

ABSTRACTS

I. PAPERS FROM THE CONFERENCE “PORT-ROYAL AND SANCTITY”

1. Representations of Sanctity in the Masters of Spirituality of Port-Royal

Blandine DELAHAYE
Bérulle and Sanctity

In a reconstruction period of the Catholic faith, an attentive reading of Pierre de Bérulle’s writings allows us to clarify his conception of sanctity. God’s sanctity, uncreated by nature, distant from evil because he is good, is communicated by participation in the created being, Jesus, in the mystery of the Incarnation. Thus, Jesus receives sanctity and divine grace intrinsically and by subsistence. In his Passion Jesus Christ is stirred by the sanctity of God and enters into his glory. Sanctity, the gift of Christ, goes so far as to make holy. Man, created in the image and likeness of God, by destruction, makes himself capable of God in order to place himself on the road to sanctity. Bérulle opens a way to live at the school of saints in the purpose of God’s glory to priests and to the faithful.

Keywords: Pierre de Bérulle; Sanctity

Denis DONETZKOFF
Saint-Cyran and Sanctity: “Be perfect, as your Father who is in heaven is perfect”

The heart of Saint-Cyran’s action comes down to spiritual direction. Men and women in all conditions of life, religious or baptised living in the world, bourgeois and nobles, asked him to advise them on the path to Christian perfection. The views which the prisoner of Vincennes dispensed to them via more than 600 letters of this period have been well researched. The director of Port-Royal also put the example of saints in meditation before his followers, conserved in a work which has not yet received the attention it deserves: the *Considérations sur les dimanches et les fêtes des*

mystères, et sur les fêtes de la Vierge et des saints, published for the first time in 1670. The current study endeavours to carry out the first systematic exploitation of this major work.

Keywords: Jean Duvergier de Hauranne, Abbé of Saint-Cyran; Sanctity

Grazia GRASSO

Perfection of Christian Life in Pietro Tamburini

Abbé Pietro Tamburini, the most famous of the 18th-century Italian Jansenists, clearly sets out his idea of sanctity in his work devoted to Saint Justin, as well as in two other works also written in Rome in the mid-1770s. This Roman trilogy, published later in Pavie, presents sanctity according to the model of the martyr, suffering persecution for truth, persecution coming from outside and inside the Church. This article shows, from unpublished sources, the exemplarity and coherence between the Pavie teacher's doctrine and his life; how the constant preoccupation for the purity of Christianity will also be expressed in works of charity and in forgiveness granted to his persecutors.

Keywords: Sanctity; Pietro Tamburini

2. Port-Royal: a School of Sanctity

Pascale THOUVENIN

Memoirs and Lives of the Saints at Port-Royal: a writing Style of Sanctity

Two currents of hagiographical writing found a voice at Port-Royal. One, inspired by the Abbé of Saint-Cyran on comparability between Life of the Saints and the Holy Scriptures, proscribes all personal expression of the biographer and keeps to the translation of the Lives canonised by the sanctity of their authors. The other, the hagiohistoriography of the monastery on Antoine Le Maistre's initiative, is, in contrast, based on personal account, and delivers, in Fontaine's *Memoirs*, a previously unseen overview between hagiography and autobiography. The first built Port-Royal's historic reputation, the second its literary innovations.

Keywords: Memoirs; Life of the Saints

Shangxiu WU

Mme de Chazé, Modern-day Saint: her unpublished Life by Angélique de Saint-Jean

The text of the *Life of Mme de Chazé*, written by Angélique de Saint-Jean, was only known, up to now, in an abridged version. A manuscript conserved at the Port-Royal library, reveals the complete version. This *Life* clearly comes within the scope of the vast undertaking of memoir collecting on Mother Angélique's life, beginning in 1648 on Antoine Le Maistre's initiative, and in which Angélique de Saint-Jean took part with energy, in order to collect the pieces for a possible canonisation process. Gradually this initiative contributed towards fixing the memory of the monastery. In this respect the *Life of Mme de Chazé* demonstrates an ideal of sanctity as perceived by Angélique de Saint-Jean.

Keywords: Madeleine de Chazé; Angélique de Saint-Jean Arnauld d'Andilly

Jean-Robert ARMOGATHE

The Cult of Relics

Like many other religious centres, basilicas, convents or monasteries, Port-Royal attached importance to relics. The example of the Holy Thorn, in particular, is well-known. However, this practice took a particular turn with the arranging of a devotion towards "private" relics, specific to the Port-Royal circle. In a context of polemical confrontation, these were the instruments of a fighting sanctity which contributed towards affirming an orthodox of doctrine.

