

# SAINT EUGENE DE MAZENOD, Bishop

## MAY 21 – Solemnity

### *MISSIONARY OBLATES OF MARY IMMACULATE, ROME*

*By virtue of the faculties granted by Pope John Paul II to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the English text for the Liturgy of the Hours in honour of Saint Eugene de Mazenod, Bishop, was approved on February 16, 2001.*

† **Jorge A. Cardinal Medina Estévez, Prefect**  
Francesco Pio, Tamburrino, Archbishop Secretary

Eugene de Mazenod was born in France, at Aix-en-Provence, in 1782. Having experienced exile in Italy, he was struck, on returning to his own country, by the urgent needs of the Church, so devastated by the French Revolution. Ordained a priest in 1811, he undertook a ministry to the poor and the youth in his native city, but very soon, in 1816, he felt called to bring around him a group of priests who would live together as brothers and devote themselves to the preaching of parish missions. This was the origin of the Congregation of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, which was approved by Pope Leo XII in 1826.

Made Bishop of Marseilles in 1837, Saint Eugene worked unceasingly for the progress of the Church in his diocese even as he was busy responding to appeals from bishops of faraway countries by sending his religious all over the world. A pastor impassioned by Jesus Christ and a wholehearted servant of the Church, he died at Marseilles 21 May, 1861



BLESSED

**EUGENE DE MAZENOD**

BISHOP OF MARSEILLES  
Founder of the Congregation  
of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

## TIMELINE—ST. EUGENE DE MAZENOD

- 1782: Born 1<sup>st</sup> August in Aix-en-Provence, in the south of France—into a family of minor nobility.
- 1789: French Revolution begins in earnest
- 1790: Exiled with family. Forced to move to Italy for the next 11 years.
- 1794: Helped by the Zinalli family—one who was a priest: where, he later claimed, he discovered his vocation to the priesthood.
- 1800: “Adopted” by a wealthy family—the Cannizzaros.
- 1802: Returns from exile a worldly man—parents are separated.
- 1804: Napoleon Consecrated as Emperor
- 1807: Good Friday experience of Jesus' love and self-sacrifice.**
- 1808: Enter the Seminary of Saint Sulpice
- 1811: 21<sup>st</sup> December, Ordained to Priesthood**
- 1814: 6<sup>th</sup> April, Napoleon goes into exile (1<sup>st</sup> time)—France in turmoil.
- 1816: 25<sup>th</sup> January, Founds the "**Missionaries of Provence**" to bring "*Good News to the Poor.*"
- 1825: Patronage of Mary replaces St Charles.
- 1826: **February 17<sup>th</sup>** The missionaries are renamed "**Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate**"  
*The new institute is given papal approval by Pope Leo XII.*
- 1832: Named Auxillary Bishop of Marseilles
- 1837: Named Bishop of Marseilles. The enormous missionary zeal that he brought to this office affected the whole French Church and gave greater stability to the Oblates.
- 1861: ✕ R.I.P. aged 78, Marseilles, France: 416 Oblates in 10 countries.**
- 1926: Begin process of Canonisation.
- 1975: Beatification (Pope Paul VI)
- 1995: Canonisation  
3rd Dec (Pope John Paul II)

# MASS

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The spirit of God is upon me; he has anointed me. He sent me to bring good news to the poor and to heal the broken-hearted.

