



THE FRIEND OF BROTHER ANDRÉ

United to Promote Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal!

Gatherings Activities

New exhibition

Drawn by the Spirit

André Bergeron, Marie-Anastasia, Frère Jérôme

Carillon Recitals: An Enchanted Air

Sundays at 6:30 PM

July 7: Sally Harwood (USA)

July 14: Isaac Wong (Australia)

July 21: Wesley Arai (USA)

August 11: Andrée-Anne Doane and David Doane (Montreal) "Carillon and danse"

Organ Concert in the Basilica on Sundays at 3:30 p.m.

August: the month of Saint Brother André

Sunday, August 4: Special brunch with traditional music

Friday, August 9: Thanksgiving Masses for the birthday of Brother André

Free admission to the Oratory Museum

Sunday August 18: Prayers and music with actress Rita Lafontaine and her guests

Organ concert with Mr. Henri-Franck Beaupérin

Saturday, August 10 at 4 PM in the Basilica. Admission: \$2



Saint Joseph's
ORATORY
of Mount Royal

An Outstanding Network of Benefactors

Among the Grand Associates of Brother André, are benefactors who contribute to the life and development of the shrine in a truly remarkable way. They are members of the Rector's Group. They are collaborators who, because of their exemplary donations, deserve our most heartfelt recognition. Their generosity helps provide many pastoral services to a multitude of faithful and to visitors who might otherwise be all alone. For many of them, the Oratory is the first step or last chance on a human and spiritual level. These generous benefactors make a difference and allow quality services to be maintained and developed. Therefore, Father Claude Grou, the Rector of the Oratory, would like to welcome them and personally acknowledge them. For this reason, in addition to the privileges granted to the Grand Associates, members of the Rector's Group are also invited to celebrate the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker on May 1.

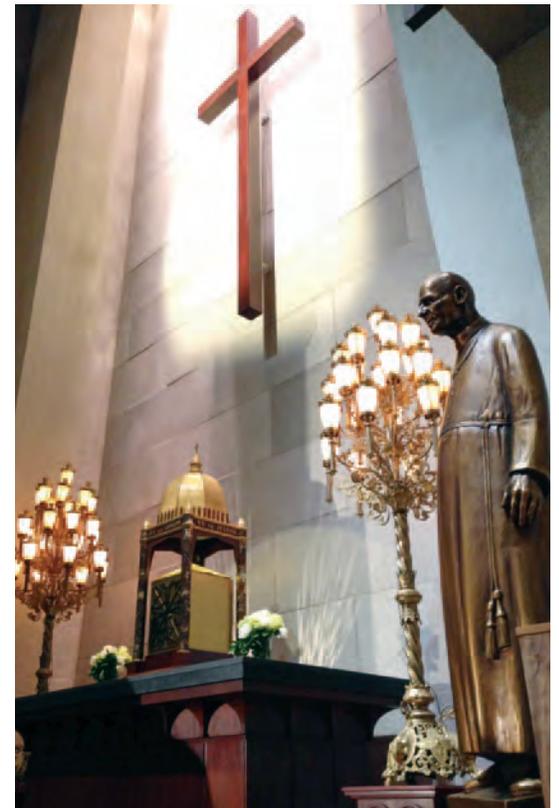
Who can become a member of this Group? Anyone who gives a donation of \$1,000 or more during the year is automatically a member. There are four levels of recognition: The Builders (annual donations of \$1,000 to \$2,499); the Counselors (annual donations of \$2,500 to \$4,999); the Vice-Governors (annual donations of \$5,000 to \$9,999) and the Governors (annual donations of \$10,000 or more). So why not you? If this is something that interests you, call 514-733-8211 and ask for the Office of the Associates of Brother André. It will be our pleasure to tell you about our recognition programs.

Members of the Rectors Group receive a pin after 1 year, 5 years and 10 years of membership.