Keywords: Relics; Controversy

Christine GOUZI

Caricatures of hagiographic Jansenist Engravings at the end of the eighteenth Century

"Hagiographical" engravings published after the death of Deacon Paris at the time of the miracles of Saint-Médard cemetery, were the subject of caricatures in the second half of the eighteenth century. Certain of these belong to one of the collections put together by the Saint-Aubin family of engravers and artists: the *Livre des caricatures tant bonnes que mauvaises* (Waddesdon Manor, collection Rothschild), which has never been studied

from this angle. These satirical drawings, which mock the imaginary “canonisations” of the Jansenist clan, show the fame of the engravings diffused by the Jansenists, henceforth entering into collective memory. But they also reveal the complexity of the quarrels around sanctity in the eighteenth century and are evidence of the mentalities of the time on the cult of saints in the Paris of the Enlightenment.

Keywords: Caricature; Hagiographical engraving

3. The Roman Magisterium, Port-Royal and Controversies around Sanctity

Nicolas GUYARD

Betrayed by Hagiography? The Maltese Ladies of Toulouse and the Life of Saint Fleur (1649)

What embodies an accusation of Jansenism in the mid-seventeenth century? This article aims to examine Jansenist markers, through the example here of the hagiographical book. In 1649, César Le Blanc, Oratorien and spiritual director of the convent of the Maltese Ladies of Toulouse, wrote a booklet dedicated to Saint Fleur, a Hospitalier Order nun in the fourteenth century. Ten years later, this work was a centrepiece in the accusation of Jansenism shaped by the Jesuits against the nuns. How did this book take on a Jansenist marker? What makes a Jansenist hagiography? This is the normative aspect of the book that is being respondent, in its capacity to promote spiritual, social and gendered models, in a context of competition between religious orders during the Catholic Reformation.

Keywords: Hagiography; Sanctity

Éric SUIRE

A hint of Jansenism in the Canonisation Process of French Servants of God of the Ancien Régime.

What was the impact of the Jansenist quarrel on Roman procedures as regards the French servants of God in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries? “Heresy,” “errors,” “plague” are some of the terms employed during these investigations to indicate Jansenism. The assembled elements allow the identification of six processes during which a doubt was put forward about the servant of God who was being investigated, accused of

complicity with the ideas of Port-Royal. Four causes must be associated with them, during which the Jansenist question was broached, but, this time, in order to highlight the orthodoxy of the venerables subject to the examination of Rites. The debates on the canonisation process allow then to grasp the representations made by the curial milieu of French Jansenism, long after the quarrel was extinguished.

Keywords: Procedure; Canonization

Olivier ANDURAND

The War of the Saints: François de Pâris against Marguerite-Marie Alacoque

The Life of the Venerable Mère Marguerite Alacoque written by M^{er} Languet de Gergy, in preparation for a long while, was published at a time when the miracles of Saint-Médard were beginning over Deacon Pâris's tomb. For Languet de Gergy, the cult of the Sacred-Heart and the promotion of the sanctity of Marguerite-Marie were an efficient way to fight against Jansenist errors, while for the Jansenists, the miracles attributed to François de Pâris proved the exactness of their struggle. These two rival practices experienced opposite destinies. While the cult of the Sacred-Heart grew progressively all over Europe, devotion to Deacon Pâris was lastingly discredited by the convulsions. Nevertheless this devotion bears witness to the will of the Jansenists to build the Church in spite of Rome, or against Rome.

Keywords: François de Pâris; Marguerite-Marie Alacoque

Michel VAN MEERBEECK

Sacerdotal Sanctity according to Jean Soanen and his predecessors

The Council of Trent's orientations entered the Senez diocese through bishops' action, in particular Louis Duchaine, Louis Anne Aubert de Villeserin and Jean Soanen. They were set on surrounding themselves with a clergy that was better trained. Diocesan synods and pastoral visits gave rise to a canonical work which is enlightening on the subject of the bishops' expectations. If the priest sanctifies himself by sanctifying others, his own sanctification is also essential. Ordinances, mandates and inspection regulations originated from that, steering the clergy on the path to sanctification. Indications appeared very quickly: a public life avoiding

scandals, a regulated life, loyalty to the bishop and parishioners, a life of prayer and an accepted semi-solitude.

Keywords: Post-Tridentine ministerial practice; Bishops of Senez

II. *VARIA*

Pierre-François BURGER

Reading notes: Durs Grünbein, a Dresde Poet inspired by Pascal

The German poet Durs Grünbein demonstrated his interest in Pascal from 2008 on in publishing an essay entitled “The Indian of Spirit. Bagatelles on the Life of the Philosopher Pascal”. These fifteen pages evoke diverse aspects of Pascal’s life or thinking in independent sequences.

Keywords: Durs Grünbein; Blaise Pascal

Guillaume BOYER

Louis and the Others: the literary Friendships of Abbé Cagnet (1917-1970)

A specialist of the seventeenth-century history whose work was always a reference point, Abbé Louis Cagnet forged numerous friendly relationships with the artistic and literary milieu of his time. The clergyman was in contact with Montherlant when the latter was writing his *Port-Royal*, and he figured among the followers of Julien Green and Marcel Jouhandeau. His friendly relationships will have represented an important aspect of his life, alongside his more well-known profile as a theologian and historian of Jansenism.

Keywords: Louis Cagnet; Literary milieu