



Father Robert CLODIC
(1925 - 2013)

Died 5 May 2013, in Nantes (France)
aged 87, with 67 years of Religious Profession.

Father Robert was born on 12 September 1925 in Malansac (Morbihan) to François Clodic and Marie Julienne Provost. He was baptised that same day. From 1937 to 1944, Robert was a pupil at the *Apostolic School* in Pontchâteau. Then he went to the Novitiate in Chézelles, where he made his first profession of vows on 9 November 1945.

From 1945 to 1951, Father Clodic did his studies of philosophy and theology at the scholasticate in Montfort-sur-Meu, where he made his perpetual profession on 15 September 1950, and was ordained priest on 18 February 1951 by Cardinal Roques, Archbishop of Rennes.

Father Clodic was called to the mission in Madagascar: he left Marseilles on 7 September 1951 and arrived in Madagascar on 5 October. He was a curate in Foulpointe from November 1951 to August 1953, then in Nosy-Varika from 1952 until February 1958. After his first home-leave in France, he was in Anivorano-Est from 1959 to 1967, where he acted as curate then became priest-in-charge in 1965. From 1967 until 1969, he was a curate in Marolambo. After a year in Tamatave in the Sacred Heart parish, he went on leave in 1970. From November 1970 until May 1974, he was in Ambinanindrano-Be. Then, after taking a leave in 1974, he was appointed to Marolambo, then in November 1982 to Ilaka-Est, where he was to remain until September 1997. From that date until September 2000, he was in the Sacred Heart parish in Tamatave, then, after his final leave in France, he was appointed to Tananarive where, on 13 October 2001, he joined the community of the Foyer-Montfort (the scholasticate) in Andraisoro.

His confreres speak of him as a missionary of very great availability, never refusing the various appointments proposed for him, whether in the town or in the rural areas where he gave himself to the full. A man who was not very expansive, he had a simple and profound interior life that gave him the strength to face up to the difficulties inherent in a missionary life. Father Clodic loved community life and his precious moments of conviviality; he was very welcoming towards confreres who were passing through. He practised the "working together" involved in the mission, which he always lived with a care to follow the diocesan pastoral directives. He was very close to the people, whom he was able to listen to and understand.

On his return to France, he was appointed on 6 May 2004 to the Calvary community in Pontchâteau. There he spent a very active retirement: celebrating Mass, preaching, welcoming visitors, hearing confessions and looking after the telephone and the reception of visitors to the house. The people in Pontchâteau describe him as a very prayerful priest, never leaving aside his thanksgiving after Communion, always available for the sacrament of Reconciliation, "a man wholly dedicated to God in his priestly ministry." They remember his walks, Rosary in hand, around the pilgrimage site. They appreciated his Eucharistic

celebrations and his homilies, always well-prepared and enriching. Father Clodic was a man who was shy, but joyful, proud to have been a missionary in Madagascar, that country that he loved so much. May he rest in peace!