New members of the Rectors Group receive a certificate attesting their remarkable generosity. Names are entered into a special book which is kept at the foot of the statue of the Virgin in the Memorial Chapel.

Saint Brother André used to say, "We never know how much good is done at the Oratory," and it is difficult even to estimate. What we know for sure is that without our exceptional benefactors, the Oratory's work would not have such an extensive reach!

Father Mario Lachapelle, CSC



Saint André Bessette Chapel blessed on March 7, 2013

Pope Francis and Saint Joseph

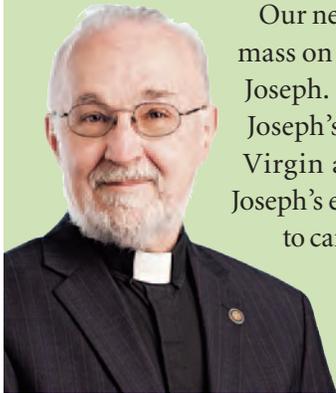
With much joy, we welcome the news that Jorge Mario Bergoglio was chosen to succeed Pope Benedict XVI. Pope Francis' first actions and words showed us that this man was a pastor who wants to remain close to the people and who cares about the poor of the world. He calls upon us all to build, as did Francis of Assisi, Christian communities that undertake to live as poor while serving the poor of the world.

Our new pope celebrated his inaugural mass on March 19, the feast day of Saint Joseph. In his homily, he stressed Saint Joseph's vocation, that of caring for the Virgin and Child. By following Saint Joseph's example, he said, we are learning to care for our neighbor and our world.

He added: "Caring for and protecting require goodness and must be carried out with

kindness. In the Gospels, Saint Joseph appears to be a strong, courageous, hard-working man, but from his soul comes great gentleness, which is not the quality of a weak person, but rather it denotes strength of character and the ability to pay attention, to have compassion, to be truly open to others and to love. We should not be afraid of goodness, of tenderness!"

This way of viewing Saint Joseph's role invites us to continue our efforts that Saint Joseph's Oratory remain, as it was in Saint Brother André's day, a place where thousands of pilgrims and visitors are cared for with, as Pope Francis says, attentiveness, compassion and openness. ■



Maxime Boisvert

FATHER GROU CSC, RECTOR

August, the Month of Brother André

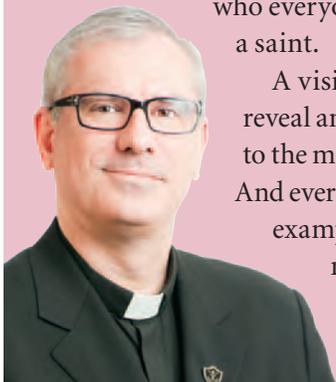
The summer season draws many tourists and visitors, in addition to the regular pilgrims, to Saint Joseph's Oratory. The shrine is very busy at this time of year, as it is during Christmas, the Novena to Saint Joseph and Easter.

Saint Brother André was born in the month of August. We recall that he was born on August 9, 1845, in Mont-Saint-Grégoire. No surprise that those in charge of the shrine have dedicated this month to the one who everyone considers a friend, a brother, a saint.

A visit to the Oratory in August will reveal an abundance of activities relating to the mission and life of the holy brother. And every year brings something new. For example, the new chapel that bears his name, the Saint André Bessette Chapel. A beautiful reliquary containing a few drops of his

blood is on permanent display there. The sanctuary furnishings in this chapel come from the chapel at the former mother house of the Grey Nuns in Montréal. Heritage combined with devotion, what could be better!

