



Le Mercien

La voix des Mercier d'Amérique

The voice of the Merciers of North America

WHAT AN EVENT !

WHAT A SUCCESS !



See our feature article on page 4

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and services**

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Armoiries des Mercier
d'Amérique du Nord déposées
par Jean-Paul Gélinas, Mgr
en 1986



Armoiries des Mercier
d'Angleterre déposées au
Burke Memorial Armory
de Londres vers le début
du 15e siècle



Armoiries d'Ernest Mercier
déposées en 1954
par l'institut généalogique Drouin

| Name | Occupation | Residence | Admission |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| Ernest Mercier | | | 1999 |
| Pierre-Paul Mercier | Administration | St-Lambert, QC | 2000 |
| Alain Mercier | Communication | Sillery, QC | 2000 |
| Charles Mercier | Engineering | Québec, QC | 2000 |
| Christine Mercier | Education | Québec, QC | 2000 |
| Louis Mercier | Actuary | St-Bruno, QC | 2000 |
| Pierre Mercier | Engineering | St-Bruno, QC | 2000 |
| Suzanne Mercier | Commerce | Montréal, QC | 2000 |
| Lucienne M.-Croteau | Education | Bonnyville, AB | 2001 |

| Le Mercien - Seasonal deadlines | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| Number | Season | Deadline |
| 1 | Spring | February 1 st |
| 2 | Summer | May 1 st |
| 3 | Autumn | August 1 st |
| 4 | Winter | October 1 st |

Summary

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Messages

In order to hasten communications with the management, please
contact directly the members in charge of the AMAN services.

If you plan to move, please inform the treasurer at least six weeks
ahead of time.

Membership fees :

Yearly : 25 \$
 Life (65 years and over): 250 \$
 Life (less than 65 years): 400 \$

Please send your comments and suggestions to either address listed
below.

AMAN
C.P. 6700, succ. Sillery
Sainte-Foy (QC) Canada G1T 2W2

Association des Mercier d'Amérique du Nord
Site Address : genealogie.org/famille/Mercier
Courriel : aman@videotron.ca

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The financial position of our association continues to worry the members of the board of directors.

Even though other sources of revenues are always sought, the best option is still the signing of new members.

In spite of the efforts of many of us, we know that it is difficult to attract new members.

Our web site has created a good visibility and has resulted in attracting a certain number of Merciers.

However, nothing beats the word of mouth with our own children, our cousins as well as other Merciers whom we may come across.

The annual membership fee of \$25. is minimal for the services that we offer, but it is important for the association.

The recruitment of new members is our own responsibility and your contribution to such an effort is essential.

The coming holiday season is the perfect opportunity to solicit everybody and invite them to join an association devoted to the pride of the noble name of Mercier. Why not offer a membership card as a holiday gift to someone you care for? It is only \$25.

You may know business concerns which could advertise their services in *Le Mercien*.

Ask them to contact us; our rates are very low and a small advertisement could provide an interesting visibility.

It is in our common interest and AMAN counts on each of you.

Pierre-Paul Mercier
President

DESCENDANTS OF CHARLES MERCIER ALIAS LAJOIE

A branch of Charles Mercier's alias Lajoie family which took roots on the heights of Bel-lechasse in early XXth century met in the Summer of 2001.

AMAN encourages such gatherings and solicits from organizers information on such events, in order to share their achievement with all our members.

The following article has been passed on to us by Gilmond Mercier of Saint-Georges-de-Beauce. AMAN congratulates him for the great success of this family gathering and thanks him for the accompanying article.

This is quite an inspiration for AMAN as well. The annual members' meeting of 2004 will take place in Sainte-Marie-de-Beauce on August 23, 2004. It seems that the area has assembled a large crowd which could serve as a good basis for our annual event.

Le Mercien

THE DESCENDANTS OF EDMOND MERCIER ALIAS LAJOIE REMEMBER

Charles Mercier alias Lajoie came to Canada as a soldier in the Berry Regiment during the war against England. He married Marie-Anne Lahaise shortly before the signing of the treaty of Paris in 1763.

