

Venerable Marie-Clément Staub, the Assumptionist who founded the Sisters of Joan of Arc, was recently featured in Columbia Magazine.

Catholic Man of the Month

Venerable Marie-Clément Staub (1876-1936)

EVEN AS A BOY, Joseph Staub wanted to be holy. He prayed daily, served at Mass often, and once went so far as to drink from the church's baptismal font — reasoning, with a child's logic, that holy water would be even more effective if consumed. His piety, enthusiasm and sense of purpose characterized the rest of his life.

Born in the Alsace region of France in 1876, Staub left home at 14 to study at seminary. He entered the Assumptionist order in 1896, taking the name Marie-Clément, and was later ordained at the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome in 1904.

When asked to go to America a few years later, Father Staub was initially reluctant. But in obedience he went, bringing with him a profound love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and affection for Joan of Arc, only recently beatified.

Based in Worcester, Mass., Father Staub led retreats and preached throughout New England and French Canada. He was a passionate and powerful



Archconfraternity of Providence, founded in France.

In 1914, Father Staub began his mission, founding a congregation of sisters under the patronage of the Sacred Heart, with a charism to pray for the clergy. They settled in the United States in Québec in 1921 and grew over the years that followed.

Father Staub addressed the congregation of St. Joan of Arc on May 16, 1936, on the 16th anniversary of St. Joan's canonization, asking, "What does it take to become a saint?" That s

[Columbia Magazine, May 2021](#)