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**Death Notice No. 12 (To all Unit Administrations):**



The Province of the France, recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **GEORGES NEUBERT**, priest of the Maison Saint Antoine Marianist Community (Saint Hippolyte), who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on June 12, 2010 in Issenheim, France, in the 89<sup>th</sup> year of his age and the 72<sup>nd</sup> year of his religious profession.

Seventh in a family of ten children, our brother Georges was born July 20, 1921, in Wintzfelden, Haut-Rhin. Three of his sisters became religious: two in the congregation of Divine Providence of Ribeauvillé and the third a Marianist under the name of "Sister Marie Reine." Georges was very young, as were many in that era, when he entered the postulate at Saint-Hippolyte (1933-1935). He continued his studies in the postulate at Rèves, Belgium, until 1937. He then began his novitiate at Saint-Rémy-Signeulx, Belgium, and made his first profession there on September 24, 1938. In the will he composed at that time, he wrote: "I thank the good God for having created me, for having me born into such a Christian family, for having admitted me into the bosom of the holy, catholic, apostolic and Roman Church, for having called me to the perfect life. I thank particularly the Most Holy Virgin for having enlisted me into her militia and I ask of her the grace never to desert the post which she has confided to me."

After a period of scholasticate in Fribourg, he began to teach and supervise students at Besançon, La Tour-de-Sçay and Belfort, all the while pursuing his studies, until 1946, with a short interruption for military service. He made his perpetual vows on September 8, 1946, at Art-sur-Meurthe, and became a teacher for a short time at the Villa Saint Jean in Fribourg before beginning his seminary.

He was ordained priest on July 22, 1951, in Fribourg by Bishop Charrière. During the year 1952-1953 he became the secretary of the Provincial Administration, and then teacher and chaplain at Art-sur-Meurthe and Saint-Thégonnec until 1958. After spending two years as chaplain at the Madeleine in Bordeaux, he began a long career as secretary and archivist at the General Administration in Rome from 1960 to 1975, and then at the Provincial Administration of France in Paris until 1998. He returned to the community at Saint-Hippolyte and in June 2007, with his health deteriorating, he departed there for the nursing home of the Sisters of Providence of Ribeauvillé, Saint Antoine d'Issenheim.

Father Neubert, with his training as an archivist in Rome, was particularly interested in the history of the Society of Mary. He developed numerous fact sheets on the various houses of the Province of France and worked with Fathers Verrier and Weltz in their research. It was a contribution without much to-do, but which helped advance the history of the Society of Mary. Endowed with a good memory, he could bring the accuracy of a researcher and make corrections where needed.

Georges was a quiet man but effective, especially for everything concerned with printing, binding, filing, shipping ... whether at the General Administration or the Provincial Administration. It is good sometimes to be aware of all the work behind it when we receive a circular, the *News of the Province*, or other documents from the time when computers or working photocopiers did not yet exist.... Georges was perfectly organized in all that work, creating cardboard boxes for shipping books, handling the cutter professionally, collating different documents, even if his workshop was full of too many supplies and things that could come in handy....

Georges had two Marianist uncles: Joseph-Marie and Emile Neubert. At several points, in the beginning of his religious life, he had the joy of being able to confide in his uncle, our illustrious Marianist theologian, Father Emile Neubert (1878-1967), which helped him to get through some difficult times. He regretted not being able to remain under his direction, which was allowing him to make real spiritual and human progress. An echo of that attachment to the writings of his uncle can be found in a letter to the Provincial on April 20, 1945: "In reading 'The Queen of Militants,' I have felt more clearly the need to live in constant union with the Blessed Virgin, a union which I am still far from making real." That desire to live in union with the Mother of God is now fulfilled. May he rest in peace.