

was no priest at hand to help the few people who wanted to remain faithful. Without a priest, the faith of these souls suffered. They tried to keep their faith alive in their homes, but the absence of a priest for such a long period of time proved fatal to their religious practices and customs. Prayer stopped, the Holy Rosary was no longer important, and the Catholic sanctuary of their homes faded away. After this long period of trouble, a new priest, by the name of Father Luc Desilets, was assigned to the tiny chapel of Cap de la Madeleine. What Father Desilets found was enough to discourage anyone. No one came to Mass and the small chapel was a damp and moldy ruin. One day as Father Desilets knelt praying alone in the church, he saw a strange and terrible sight: a hog had wandered into the broken-down church and was chewing on a rosary it had found on the dirty floor. Father took the rosary away from the animal and drove it out of the building. He was in a desperate mental condition, and he cried out to our Lady begging for help. He begged for the ability to rebuild the religious sentiments of the people of the area. He promised to do reparation for the people's neglect of their Religion, and he promised to develop a special devotion the Holy Rosary. The good priest determined to use the Rosary as the means of bringing back the scattered and disinterested people. He cleaned up the church and brought it back into good use. His plan worked. It succeeded so well that it was not long before his little – and refurbished – chapel became overcrowded with people. So much was the interest revived that the decision for the building of a new and larger church was reached. However, when the decision to build was made, the people found themselves up against a problem. *(continued on next page)*

