

SPRING 2017

## Gathering Opportunities

### Concerts on the Beckerath Organ

Basilica, Sunday, 15:30  
*Nouvellegeneration.orgue*  
until February 26, 2017  
*Montréal Musique Sacrée*  
from March 5 to April 30

### Novena to Saint Joseph March 10 to 18, 2017

*A Heritage to Celebrate*  
Preaching at 14:00 and 19:30 by  
Emmanuel Durand, OP (March 10 to 12)  
Daniel Cadrin, OP (March 13 to 15)  
André Descôteaux, OP (March 16 to 18)

**Bilingual Masses:**  
March 14 and 16 at 19:30

**English Mass:** March 12 at 11:15

### Feast of Saint Joseph March 19, 2017

#### Solemn Masses

10:00 (bilingual) Most Rev. Luc Cyr,  
Archbishop of Sherbrooke

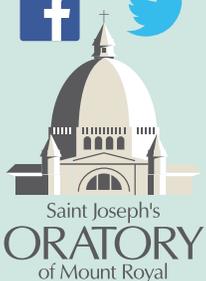
14:30 Most Rev. Claude Hamelin,  
Auxiliary Bishop of Saint-Jean-Longueuil

19:30 Most Rev. Christian Lépine,  
Archbishop of Montreal

**English Masses in the Crypt Church**  
12:30 and 20:00

**Banquet for the Grand Associates  
of Brother André**  
In Joseph Olivier Pichette Hall  
(by invitation)

[www.saint-joseph.org](http://www.saint-joseph.org)



# THE FRIEND OF BROTHER ANDRÉ

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

## A Newly Revamped Site... And A Major First!

By Elaine Mayrand

For a few weeks, Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal has welcomed Internet users in a brand new Web environment. This new version of **saint-joseph.org** which includes our very first **online gift shop** also provides more space for photos and video, as well as an improved browsing experience.

Special celebrations, Mass of the day, events, news or blogs – the highlights of sanctuary life are prominent, well visible through a newsfeed and slide show of images on the site's homepage, while a dynamic browsing menu on the left side of the screen facilitates the search.

Site content has been divided into five major themes: **spirituality, nature, culture, place of welcome and heritage**. This approach enables to better showcase the rich nature of the Oratory's environment, its vibrant culture and

heritage – all undeniable attractions which, together, create an exceptional backdrop for the Oratory's welcome mission and favors the expression of spirituality.

### A user-friendly site on all platforms

Reflecting an increasingly widespread trend, analysis of visits on our site tells us that about half of the visitors view it from a smartphone or a digital tablet. The adaptive design of the new site now allows us to offer everyone an enjoyable navigation experience.

We wanted to create a Web space that would be compatible with future applications for added value and an improved experience for those visiting the Oratory, whether on site or from a distance. Now, that will be possible.

*Continued on page 6 ►*



Photo : Samuel Martin

# A Heritage to Celebrate

As Montreal celebrates its 375th anniversary, Saint Joseph's Oratory has opted to participate in our city's historical initiative by honouring the invaluable heritage left to us by Brother André.

## With joy and thanksgiving

Celebrating Brother André's heritage represents, without a doubt, with joy and thanksgiving the blessings passed on from generation to generation. More than anything, celebrating this heritage is a call to keep it alive and thriving, both today and in the future. Although Brother André left us on January 6, 1937, his story did not come to an end. No, rather the heritage I am referring to has been carried forward by thousands of men and women whose participation has made Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal what it is today.

## In the name of their trust in Saint Joseph

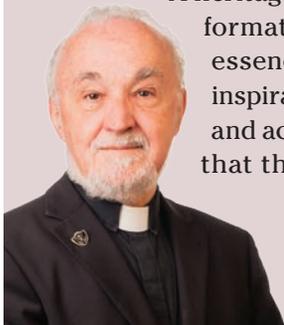
Thus continues the mission of a man who gathered about him a great number of persons, all of whom shared his faith and enthusiasm and worked together in the name of their trust in Saint Joseph. Some of the well-known friends who were with Brother André from the beginning remain etched in our memory: Joseph-Olivier Pichette and Captain Raoul Gauthier.

And let's not forget his Holy Cross confreres and companions who were at his side from the start: Brother Abundius Piché, cabinet maker who built the small chapel in 1904; Father Georges-Auguste Dion, provincial superior; and Father Adolphe Clément, the first priest to work with Brother André on the mountain.

For more than a hundred years, the heritage has been growing and continues to do so today, thanks to the many men and women who attend to the joys and sufferings of the pilgrims and entrust them to the Lord through the intercession of Saint Joseph.