The couple raised their ten children in the Eastern part of the Island of Montreal and in Saint-Roch-de-L'Achigan. The oldest, Jean-Louis, and two other sons, Francois and Louis, were active within the Patriots' committees leading to the rebellion of 1837-38.

Jean-Louis married twice and raised eleven children. The youngest was born when his father was seventy-five years old. He was named Louis which was a very popular name with the Mercier alias Lajoie.

Even if his father died when he was only two years old, he received a good education and was later awarded a lot in Sainte-Justine of Dorchester, through the cooperation of Mgr Jean Langevin.

Louis was noticeable. He was six feet and six inches tall, weighed 325 pounds and physically strong. Our eldest still alive today talk about Louis' proverbial strength. He acted as peace officer, justice of the peace, school inspector, nursing aide, but, above all, military captain. He was referred through the region as Captain Mercier.

As reported in number 3, volume 12 of *Le Mercien*, he had a cousin, François-Xavier, who was also tall. He was a reputed explorer in the Yukon, and was immortalised in a bronze statue by the famous artist Louis-Philippe Hébert.

A few months before the Canadian Confederation, Louis, then aged 19, married Adèle Audet. They had twelve children, including Edmond, my grandfather. He became a general merchant in Sainte-Sabine de Bellechasse, after marrying Élise Brochu in Sainte-Justine, on July 1, 1901. One hundred years later, on August 5, 1901, 125 descendants and friends gathered at Sainte-Sabine to mark the occasion.

The families fraternized around good food.

Amongst those present, was Jean-Louis, forestry contractor and jobber. Also present were Georges, a general merchant, Marie-Louise, a mother of ten children, Joseph, grocer and Marie-Claire, the only survivor of her generation, who celebrated her 85th birthday. All reminisced about aunt Justine and aunt Anne-Marie.

Each family had brought their own pictures and souvenirs such as works of art and even the recipe book our grandmother Élise.

Hélène and her husband Réjean Bureau had arranged a song for the Merciers which matched the feelings of the gathering; it goes like this:

*It is worth to celebrate those we love,
To meet again with the Merciers,
It gets the children together for the long run,
There is laughter with the small and the tall ones,*

After the meal, Marie-de-Lourdes gave us good news of her son, Jean Tanguay, who went around the world with his wife and their four children. In yesteryears, our ancestors travelled the wild territory of Québec, from the Mississippi to the Yukon. Today, the younger generation does it its own way.

Those present then embarked on a rally around the Maple Leaf Camping Site on the theme of the Mercier-Lajoie families.

The following day, mass was celebrated in memory of parents who had passed away at the church of Sainte-Sabine. The afternoon was devoted to visiting the garden of Marius and his wife, where several artists were showing their works in a splendis décor.

Indeed, the descendants of Edmond Mercier alias Lajoie remembered and were in accord with the slogan of Merciers of North America:” Proud of our Ancestors”.

Gulmond Mercier

ASCENDANTS D'EDMOND MERCIER

En France

Vincent Mercier

Catherine Gansard

Tours en Touraine

1

Charles Mercier

Marianne Lahaise

Assomption, June 18, 1761

2

Jean-Louis Mercier *

Calixte Larivée

Montréal, February 24, 1843

*Jean-Louis épousa en premières noces, July 25, 1796, Élisabeth Landry

3

Louis Mercier

Adèle Audet

Sainte-Justine, January 7, 1867

4

Edmond Mercier

Élise Brochu

Ste-Justine, July 15, 1901

CHILD'S MEMORIES

The name of my grandfather was Emile George Mercier, who was but a year old when his mother Georgianna (Couture) Mercier died, on July 24, 1894 in Peterborough, New Hampshire.

Nazaire and Georgianna were married at St. Bernards Parish, Dorchester, Quebec on April 24th, 1876. There is some mysery here as I know they were in Rochester, NH in 1878 when their son Wilfred was born.