## OPENING PRAYER

O God, in your mercy,  
you blessed your Bishop,  
Saint Eugene de Mazenod,  
with the zeal of an apostle  
to preach the Good News to the nations.  
Grant that by his intercession  
we may be filled with the same spirit  
and dedicate ourselves wholeheartedly  
to the service of the Church  
and the salvation of all.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

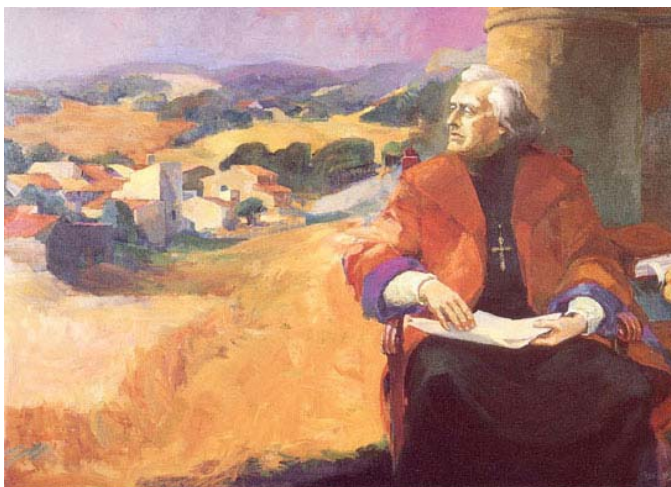
**1st Reading** (Outside the Season of Easter) Isaiah 52:7-10

*“All the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God”*

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, “Your God is king!” Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see Yahweh face to face, as he returns to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for Yahweh is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem. Yahweh bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

*The Word of the Lord.*



**RESPONSORIAL Psalm 96: 1-3, 7-8a, 10**

**R/.** Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Sing to the Lord a new song;  
 sing to the Lord, all you lands.  
 Sing to the Lord; bless his name.

Announce his salvation, day after day.  
 Tell his glory among the nations;  
 among all his peoples, his wondrous deeds.

Give to the Lord,  
 you families of nations,  
 give to the Lord  
 glory and praise;  
 give to the Lord  
 the glory due his name!

Say among the nations:  
 The Lord is king.  
 He has made  
 the world firm,  
 not to be moved;  
 He governs the peoples  
 with equity.



## 2nd Reading 1 Cor 1:18-25; 2:1-5

*“We are preaching a crucified Christ”*

As for me, brothers, when I came to you, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ.

Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great ‘fear and trembling’ and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

*The Word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL Acclamation Matt 28:19-20

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. **Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Luke 4:14-22a**

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him. He came to Nazareth where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

*“The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me,  
for he has anointed me.*

*He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,  
to proclaim liberty to captives,  
and to the blind new sight,  
to set the downtrodden free,*

*to proclaim the Lord’s year of favour”.*

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, *“This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.”* And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.



## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

On this feast day of Saint Eugene de Mazenod, let us turn to God, our Father, aware of our many needs and confident in his unfailing providence.

\* Saint Eugene was the shepherd of his people; let us pray that our Holy Father and all the bishops and priests of the Church may see clearly the needs of people and may always proclaim the Gospel with courage. **Lord, hear us.**

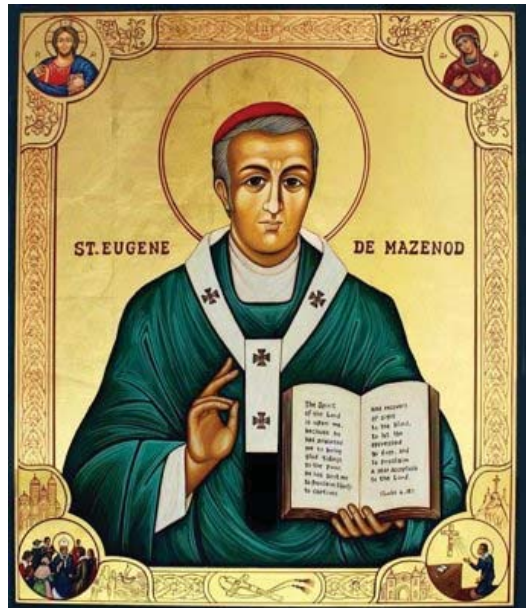
\* Saint Eugene was committed to preaching the Good News of salvation to the poor: let us pray that today's missionaries may always seek out the lost, the homeless and the oppressed who are true sons and daughters of God. **Lord, hear us.**

