiuſ Anicij 29 maij 1670
petrus gilbert ſcholatt Approb. Albenaci 12 Iulij 1670.
p. Ioannes baptiſta beau p. Montpelij 26 Iulij 1670 —
Antonius Juſant C. T. Billomi 3^o Auguſti 1670
Alexander de ſeige ſchol. Approb. Tolosæ 7^o ſept. 1670.
p. Ludouicus pailloux p. Carcaſſonæ 19 ſeptemb. 1670.
Ludouicus Teuenet C. T. Lanſaci in diaceſ cadurenſi —
12 octobriſ 1670

OBITUARY
of
JEAN-PIERRE
MÉDAILLE, S.J

DECEMBER 30, 1669

He spent the greater part of his life
in the missions of the Province,
renowned for his zeal and his sanctity.

**EVERYWHERE HE WAS CALLED
“SAINT AND APOSTLE”.**

He was loved by rich and poor and by the
Bishops of the diocese where he worked.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

His BURIAL PLACE is not known, though it is believed he may have been buried under the ancient chapel – we see the entrance to this chapel in the photo.

Others believe he may have been buried in the College garden, where many of the Fathers were buried.



In many ways Fr. Médaille could have faded into obscurity at the end of his life. Yet, after more than 350 years, he is remembered by thousands of people around the world.

Sisters, Associates, Little Design Communities and Friends of the St Joseph Family are proud of this great man, who has passed on to us such a rich spiritual heritage.

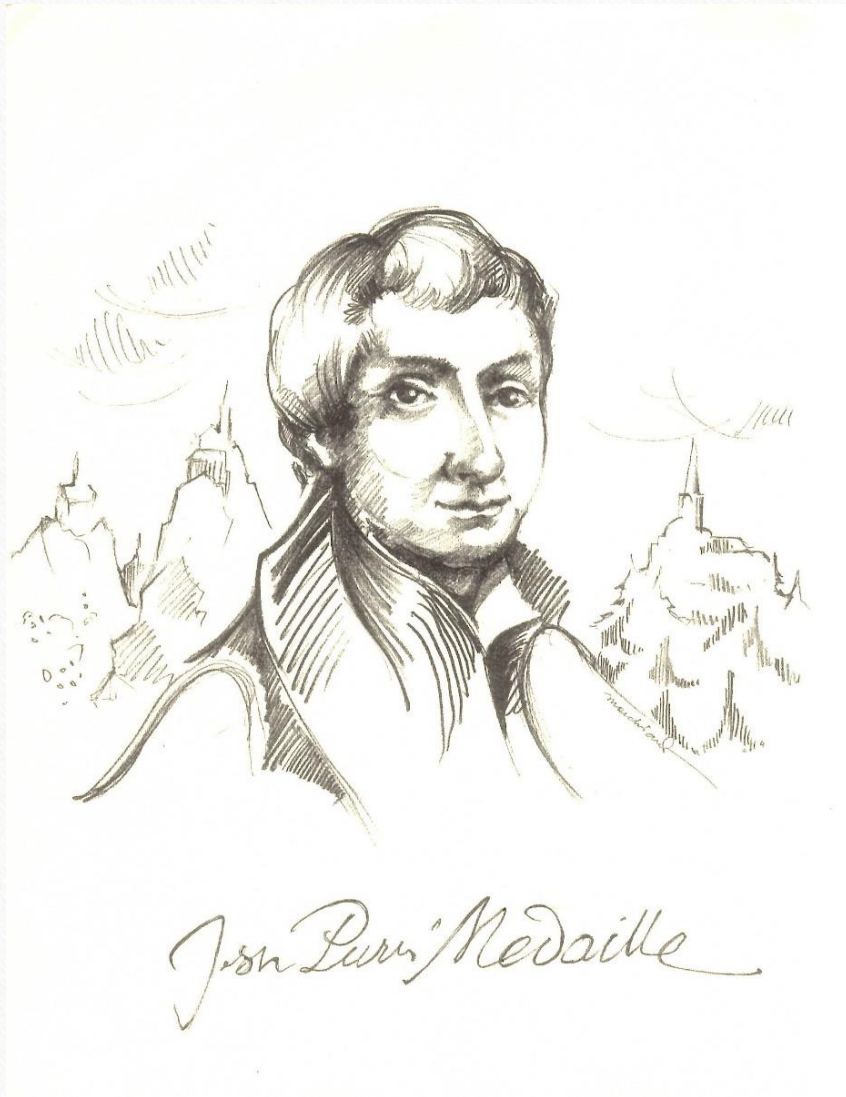




IN 2019...

**THERE ARE 8,000
SISTERS
OF ST. JOSEPH
LIVING
IN 53 DIFFERENT
COUNTRIES.**

10th Anniversary Logo by Mary Southard, CSJ



**Thanks be to God
for the gift of
Father Medaille's
life and legacy.**