August is also the time for glorious concerts featuring the newly restored Beckerath organ. It is a magnificent instrument, admired by all. There is also the accompanied Way of the Cross in the Oratory's wonderful gardens, which Brother André considered to be conducive to conversion. He used to say, "I believe there will be more conversions here than in the Basilica." And we must not forget the museum with its many exhibits; the celebration of the Feast of Saint Brother André, on August 9; the annual pilgrimage to Mont-Saint-Grégoire on the last Sunday in August. So much to do, to see, to discover. And this year, the festivities will begin with a Montérégie Brunch, on August 4! Information will be available online, at www.saint-joseph.org. ■



Maxime Boisvert

FATHER MARIO LACHAPPELLE CSC, DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATES OF BROTHER ANDRÉ

New! The *Notable Benefactors*: To Honour Those Who Have Provided for a Planned Donation to Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal

I am pleased to inform you that we have set up a new recognition program for donors involved in the Planned Giving Program.

You, dear donors, who have made a commitment to make a donation to Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal through your will or by any other form of planned giving (life insurance policy, charitable gift annuity, etc.), you join the "*Notable Benefactors*" group.

This recognition program was created because Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal sincerely wishes to express its thanks and to honour you, during your lifetime, for the donation that will be made in the future, often after death.

Although immediate donations remain very important because they cover the Oratory's current needs, the planned giving program allows Brother André's work to continue.

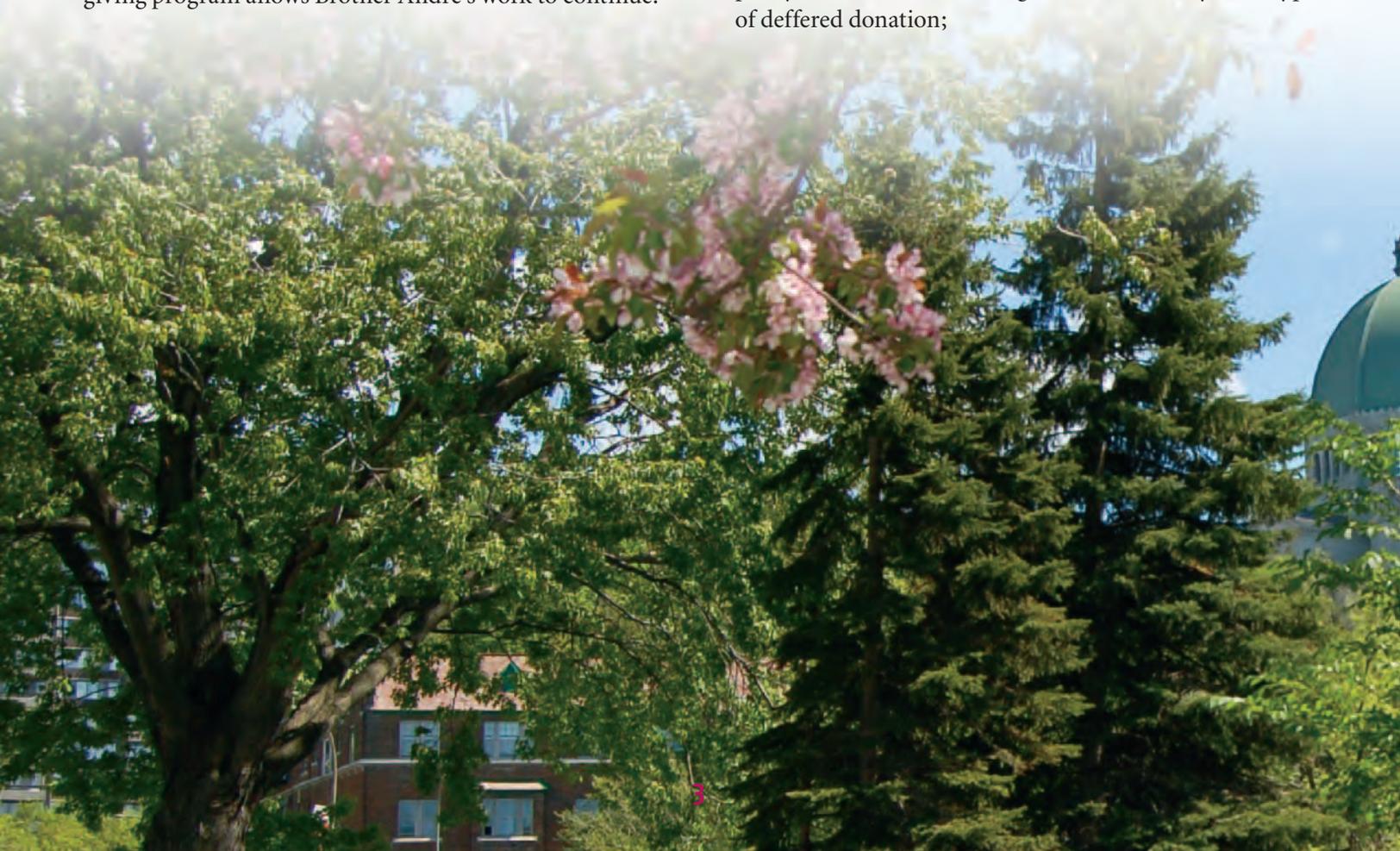
By planning a deferred donation, you are investing in the future of Saint Joseph's Oratory. The *Notable Benefactors* program is a way to show our appreciation in the present for this very generous gesture, that will take place in the future.