My second cousin, Gerogianna Sylvia Little says her Dad always told her that he was born in Saginaw, Michigan. Although I have tried to establish that fact I have yet to find out. But if it is true that their first son Anselme was born in Quebec that would mean they left within a year of marriage for he USA. In my research I have found many COUTURE's of near relationship to Georgianna in the Rochester, Somersworth, Rollinsford and Dover areas. I

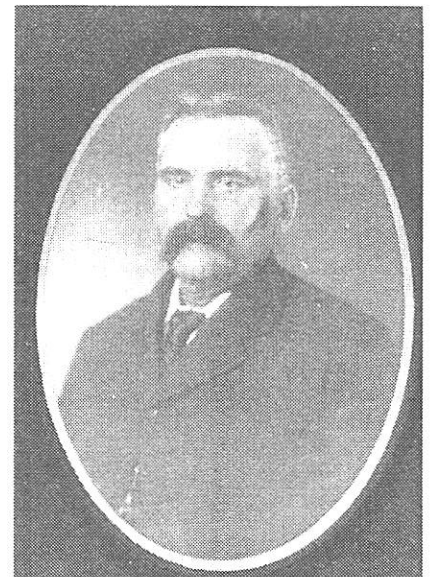
also found there were a couple of Mercier's in the area. There were many woolen mills and shoe shops in the area and lots of work for the Canadian who cared to work hard in Rochester, NH.

My second cousin, son of Great Uncle Wilfred, Raymond MERCIER, told me that his Dad married his mother in Rochester and they visited there.

His Dad pointed out the farm on Bridge Street in Rochester where Nazaire and Georgianna had raised veal. I can also say that historians tell me that when mill owners had very good workers they often transferred them between mills. Thus a possible answer to my query as to why did Nazaire and Georgianna keep moving back and forth from Peterborough, NH to Rochester, NH. The reason I know that is the



Nazaire Mercier and Georgianna Couture upon their marriage on April 24, 1876, at Saint-Bernard, Dorchester



Nazaire Mercier

birth certificates of their children. In Rochester were born George, Edward, Wilfred and my grandfather. Yet in between my grandfathers birth and his sister's Laura and Marie in Peterborough, NH. Laura Mercier was born a twin but her sister Marie died at birth. Then my grandfather's birth in Rochester, NH, July 7, 1893. After that on July 20, 1894 my great grandmother gave birth to a daughter named Marie. She was to die four days later after giving birth to nine children by Nazaire.

Here my grandfather tells me that his father gave the children to friends and relatives to raise and left for Wisconsin. I do know that he later married a woman named Mary Gauthier in Eau Clair, Wisconsin. They returned to the area and bought a farm in North Dana, Massachusetts. Pictures are enclosed of his small farm where he raised horses.

Again the information is from great Uncle Wilfred's son Raymond. I am told that when the state of Massachusetts took his farm for the Quabbin Reservoir he became so discouraged that he returned to Canada. There is little I know about him from that point, except that he came once to visit my grandparents at their farm in Hardwick and my mother was a small girl. She said when her mother said that he could have one of the children's beds he refused to put them out and instead slept behind the wood stove with blankets on the floor.

My grandfather was so kind to me as a child giving me attention and love. He worked so hard in the stone sheds as a granite polisher and making the stones for the cemeteries. At the same time, he kept a large flock of chickens for eggs and meat as well as raising a large garden, which my grandmother canned.



Family of Emile Mercier and of Florence Anair (1930)
 Borrom row : Jeanne, Léonard, Donald, Émile F.,
 Middle row : Dolorès, Lucille, Florence, Émile, Viola, Kenneth
 Upper row : Clarence, Robert, William, Wesley, Peter, Earl

I should of course tell that my grandfather told how when he was eighteen he left the people who had raised him and hoboed to Vermont looking for his brothers and sister. He found his wife, Florence Anair while working on her Aunt's farm in Greensboro, VT. She was sixteen when they married. His brother Anselme owned the 5 and 10 cent store called Ben Franklin in Hardwick. My mother tells how Grandpa would take the children there to buy them shoes and clothes for school each fall. What a job that must have been, for he was the father of fifteen children, ten boys and five girls.

