00. Chronology of the life of Claude-François Poullart des Places

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Chronology of the life of Claude-François Poullart des Places

1679 February 26: Birth of Claude-François Poullart des Places at Rennes. Baptised the following day in the Church of Saint Pierre of the Abbey of St. George.

1690 October: Entered the Jesuit school of Saint-Thomas in Rennes at the age of 11.

1691 With Louis-Marie Grignon de Monfort, he was initiated into a concern and care for the poor by Fr. Bellier, a “Priest of the Holy Spirit”.

1694 October: student at the Jesuit school in Caen.

1695 October: return to the Jesuit school at Rennes for philosophy.

1698 August 25: “Grand Acte” at Rennes
- Journey to Versailles. Portrait by Jouvenet.
- Orientation retreat
- Desire to be a priest via the Sorbonne, but did not last

October 2: sent by his father to Nantes to study law.

1700 Return to Rennes. Year spent helping his father with his business. Seems attracted to be a magistrate.

1701 A year of decision for the future. Disinclined to be a councillor in Parliament. His great retreat of conversion and choice at Rennes. October: enters the Jesuit College of Louis-le-Grand for first year of theology. December: affiliated to the Assembly of Friends (AA)

1703 March: at the start of Lent, he moves out of Louis-le-Grand to share the life of the “poor scholars” in the rue des Cordiers. May 27: Feast of Pentecost: foundation of the community of the Holy Spirit in the chapel of Notre Dame de Bonne Deliverance in the church of St. Etienne des Grès in Paris. October 3: third year of theology. The numbers grow so much in the community that it delays his theological studies.


1705 Joined by his first collaborators: Michel-Vincent Barbier, etc.

1706 December 18: ordained sub-deacon.


1709 October 2: Death of Claude-François during a plague in Paris after a hard winter and resultant famine. Buried in a common grave for poor clerics at Saint-Etienne-du-Mont.