As a *Notable Benefactors*, you will receive:

- the Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal calendar
- a subscription to The Friend of Brother André (4 issues/year).
- an invitation for a Eucharistic celebration and a meal on the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker, on May 1.
- an exclusive, silver "Saint Brother André" medallion.

To be eligible, you must:

- have planned a testamentary donation, a life insurance policy donation, a charitable gift donation or any other type of deferred donation;



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- inform me that a donation is planned and provide the document or a photocopy of the document confirming the planned donation to the Oratory;
- agree to have your name on the list of **Notable Benefactors**. If you wish to remain anonymous, please mention it: the Oratory will is committed to rigorously respecting your wishes.

Or

- represent the estate of a person who has made a bequest or another planned donation to Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal. We invite the representatives for the estates of people who have died and have made a bequest or other planned donation to Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal to contact us so we can honour these donors.

Thanks to all our generous donors!

Would you like to learn more about this program? Feel free to contact me. ■



Richard Gingras

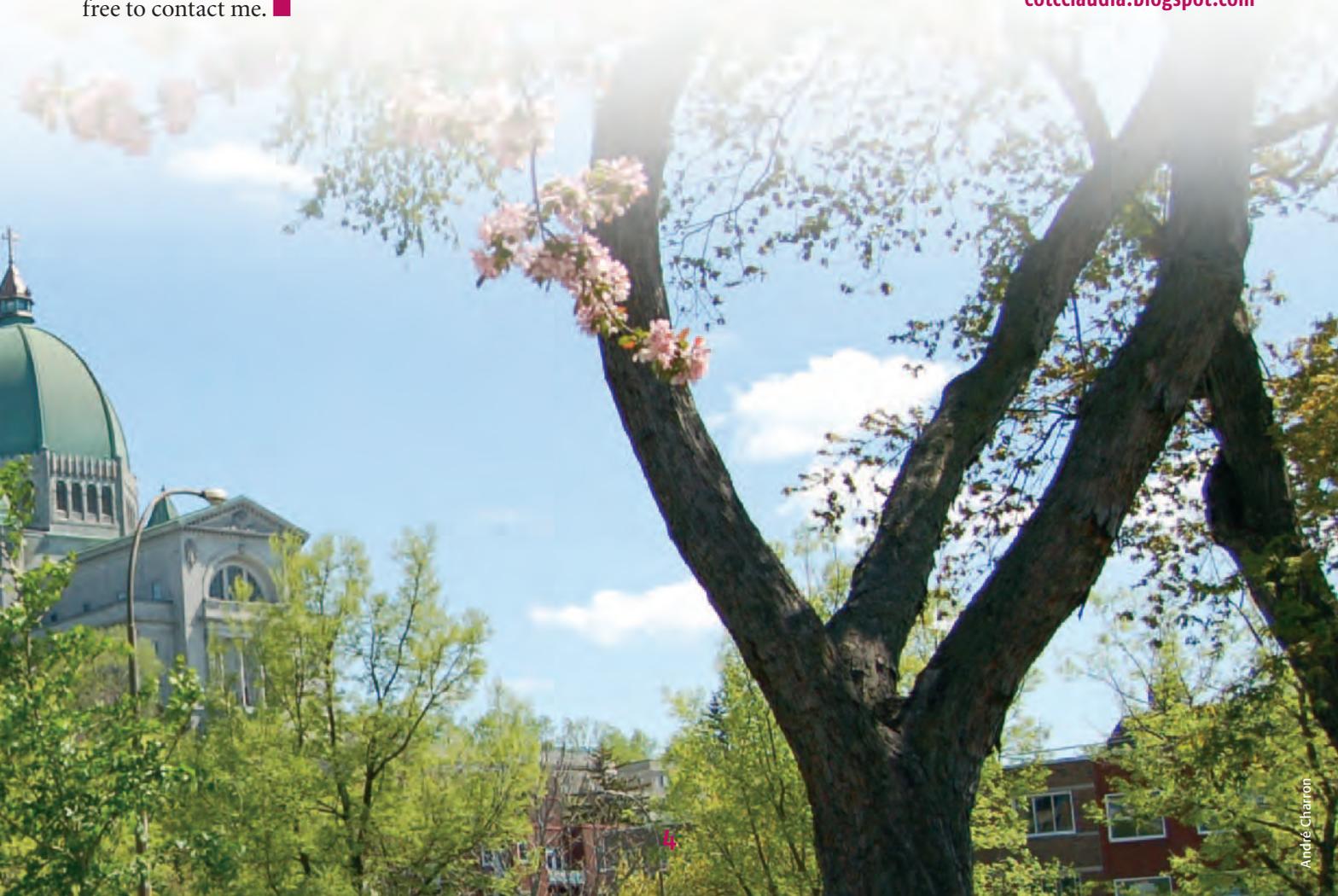
Claudia Côté, B.A., LL.L.

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Director, Planned Giving Program

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Follow me online for other information capsules
on planned giving at:
CotcClaudia.blogspot.com



André Charbon

