



Moreau

September 10, 2007

“The ninth of fourteen children, Basil Anthony Moreau was early habituated to poverty, discipline, and work. He had to be active and resourceful, to put his hand to practical affairs, to do things for himself, to give much and expect little.”*

“Father Moreau was one of the rare men who alter the course of history. Born into a peasant family in northwest France on February 11, 1799, he never possessed wealth or power. His path through life was strewn with failures. But he had one asset: he loved God. And that love drove him to a total utilization of vital resources such as perhaps many possess but few discover. In his lifetime he made a major impact on France, Canada and the United States. His zeal expressed itself in noble works in places as widely scattered as Italy, Poland, Algeria and India. And his death began a yet more fruitful apostolate. Over a century later, his foundations still grow, spreading his spirit and achieving the aims to which his being was dedicated.”*

Father Moreau directly and indirectly touched the lives of a countless number of the world population for almost two hundred years. His philosophy and the Mission of the Congregation of Holy Cross which he founded most clearly affected young people as they learned to value the education of their hearts and minds as one. This Saturday, Venerable Father Moreau will become Blessed Basil Moreau, an honor well deserved, yet one with which Father Moreau would find great discomfort if he were alive today. Let us rejoice all this week in our thoughts as prayers and join with all the religious who call him their founder.

Please stand for our Moreau Monday Prayer...

And so together, let us pray: In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, amen. Provident God,

We give you joyful thanks for the life of your servant and our Founder, Venerable Basil Moreau. His vision of service to the Church and the world is enlivened in us today and calls us to continue the works entrusted to us.

Grant us your generous grace to meet the challenges of this day with zeal and generosity.

May our family of Holy Cross, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Sorrows, grow in unity through ever-stronger bonds of love and service. We ask this grace through your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.



* MacEOIN, G (1962, 2007). *Basil Moreau*. Notre Dame, Indiana: Ave Maria Press