I was the inquisitive child who lived a short distance from Grandpa and Grammy Mercier, always at his heels when he would be

in the garden. His favorite was when his strawberries would come in. I helped pick, also ate as many as I picked. How he would laugh at me when I would eat one pick one.

One thing I remember was how much Grandpa loved having his brothers and sister visit each summer. When they came from Massachusetts and Conn. to visit. Of course that meant also trips to uncle Wilfred's in Greensboro and Caspian Lake, how we loved to go to Uncle Wilfred's and Aunt Mary's farm. Their yard had a beautiful water trough filled with ice-cold water from the well, which we hand pumped water into. First thing out of the car was for me to head to the pump and put the dipper, which always hung there into the water and prime the pump. Then I would pump the cold delicious water into the dipper and drink and drink.

Although he was my great Uncle Wilfred, I only called him Uncle Wilfred and Aunt Mary. They had bought the `block` house with much land in Greensboro in the 1930's. He sold lots on Caspian Lake for \$50. Apiece and today those same lots sell for \$75,000 to \$100,000. It is a very desirable Lake fed by ice-cold springs and very clear. Sometimes my Uncles and Grandfather went to the farm to help with the haying for Uncle Wilfred had a working dairy farm of Jersey and Holsteins. At some point he had replaced the old barn and built the new gambrel roofed red barn. How exciting for children who loved to jump in the hay



Georgianna (Couture) Mercier shortly before she died on July 24, 1894



From the high rafters. Only trouble is I didn't know when Uncle Wilfred changed to bales that they would be a hard landing. The Block House that my Uncle Wilfred had bought is historically interesting as it was the fort for the scouts of Hazen & Bailey who took troops to Canada.

I have now through genealogy found the census figures, which show the inventory of Nazaire's farm in North Dana, Massachusetts, that he had brothers who settled in Agwan, Massachusetts and Jaffrey, NH. For every question I have answered about his history it has opened many more questions of what, why and how.

I would be willing to write more about the family for any who might want but fear I have become too wordy at this point.

Thanks to Pierre Paul for asking for this to be put into the Mercien.

Harriet E. Cady, P.O. Box 149, Deerfield, NH, USA.A

Traduit de l'anglais par *Le Mercien*.

A PRECIOUS SUPPORTER

AMAN officials were very happy to greet Senator Leonce Mercier at the annual meeting of the members in Sherbrooke, on September 7.

Although retired from the Senate two years ago, Leonce is still very busy and very much in demand for several causes.

However, he found enough time to join us and to encourage us to continue our mission.

He has always been a proud supporter of AMAN and he has always endorsed our objectives.

He played a pivotal role during our Vision 2000 Campaign which he has co-chaired with the late Ernest.

AMAN is privileged to be able to rely on such a precious supporter and we wish to thank him for his sustained interest towards us.



***Pierre-Paul Mercier,
Président***

Léonce Mercier

LINE OF ANCESTRY OF HARRIET CADY

Jehan Mercier

France, June 20, 1857

Thienette Leblond

Marin Mercier

Grand Pré de Tourouvre, France, 1571

Jeanne Bisson

François Mercier

Tourouvre, France, 1605

Roberte Cornillau

Julien Mercier

Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, January 18, 1654

Marie Poulin

Jean Mercier

Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, February 25, 1691

Barbe Montmainier

Julien Mercier

Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, May 30, 1718

Agnès Meunier

Julien Mercier

Saint-Vallier de Bellechasse, November 5, 1755

Marthe Roy

Guillaume Mercier

Saint-Henri de Lévis, November 17, 1793

Angélique Fortier

Henry Mercier

Saint-Henri de Lévis, October 11, 1831

Julie Carrier

Nazaire Mercier

Saint-Bernard de Dorchester, April 24, 1876

Georgianna Couture

Émile G. Mercier

Greensboro, Vermont, December 26, 1916

Florence Anair

Charles Quinn

Hardwick, New Hampshire, October 17, 1942

Dolorès Mercier

Harriet (Quinn) Cady

SOMETHING NEW FOR 2006

Last September, I was delighted to visit the place of origin of the six Mercier ancestors who came from France prior to 1800 to establish a family in North America.