Recognition Revealed!

I am pleased to introduce Mrs. Hélène Michaud, who is 85 years old, and has become a friend since we first met in July, 2012. With her easy smile and sunny disposition, Mrs. Michaud is a very endearing woman who loves life.

She asked to meet with me after attending our Mass for the Sick. She wanted to share a project she had considered at length: she wanted to affirm her attachment to the Oratory and Saint Brother André by means of a bequest.

After making sure she had not forgotten her children and grand-children who live in France, Mrs. Michaud planned to leave the Oratory money that she has, each year, in a TFSA.

Since this first meeting, we see each other from time to time for a cup of coffee or lunch. Mrs. Michaud always tells me about what she has enjoyed reading lately. At our last meeting, she was happy to give me permission to share her testimony.

In 1956, Mrs. Michaud was very ill. She was hospitalized with tuberculosis for an entire year. She got through this terrible illness because she received very good care. Mrs. Michaud had a positive outlook on the time she spent in the hospital, she told herself she was lucky to have others to care for her.

Originally from France, Mrs. Michaud arrived in Quebec in the early 1950s. She worked as an assistant to a lawyer, Me Jérôme Choquette. She continued to work as his assistant after he became the Minister of Justice. She shared some of her memories from that time, such as a story on Me Choquette and the October Crisis in the January 30, 1971, issue of *The Canadian Magazine* Star Weekly.

Mrs. Michaud battled another se-



rious illness, cancer, for five years. This year her surgeon told her she is cured, completely cancer-free.

