



# Dehonians USA

PRIESTS OF THE SACRED HEART

March 14, 2026

Dear Confreres,

In my office hangs a portrait of Fr. Dehon, which was given to me by Fr. Charles Brown. The portrait shows him seated at his desk, holding a newspaper, his gaze focused and thoughtful, as though looking toward the future. At first glance, he appears to be a scholar absorbed in reflection. Yet when we consider the breadth of his work—founding a congregation and schools, raising funds for overseas missions and various projects, and organizing trade unions and congresses—we cannot help but wonder: *Did this man ever find time to rest?*



Fr. Dehon showed an extraordinary zeal in the service of God. His life reminds us that when the will is offered to God, divine providence supplies the strength. He understood that the Heart of Jesus beats not only within the quiet of our churches, but also in the noise of factories and the bustle of marketplaces. For him, *oblation* was not a passive devotion but a tireless love, one

that remained close to those on the margins.

Remembering his witness today, as we mark the anniversary of his birth, may we ask for a share in his courage—to persevere in service and remain attentive to those in most need.

Happy Birthday, Fr. Dehon!

Fraternally,

Provincial Offices, United States Province | Mailing address: P.O. Box 289, Hales Corners, WI 53130-0289

Street: 7373 S. Lovers Lane Rd, Franklin, WI 53132 | P: 414-425-6910 | F: 414-425-2938 | [www.dehoniansusa.org](http://www.dehoniansusa.org)