One of the objects of my mission was to trace the ancestors of Julien beyond his great grandparents who were married in Tourouvre, on June 20, 1557, as reported in René Jetté's genealogical dictionary.

I visited the archives for the department of Orne in Alençon, only to discover that church records for the parish of Saint-Aubin de Tourouvre begin in March 1588 for christenings and in 1589 for marriages, which is subsequent to the date I was interested in. Jetté's information must come from notarial deeds, and I could not have access to those documents, since researchers were already at work on them.

There in a team largely funded by Canadian subsidies which is active in extracting information from the church records and the notarial deeds of the forty communities within the department of Orne during the XVIIth and XVIIIth centuries.

The research work in under the direction of a Quebecer, Yves Landry, who has been a professor at the Caën University in Lower Normandy for six years. The work was undertaken in 2001 and the results should be available in 2006.



NEW MEMBERS OF OUR ASSOCIATION

Welcome to the new members who joined us in the last two years

| Number | Name | Residence |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| New life member | | |
| 64 | Céline Mercier Rousseau | Bécancour |
| New members | | |
| 1426 | Elizabeth Lee Boyer Mercier | Flushing, WI |
| 1427 | Denis Mercier | Côteau-du-Lac, QC |
| 1428 | Roger Mercier | Québec, QC |
| 1429 | Annette Labbé Mercier | St-Charles, QC |
| 1430 | George S. Mercier | North Palm Beach, FL |
| 1431 | Laurette C. Mayo | Marchand , N.H |
| 1432 | Josette Mercier | La Baie, QC |
| 1433 | Pierre Mercier | St-Jean-Chrysostome, QC |
| 1434 | Gérald Mercier | Grand Ben, Ont. |
| 1435 | Marcel Mercier | Beauport, QC |
| 1436 | Jacqueline M. Bisson | Nipawin, SK |
| 1437 | Lucie Mercier | St-Lambert, QC |
| 1438 | Ginette Mercier | Beauport, Qc |
| 1439 | Clément J. Mercier | Palm Desert, CA |
| 1440 | Theresa Mercier | St-Hyppolyte, QC |
| 1441 | Estelle Mercier | St-Louis- de- Gonzague, QC |
| 1442 | John R. Mercier | Sarasota, FL. |



Musée de l'Émigration percheronne au Canada, Tourouvre, Perche

The scope of this research is well beyond genealogy. It is a scientific effort aimed at furthering the basic knowledge that we have on the emigrants of French origin who came to Québec and Acadia in the XVIIth and XVIIIth centuries.

It addresses issues related to history, demography, anthropology and genetics. One of the objectives is to answer question asked by generation of researchers such as: who were those immigrants, what was their family and social backgrounds, what factors motivated them to leave for a new world.

To answer such questions, one must examine the situation of each emigrant in his or her family and the place of their family within the French local community. One must reconstitute the social and genealogical relations from

existing French sources which are church and notaries' records, which are witnesses of history.

The reconstitution of emigrants' families will favour comparisons of living conditions between the new environment and the old, and will help better define the genetic pool of French-Canadians, based on the degree of relationship between immigrants.

'La Maison de l'Émigration Française en Canada' should be inaugurated in 2004 and thus succeed to the 'Musée de l'Émigration Percheronne au Canada' located in Tourouvre, Perche. The new museum will benefit from the research work under the direction of Professor Landry.

The research project uses methods developed in Québec over the last thirty years.

