



# In the steps of Flavian

BULLETIN OF THE BROTHER FLAVIAN COMMITTEE – EASTER 2020



Nature is holding an awakening festival and also cleaning time! After this period of Lent comes the time of Easter, of rejoicing. And why all this? We sometimes forget that it was Jesus himself who created this beautiful period by rising from the tomb. We, the members of the Brother Flavian committee, wish you a happy Easter, the biggest holiday of the liturgical year. Happy Easter to all!

## Great visit to Miriam Ashram

Major figures visited Flavian! Bishop Christian Rodembourg, M.S.A., Bishop of Saint-Hyacinthe - the Diocese of the Servant of God, Brother Flavian - as well as Father Bertrand Jodoin, parish priest of Sainte-Madeleine, an admirer of Flavian, took part in the annual pilgrimage to Miriam Ashram, where Flavian rests. Read the captivating account of this pilgrimage on page two!



Father Jodoin, Bishop Rodembourg, Br. Lawrence, Mr. Gomes, Father Guindon, Father Thomas

## New on the Web

It's done! The Brother Flavian Centre has a brand new website. Go and see everything that's offered there, you won't regret it. Your comments will be greatly appreciated. It is now bilingual: Click on the flag on the top right corner of the home page. The site is still housed at the same address but is completely transformed: [www.flavienlaplante.com](http://www.flavienlaplante.com) We have also put online a very lively Facebook page full of fresh photos and news. We invite you to "love" our page. It is a modern way of making the life and testimony of the Servant of God known in your network of contacts, our Brother Flavian. The more people like him, the more he will be known! And the more he is known, the more we will be liked. So love him!

## We're counting on you!

Please inform us of any favor obtained by praying to Flavian. Help us make the Servant of God, Brother Flavian, known. If you would like to receive our publications (In the steps of Flavian, newsletters, biographies, flyers, images, etc.), please contact us at the indications you will find at the bottom of page two.

*The members of Brother Flavian committee wish you very Happy Easter!*

# I remember!

Father Bertrand Jodoin, parish priest of Sainte-Madeleine

Yes, that's the motto of Quebec! But it is almost 39 years since Brother Flavian returned to the Father and there are thousands this evening gathering to pray to the Virgin and also to remember the action of Flavian in their part of the country

On February 13 and 14, 2020, I was in the DIANG region where Brother Flavian worked and retired to pray. After all these years of engagement with fishermen and young people, he wanted to retire as a hermit... and Miriam Ashram was born. Even during these years of hermitage, he never stopped welcoming people who asked for an ear or a prayer, a spiritual help... February 2020 I was there, in Miriam Ashram, with thousands of Bangladeshis of all ages. They remember him, his commitment and they still hear the counsel repeated a hundred times: "Pray to the Blessed Virgin" ... They came again to pray...

TWO DAYS OF FURTHER PRAYER...

A first Mass, in the afternoon, very close to the Marian cave arranged by the fervent Brother Flavian, very close to the Ashram where he had retired to pray to his Lord and Mary the mother of God and our mother. "Pray to the Blessed Virgin" They are thousands in front of the altar erected in the open fields.

In the evening, they are always there... for a beautiful moment of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament... A pious approach as never before by a large crowd... testimonies ... A man, a layman speaking, testifies to the importance of the rosary in his life. Flavian must have been very happy to hear it. And, like the people of Israel, this pious crowd sets out lighting candles and chanting their faith. Some of the walkers will make their way to Flavian's tomb. Personally, I recited the Hail Mary in my most beautiful French accompanied by a Bangladeshi priest who knew French... It was beautiful this communion. It was also cool... We came home warmed by the faith of these people... After such a demonstration where many Bangladeshi families had gathered, we were waiting

for the second Mass announced for the next day. While lying down I imagined Flavian saying to me, "Pray to the Blessed Virgin."

Can you guess? THEY CAME more than the day before. The Cave of the Virgin, the Altar of the Mass was all beautifully decorated. Flowers from the candles sprung from the night and from the lively faith of these people... The Bishops of Chittagong and Saint-Hyacinthe went up to venerate the Virgin, decorating her with a necklace of flowers... and the Mass began with the songs of the sustained crowd by a choir of young people and adults. People as far as the eye can see... young families of adolescents, couples of elders praying together with their bishop in Miriam Ashram.

I must tell you about a quite beautiful experience of our ministry, lived after Mass. Mass finished, here we are, the bishops and priests, in the heart of the crowd. They come crowded around us like bees seeking their nectar: a blessing for their children, their couples, their health... A crowd with a look where joy and faith are inscribed... I saw them as Jesus saw the crowd who gave him the children to have him touch and bless them... Humbly I tried to be good like my Master and my Lord. And there were also the teenagers who took selfies with us... Joy, Joy, Joy...

Coming back home, I thanked Flavian for patiently serving the Bangladeshis, the young families, for carrying them in prayer and recommending to Mary our good Mother. Flavian an example to imitate as baptized, as Religious, as priests. Let us take his example by making us close to the people entrusted to us. Let us take their concerns with them, let us help them meet their needs. Let us contribute with the grace of God and the support of Mary to create a better world where everyone will have their place and find their happiness.

How to get there? Flavian gives us a first piece of advice (There will be many others): "**Pray to the Blessed Virgin!**"

**The Brother Flavian Center - Bilingual: French / English**  
[www.flavienlaplante.com](http://www.flavienlaplante.com) - <https://www.facebook.com/BrotherFlavien>  
4994 chemin Côte-des-Neiges, Montreal, Qc, Canada H3V 1A4  
Email: [conradauger@videotron.ca](mailto:conradauger@videotron.ca) - Telephone 514 735 1526 ext. 223