\* Saint Eugene called his companions to bind themselves to Christ: let us pray that we may all be faithful to this call, and prepare the way for others who would follow Jesus with a generous heart. **Lord, hear us.**



- \* Saint Eugene had a tender love for the Virgin Mary and always prayed to her with confidence: let us pray that we may have a true devotion to this gentle Mother, and in her find constant strength and hope. **Lord, hear us.**
- \* Saint Eugene sought the will of God: let us pray that, following his example, we may always search for the presence of God in our daily activities and that we may experience the fullness of the love of Jesus. **Lord, hear us.**

**Let us pray:** God of all goodness, into your hands, we commend our prayers as we call upon the intercession of Saint Eugene de Mazenod. Grant that we may live and work solely for your glory and for the good of our brothers and sisters. We ask this through Christ our Lord.



## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Accept, Father,  
 the gifts we present to you  
 on the feast of Saint Eugene,  
 and enkindle the flame of your love  
 in our hearts,  
 so that our whole life  
 may be one with this Eucharistic offering.  
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*Common of Pastors*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Let us pray:**

We thank you, Lord,  
 source of all goodness,  
 for having called us together  
 for this Eucharistic meal.  
 Help us always to walk in the paths of holiness,  
 so that, with Saint Eugene,  
 we may share in the joy promised to faithful  
 servants of the Gospel.  
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**TIMELINE—OBLATES AROUND THE WORLD**

*“Go to Marseilles. There is a bishop there whose Congregation is still small, but the man himself has a heart as big as Saint Paul’s, as big as the world.”*

a contemporary bishop speaking of Bishop de Mazenod

1824: Corsica (Fr Albini)	1935: Argentina	1975: Puerto Rico
1831: Switzerland	Laos	1976: Senegal
1841: Canada, England.	1939: Philippines	1977: Norway, Tahiti, United Arab Emirates
1847: USA, Sri Lanka	1942: Haiti	French Guyana
1852: South Africa	1945: Brazil	1980: Singapore, Madagascar
1862: Lesotho	1946: Cameroon	1982: Zimbabwe (from South Africa)
1856: Ireland	1948: Chile, Japan, Luxemburg	1984: Zambia (from USA)
1858: Mexico	1949: Surinam	1988: Guatemala
1880: Holland	1951: Chad	1990: Venezuela, Nigeria, South Korea
1882: Italy Spain	1952: Bolivia	1991: Lebanon
1891: Belgium Namibia	1957: Peru	1992: Angola, Botswana, Ukraine, Belorussia
1894: Australia	1958: Denmark	1993: Mauritania
1895: Germany	1954: Western Sahara	1994: Columbia
1911: Czech Republic	1962: Sweden	1997 Turkmenistan
1920: Poland	1966: Thailand	1997 Kenya (from Canada)
1925: Paraguay	1966: Hong Kong	
1930: Uruguay	1967: New Zealand (closed in 1-Feb-2004)	
1931: Zaire	1968: India	
1934: Austria	1971: Pakistan	
	1972: Indonesia (Aust.)	
	1973: Bangladesh	



*Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate*



*Celebrating 200 years of Oblate Ministry - 1816 - 2016*



## Words of Wisdom from the Founder, St Eugene de Mazenod:

1. Discover who you are in the eyes of God
2. Leave nothing undared for the Kingdom of God
5. Examine your conscience before God
6. See everything in a good light
7. We need to have courage and confidence in God
8. Be the instruments of God's mercy
9. You must have patience and resignation
10. Avoid putting all people into the same mould
11. Superiors are in charge of brothers, not subordinates
12. Charity is the pivotal point on which our whole existence revolves



**The Saint and the Saint-maker, Fr Tempier OMI**

*“Amongst yourselves practice charity, charity, charity; and, outside, zeal for the salvation of souls.”* **St Eugene de Mazenod**