



Rev. Charles Chiniquy, D.D. (1809-1899)

**French-Canadian Reformer & First Christian Catholic Church
Rector & Overseer.**

- **1809** Born in Kamouraska, Quebec, son of Charles Chiniquy, Public Notary, and Reine Perreault.
- **1820** Private course in St. Thomas of Kamouraska, Quebec, under Tutor Allen Jones.
- **1822** Classical studies at the Petit Séminaire in Nicolet, Quebec.
- **1829** Theological studies at the Grand Séminaire in Quebec City.
- **1832** Ordained deacon in Quebec on May 18, by R.C. Bishop J. Signay.
- **1833** Ordained priest in Quebec, on Sept. 29 (+Signay) for Rivière-Boyer Parish.
- **1834** Curate of St. Roch Parish, Quebec City.
- **1838** Vicar of the Parish of Beauport. Founded the Temperance Society (1839).
- **1842** Vicar of the Parish of Kamouraska, Quebec.
- **1844** Publication of the Temperance Society Manual.
- **1847** Appointed Temperance Preacher in the Diocese of Montreal. Bishop Ignace Bourget gave him the title of Temperance Apostle in 1850.
- **1852** Transferred to Chicago Diocese, U.S.A., to work as a missionary among French-Canadians of Kankakee Co., Illinois. Founded the Parish of St. Anne.
- **1858** Opposed by R.C. authorities and clergy for his biblical and community based teaching, he was excommunicated by the Diocese of Chicago. At a general meeting held April 11, a decision was made by the people to turn St. Anne Parish into a Community Church, and to appoint Father Chiniquy as Pastor.
- **1859** A church society was organized under the name **Christian Catholic Church**. It was filed for records in Kankakee Co. District Court on Sept. 13. Rev. Chiniquy was elected President of the Board of Directors.
- **1861** Intercommunion agreements were concluded between Christian Catholics and other Christian bodies. The first of these agreements was with the Presbyterian Communion.
- **1862** Extension of the ministry to Michigan French-Canadian colony of Muskegon. The Rev. R. Desroches was appointed pastor.
- **1870** Publication of his book *The Church of Rome*.



- **1875** Took charge of the Franch-Canadian Missionary Society (FCMS) in Montreal. The missionary work was supported by the Presbyterian Church. Preached against the New Roman Dogma of the Infallibility of the Pope, defined by the Vatican Council of 1870-1871. Published the book *The Priest, the Woman & the Confessional*.



- **1880** Was joined, in Montreal, by two former teachers: **René Vilatte** (*left*) and **Jean-Baptiste Gauthier** (*right*). They served the Church under the auspices of the FCMS in Quebec (Saint Hyacinthe...) and were sent to the U.S.A., to minister to French-speaking colonists of Illinois and Wisconsin). Were trained in theology at McGill University.
- **1884** Preached in Wisconsin and supported R. Vilatte's ministry among the French-Canadians and the Belgians of Door Peninsula. Referred him to French reformer



Hyacinthe Loyson (*right*), who like him was opposing the New Roman dogma of the Infallibility of the Pope, and had served as Christian Catholic rector in Geneva, under Swiss Bishop Edward Herzog. The Swiss Church was and still is a member of the Old Catholic Movement.

- **1885** Publication, in Chicago, of his book : *Fifty Years in the Church of Rome*.
- **1893** Received Doctor of Divinity (D.D.) degree from the Presbyterian College at McGill University, Montreal
- **1899** Died in Montreal, January 16, and was buried in Mount-Royal Cemetery. The same year was published his last book: *Forty Years in the Church of Christ*.



May he rest in peace!