Pierre-Paul Mercier

SISTER MARIE MERCIER



Marie was the second child born in her family in 1911, in Manchester, N.H., and was given the name of Marie-Rose Barthélemiène in honor of the day's saint. She was always teased by her uncles who called her 'Marie bleue la petite barthélimie'. Is it the reason why she called herself Marie for short? If you want to know why, ask her.

At the age of two, she came to Canada with her two sisters to visit an aunt. She must have developed a taste for long trips, and joining AMAN gave her the occasion to move around.

Marie first studied at Saint-Isidore. When she was 15, she considered a teaching career and enrolled at the Sherbrooke vocational school. She graduated with the two certificates required at the time. She first taught at the Tenth Country Road School in the parish.

The arrival of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Charity of the Sacred Heart of Jésus influenced several girls in discovering their vocation. Five of them joined in 1929. Marie took the name of Sister Georges-Étienne. Af-

ter graduating from the noviciate, she taught to older girls in Magog. Her former students still call her by that name.

In 1939, she was appointed Mother Superior in Lennoxville, she then moved to teach at the teachers' training college, as it opened. She was assigned there for many years. During the Summer recess, she initiated classes for young naturalists, which furthered her interest for nature.

When the community adopted a new dress code, names were also changed and Marie dropped the surname of Rose. Then the College opened and Marie obtained her bachelor's degree. She was assigned a teaching position and later became Mother Superior.

Her retirement from teaching gave her the opportunity to assist Father Bruno Dandenault as a collaborator for pastoral services. This assignment placed her in contact with other priests in dioceses and she recruited many of them in the movement of the Marguerites started in 1996.

In 1987, she was present at the first gathering of Merciers in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré. She must have been influenced by the founding president, Ernest, since she actively devoted herself to the affairs of the association.

She has been a constant collaborator and has been involved at many levels. She sat on the board of directors and played a pivotal role in the organisation of the two annual meetings held in the Eastern Townships.

That is why AMAN was proud to award an honorary life member certificate to Sister Marie Mercier during the annual meeting of September 7, in Sherbrooke.

La Direction

ONE MORE PRIEST

It is not so current, these days, that a catholic priest is ordained.

Such an event deserves our attention, especially if the grandmother that priest is of Mercier descent.

In our issue of Autumn 2001, vol. 17, no. 3, we ran a short article of Robert St-Louis, son of Joseph A. and of Rose-Anna Mercier. He had died shortly before.

Today, their son has become a priest and we are happy to share with our readers an article authored by Krista Mars published in the Citizen of Laconia, N. H. of June 20, 2002.

We thank them for their cooperation and are happy to associate their publication with ours.

Here is that article.

Le Mercien

For Laconia native Scott St. Louis, growing up around priests in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Laconia and having amazing religious experiences while at Saint Anselm College put him in the direction of what would turn out to be his life's duty — to serve in the priesthood.

St. Louis, 31, graduated from seminary at the University of St. Mary of the Lake Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill., in May before being ordained as a priest on June 1 at the St. Joseph Cathedral in Manchester in front of numerous family members and friends.

Having grown up in Laconia, St. Louis and his family attended the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, where he said the example set forth by the priests at that church gave him the inspiration that carried with him as he grew up to serve God.

"It was always the example of other priests that have given me interest," said St. Louis. "What it was is that these were regular, ordinary men that were called to a way of life that seems, to me, extraordinary."

Once he was getting ready to attend college is when St. Louis said he truly began thinking about becoming a priest and the experiences



Following his ordination, Laconia native Scott St. Louis, center, stands with members of his family and Bishop John McCormack. From left, are St. Louis' grandfather Marshall Whedon, Bishop McCormack, St. Louis, his mother, Marcia St. Louis, sister Paula St. Louis-Shute and nephew Ryan Shute with his brother

at St. Anselm College helped lead him in the right direction.

"In many ways, they allowed me to have an experience of God and the church and what community life was like and what routine prayer was like and I was very inspired by that," said St. Louis.