I asked her what brought on her attachment to the Oratory. “It happened all of a sudden,” she says, “two years ago.” Of course she had visited the Oratory a few years earlier, but something happened two years ago. “It was strong, I felt well and I had to return.” And she did. Regularly, every week, especially for the Wednesday Mass for the Sick, Mrs. Michaud comes to the Oratory. She credits Saint Joseph for her victory over cancer. She followed all the treatments her doctors prescribed, but she confides

that, deep down, she knows that she was cured because Saint Joseph heard her prayers. “This is why I want to make this donation upon my death, to show my recognition to Brother André,” she confides. “It will be something to help the future of the Oratory when I am no longer here,” she says.

Thank you Mrs. Michaud for this kind recognition of Brother André and for your support! These small gestures really make a difference! ■

Claudia Côté, B.A., LL.L.
Legal advisor

NEWS IN BRIEF

New Exhibition at the Oratory Museum

The exhibition “*Drawn by the Spirit – André Bergeron, Marie-Anastasié, Frère Jérôme,*” to be presented from May 9, 2013 to April 21, 2014, at the Museum of Saint Joseph’s Oratory of Mount Royal, will showcase the artistic creativity of three members of the Congregation of Holy Cross in Quebec. Multidisciplinary artist, Sister Marie-Anastasié (born Laura Tourangeau, 1909-1989), was a painter, engraver, poet, editor, teacher, gallery director and mentor. Frère Jérôme (born Ulric-Aimé Paradis, 1902-1994) who was well-known both as a painter and an art teacher, revolutionized the artistic perception of thousands of Quebecois. Finally, Father André Bergeron, the former curator of the Oratory Museum, a multi-talented artist, is well-known for his lithography, as can be seen in the selection of works presented in the exhibition. Thanks to loans from religious congregations and private collectors, the public will discover three true artists whose works are not only rooted in the modern sensibility but also their commitment to the social and spiritual milieu of their times.

Chantal Turbide

Curator of the Oratory Museum



Read on Social Networks



Today (March 7) is my 65th birthday and I am so pleased that the inauguration of the Saint André Bessette Chapel in the Basilica will take place at 4:00 PM today. I have only recently read the story of Brother André’s life and have been deeply moved. I will be returning to the church after an absence of 12 years.

Angela Treadway

Frère André, I have known of you since I was a little girl. Each summer when visiting relative in Montreal, I would visit St. Joseph’s. I felt so moved and connected to your life’s story that I even took your name for my confirmation. I humbly ask you to pray to St. Joseph for me and my health. I also ask you and St. Joseph to help my husband & I adopt a beautiful newborn baby.

Michele Sergio

Today I gave a total stranger my Saint Brother André wallet card with his medal and prayers in back, to a man who had bad luck, resulting in left leg amputated and was waiting at

hospital, to have his right leg, also removed, for bad circulation. I told him, to read the prayers 3 times a day, and ask Brother André for help, and to have faith, no matter the outcome in next few days. My card will be replaced, but I felt good to spread Saint Brother André healing card, to someone who needed comfort and blessings.

**Bear Minator
France Poirier**



I am anxious to go back and visit. My wife and I loved the Oratory.

Richard Armendariz

I remember playing the organ in the Oratory while I was a student at the French Summer School of McGill. I think it was in 1970, and the instrument was relatively new ... super impressive.

Jeffrey Crane



St. Joseph’s Oratory is a must see for all those visiting Montreal. It is a little off the beaten path but well worth the train/bus ride. (...) Regardless if you are or not a catholic this is a must see if not for its beauty and size than for its Historic status.

Harry M. (New York City)

Beautiful construction, great decorating... the place is amazing. And specially the bells jingling as songs... unique!

Isabella F. (Brazilia, DF)

The Oratory is absolutely stunning. If you’re lucky you’ll be there when the organ is being played. Totally breath taking. Amazing view of the city and a really beautiful church.

Mike S. (Ottawa)



Visit our section
“Supporting the Oratory”
to learn more about
all our programs:
www.saint-joseph.org

