



## CHEVALIER, IN HIS TIME...

**His life:** Soon after finishing primary school, Jules indicated he wanted to become a priest. *“My mother explained that their lack of money...would prevent them from supporting me in this and advised me to take up an apprenticeship... After a lot of crying, I said to my mother in a resolute way: --“All right! I’ll take up a trade if I must, but as soon as I have some savings, I’ll go and knock on some convent’s door...”* (Personal Notes).

**His words:** *“In the human person, matter becomes religious”. The person’s nature is to be a symphony... made up of the diverse forms of life: “Not only is the human person a flowering mineral, a bush which can feel, an animal which can reason; the person is a mineral, a tree, an animal who prays, who adores, who gives thanks: in us matter becomes religious (SCJ 64).*

*“The human person’s life”, says Chevalier in a profound way, “is a song for two voices. In us and through us, God speaks and sings of Godself, out of Godself, and God wants us to speak of God and to sing with God.” (SCJ 326).* That is why God has made us intelligent, loving and free.

## CHEVALIER, FOR TODAY...



Chevalier is aware of it: he too is a “word” of God... therefore he insists on saying “his word”, the word that no one else will be saying for him. (Fifteen days, second day) Today, 200 years after his birth, we thank Fr. Chevalier not only for saying “his word” but also for passing it on to generations and generations of people, men and women, priests, religious and lay united around his charism. And what was “his word”? What was the “note” he sang over and over again? “We are loved by God”...“We are loved by God”...“We are loved by God!”...

How about you? You too are a word of God, what is “your word”? What is the “note” that you are called to sing? Spend time to once again listen to God’s call for you? What is the mission that God has given you? How are you called to continue singing and enriching Fr. Chevalier’s word: “we are loved by God” ?





## PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Prayer of Fr. Chevalier

O my adorable Saviour,  
I hear the music of your saints,  
what magnificent songs!  
How I wish there was in that concert,  
a part for me to play!  
It is not a brilliant and important part  
that I wish for, the least,  
that is all I deserve.  
Just one note, that will be enough;  
but I will sing it solo, that note;  
it will be mine;  
and this will be one more harmony  
in the universal concert!  
I will help all heaven  
to better sing your praise;  
I will give to you that little bit of glory;  
without me, you would not have had!!!  
(SCJ 82)

