

# DEATH OF ODETTE LALIBERTÉ GIGUÈRE



The funeral Mass for Odette Giguère, who passed away on July 18, was held at Spiri-Maria on Saturday, July 21, 2018. She was the wife of Grégoire Giguère, Marie-Paule's brother, who died in 2007. (Cf. *Le Royaume*, no. 187, p. 25.)

Odette was born on July 17, 1930, in Saint-Nicolas-de-Lévis and she was the daughter of Georges Laliberté and Estelle Giguère. She was the fourth of six children.

She married Grégoire Giguère on August 29, 1953, and the couple had seven children, six of whom are still living. In fact, the eldest, François, would live only a few months (cf. *Life of Love* I, p. 172), and the other children are, in order of birth:

Hélène, François, Anne, Louis, Bernard and Lily.

Odette was a very athletic person, having been a swimming and diving champion before her marriage, and she was known province-wide. Once married, she continued to give swimming lessons to hundreds, not to say thousands, of people.

She was also very involved in her town and in her parish: two terms as an alderwoman, two terms as a churchwarden, a member of the Cercle des Fermières (a woman's circle), etc., and she was much appreciated everywhere.

In the first years of the Army of Mary, she did not take very kindly to the fact that her husband Grégoire was dedicating so much time to it, but when he was the victim of a heart attack in Rome in 1974, she received a powerful grace of conversion and this led her to publicly bear witness to this grace many times. This witness is



January 1, 2006 - Odette and Grégoire, at the time of little Sara's baptism.

reprinted in *Life of Love*, volume XI, chapter 52.

Odette had 25 grandchildren and 48 great-grandchildren.

She was buried next to her husband Grégoire in the parish cemetery at Lac-Etchemin.

## Excerpts from Father Carl Beaupré's Homily at the Funeral Mass

At Odette Giguère's funeral, the Mass was celebrated by her son-in-law, Father Yvan Laprise, and the homily was delivered by Father Carl Beaupré. Here are a few excerpts from it.

[In the first years of the Army of Mary], Odette was reticent, "recalcitrant" as she herself would say: "One mustn't be more Catholic than the Pope!" However, when God took hold of her..., she understood that religion was much more than a series of precepts to be observed; it is a vital link with God which is meant to intensify from day to day; hence the importance of making of one's life a prayer, hence the importance of the sacraments, of a deep devotion to the Virgin Immaculate, of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. As she lay on her bed of agony, Odette said: "I hope my story will serve as an encouragement to others."...

We know that gold is purified by fire. Likewise, love is puri-

fied through the accepted trial, and we must never forget this. It was in a wonderful surrender to God's will that Odette serenely accepted the last ordeal in her life, a general cancer which would rapidly lead to her death. Now, Marie-Paule wrote: "It is in our acceptance, given with love, that God reveals Himself with His bounty: varied, luminous graces that elevate the soul, detach it from itself and cause it to ascend quickly to God." (*Vie d'Amour*, Appendice V, p. 81) How consoling that is!...

May our sister ascend rapidly to the Divine Quinternity and be inebriated of this celestial love which she had the joy of tasting on this earth... as she clasped to her heart the Co-Redemptrix of the human race. In our turn,... let us strive to sow authentic love everywhere around us and be happy to serve the marvelous Work Heaven has given to our time in order to renew the Church and the world.



Spiri-Maria, July 21, 2018 - Funeral Mass presided by Father Yvan Laprise.