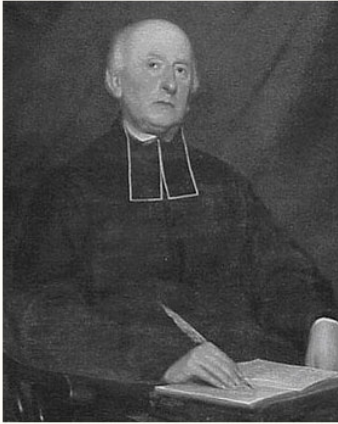


BIOGRAPHY

Joseph Sabin Raymond



Joseph Raymond was born in Saint - Hyacinthe, Quebec on March 13, 1910 and ordained to the priesthood September 22, 1832 at the age of 22.. He spent most of his life at the Seminary of Saint- Hyacinthe (1817 - 1883) as student, professor, director of students and superior. He travelled to France in 1843 with the desire to join the Dominicans but was told by Fr. Lacordaire to return to Canada and prepare the ground for a Dominican Foundation in Canada. In 1852 when the Diocese of Saint-Hyacinthe was founded he was named Vicar- general, a position he maintained for 35 years as well as remaining Superior of the Seminary (30 years). In 1870 Pope Pius IX granted him the title of Doctor of Theology and Chamberlain of His Holiness. In 1873 a Dominican foundation was established in Saint-Hyacinthe. In 1877, Bishop L. Z. Moreau (4th Bishop of Saint-Hyacinthe) appointed him Canon of the cathedral and Provost of the Chapter. In 1883, Father Raymond retired and went to live at the Precious Blood Monastery

where he died suddenly July 3, 1887 while preparing to celebrate the Mass of the Precious Blood.

Father Raymond was the most influential person in Mother Catherine's life. He was her confessor and spiritual director for more than 40 years from 1846 when he met 14 year old Aurélie Caouette at the Boarding School of the Sisters of Notre Dame until his death in 1887. It was Father Raymond who asked Aurélie to put her inner feelings in writing and tell him in as much detail the spiritual favours God gave to her. He also wrote his own personal journal from August 10, 1851 until 1885 in which he wrote everything he learned from her, with his own reflections and questions. Thanks to him we have 2868 pages of day by day details of Aurélie's spiritual journey. There is also a collection of over 575 letters from Aurélie to Fr. Raymond, more than 350 letters from Fr. Raymond to her and ten texts written by him about her.