

# Saturday, October 18 at Alençon

## Vigil of the Beatification

On the occasion of the beatification of Louis and Zélie Martin, a full day of programs and prayer is scheduled for October 18, 2008, in Alençon, the city where the Martin couple lived. To facilitate participation, buses will depart from Lisieux on that date.

### From 2:00 p.m.:

Activities at various locations in the city will allow people to go freely from one place to another. Exposition at the "**Halles aux Toiles**" about the "crafts" of Louis and Zélie Martin (in collaboration with the museum and the archives)—Watchmaking and Lacemaking).

- Another Exposition **of items that belonged to the Martins**, including the "marriage medallion," a souvenir the priest blessed at the moment they exchanged their vows.
- Reception at **Notre Dame Church**<sup>1</sup> with a **DVD** about the Martin couple. Presentation of the **statue of Louis and Zélie** by the artist (Fabienne Bayi).
- Special opening, while renovations are being completed, of the **chapel of the birth home** for this afternoon, with a spiritual program.<sup>2</sup>
- Visit to the "**Pavillon**" of Louis Martin.<sup>3</sup>
- Reception at the **Poor Clares Monastery**.<sup>4</sup>
- **4:15: Lecture about the Martin Family** by Monseigneur Jean-Claude Boulanger, bishop of Séez, at the **Church of St. Pierre de Montsort**.
- **6:00: Opening Ceremony** for the Beatification Celebrations. **Cardinal Saraiva Martins** presides at **Mass at Notre Dame Church**. An aperitif served afterward.
- **9:00: "For the Love of God,"** a presentation based on the letters of **Zélie Martin**, by young people and families of the diocese, at **Notre Dame Church**. It will end with prayers led by young people.

### October 19th: Beatification at Lisieux: Mass at 10:00 a.m.

(Buses will be organized to leave from the Séez Diocese).

### October 20th: Masses of the Blesseds, Bishop Jean-Claude Boulanger presiding.

- 6:30 Cathedral of Séez.
- 8:30 Notre Dame of Alençon
- Diocese of Séez

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<sup>1</sup> Louis and Zélie were married here, and Thérèse was baptized here on January 4, 1873.

<sup>2</sup> This was Zélie's family home in Rue Saint-Blaise; she and Louis moved back there in 1871.

<sup>3</sup> In this walled garden with a hexagonal tower Louis used to meditate and relax; he took the girls there for outings.

<sup>4</sup> Zélie belonged to the Third Order of St. Francis here; she confided in the nuns and asked their prayers. On October 7, 1886, Thérèse's sister Léonie entered this monastery unexpectedly, but on December 1, 1886, she returned home].