Five years after graduating from St. Anselm College, St. Louis said he entered the University of St. Mary of the Lake Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill., where he spent four years studying and living life with other men in the priesthood.

Earlier this month, all the dedication and hard work culminated when he was ordained by Bishop John McCormack.

"It was a powerful experience and what was, for me, the most powerful is what is called the laying on of hands," said St. Louis.

During this portion of the ceremony, the bishop lays his hands on top of the hands of the individual being ordained and it is the moment when, according to Catholic belief, the individual receives the grace of God in a unique way to accomplish the work of ordained ministry.



† Décès

Deaths †

Condoléances aux familles Mercier dont l'un des membres est décédé récemment.
Deepest sympathy to Mercier families that have lost a member recently.

| Nom—Name | Inhumation— Burial | Endroit-Place |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Marguerite Mercier Boutin | 2002-05-26 | Danville |
| Yvonne Laverdière Mercier | 2002-06-12 | Ancienne-Lorette |
| Jeannine Morin Mercier | 2002-06-17 | N.-D. du Rosaire, Montmagny |
| Marcelin Mercier | 2002-08-02 | N.D. du Rosaire |
| Denis Therrien (époux de Thérèse Mercier) | 2002-08-05 | Charlesbourg |
| Lucille Brousseau Mercier | 2002-08-18 | Courville |
| Aline Mercier C.N.D. | 2002-08-22 | Montréal |
| Claude Mercier | 2002-08-24 | Montréal |
| Sarto Mercier | 2002-08-25 | Rivière-Ouelle |
| Gérard Mercier | ? ? ? | ? ? |
| Adrienne Mercier | 2002-08-29 | Richmond |
| Bernard Mercier | 2002-09-13 | St-Charles, Limoilou |
| Gertrude Mercier Moreau | 2002-09-24 | Québec |
| Émilie Blanche Couture Mercier | 2002-09-30 | Charlesbourg |
| Charles Émile Mercier | 2002-10-31 | St-Lazare |

Responsable : Isabelle Mercier Dufour

St. Louis said the experience was even better as he could share it with family and friends.

"It was also very humbling and heartwarming at the same time to look out and see so many family members and people that had come just to see me," said St. Louis.

St. Louis has been helping out at several churches on the Seacoast, including the Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish in Hampton, and in Chicago. Starting next Wednesday he will be assigned as an associate pastor at St. Michael Parish in Exeter.

"I'm very excited because the pastor (the Rev. Marc Drouin), is a friend of mine," said St. Louis. "In a lot of ways things will be familiar to me. I think it will make the transition a bit smoother."

Marcia St. Louis of Tilton, Scott's mother, said she is very proud of her son and always knew that he had a special plan for this life, ever since her son was in the sixth grade.

"I just really feel he has been led this way by God and he's following the lead," said Marcia St. Louis. "He's been blessed with a lot of

gifts that will help him. He's so compassionate and caring. He's really shown me how strong his vocation is."

The recently ordained priest also has a sister, Paula St. Louis-Shute, who lives in Mount Prospect, Ill., with her husband, Tom, and son, Ryan.

THOUGHTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

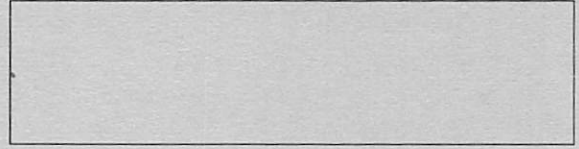
Why would you not include on your shopping list a copy of *Mercier depuis des siècles* or the biography of Honoré Mercier, for relatives or someone you care for? Their reading pleasure will last well beyond the holiday season, and you will contribute to radiate the name of Mercier. Those two books are in French only. They can be obtained from the association at a low price.

Why not enrol a friend or relative into the association. There is an English version of our quarterly bulletin and the pleasure will spread throughout the year.

These gifts are original and will be appreciated.

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