## Helping our treasure to grow

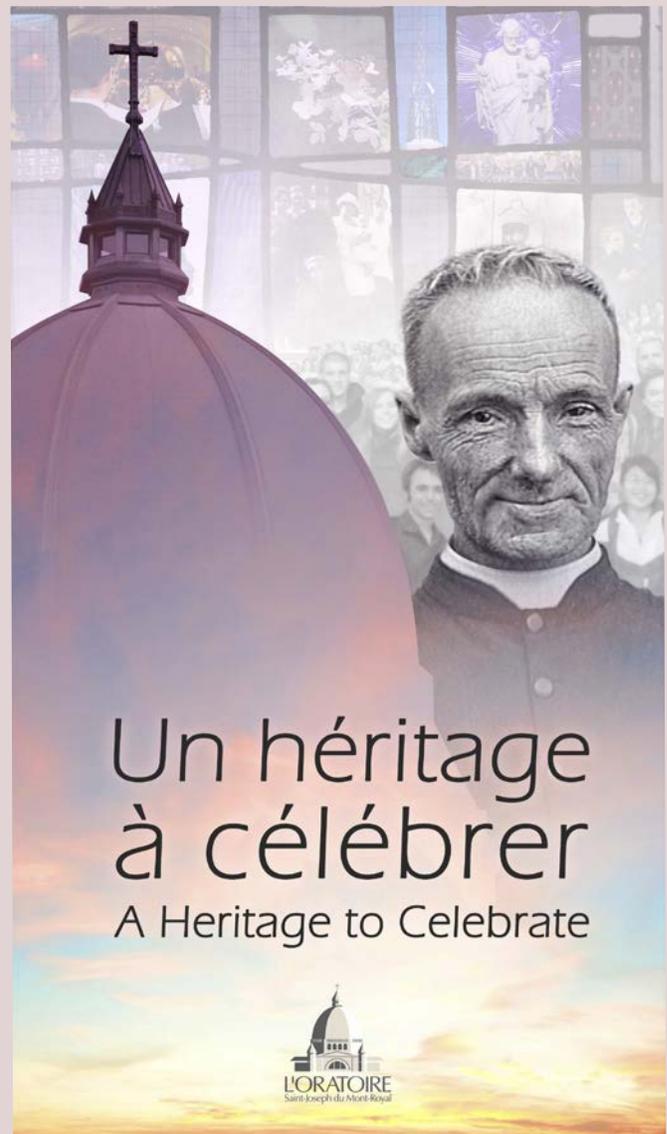
A heritage is a reality that undergoes transformation while preserving its deepest essence. This requires an effort to take inspiration from the past, make it relevant and accessible in the present, and ensure that the treasure continues to flourish.



**Father Claude Grou CSC**  
Rector

Celebrating Saint Brother André's heritage is about listening closely to better hear and understand the essence of his message, which is found in the words he spoke, and in particular in his attitude, which made him a friend, a brother, a saint.

Thus, we celebrate his faith, his prayer, his devotion to Saint Joseph, his welcome of aching hearts and his determination to carry out his mission, even in the face of adversity. We are all invited to recognize this heritage with joy and find avenues to help it thrive.



# Saint Joseph and the Development Project

Soon, in the coming months, work will begin on the next phase of the major renovation and development project of Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal.

Faced with the challenges that come with a project of this scope, I think it is important to remind you of Saint Teresa of Avila and the attitude she adopted in a similar situation. She decided to have faith.

As she set out to build a monastery dedicated to Saint Joseph, she wrote: *"One day, following communion, the Saviour commanded me to work with all my might to establish this monastery... He wanted it to be dedicated to Saint Joseph... Knowing that I had no choice in the matter, but not knowing how to proceed, nor how I would pay the workers, Saint Joseph... helped me to understand that there would be no shortage of money. I obeyed, even though I didn't have a penny... And thus, the monastery was erected and dedicated to our most glorious Father Saint Joseph in 1562..."*

On May 1, 2005, driven by the same kind of faith, we launched the very first phase of our development project. On this occasion, we installed a statue of Saint Joseph the Worker near the Sainte-Croix pavilion, and asked Saint Joseph to preside over the work with care.

## Through the kindheartedness of our saint patron

Father Louis Trempe marked this solemn occasion by writing a prayer which we continue make our own as the development project moves forward. With your support and under the caring and watchful eye of Saint Joseph, may this project enhance our ability to welcome pilgrims and elicit greater devotion to Saint Joseph. Just like Saint Teresa of Avila, we would lead people toward devotion to this glorious Saint, for we know from experience his standing before God, since he is especially concerned for the spiritual progress of those who put their trust in him.

**Saint Joseph, may this project be yours.**

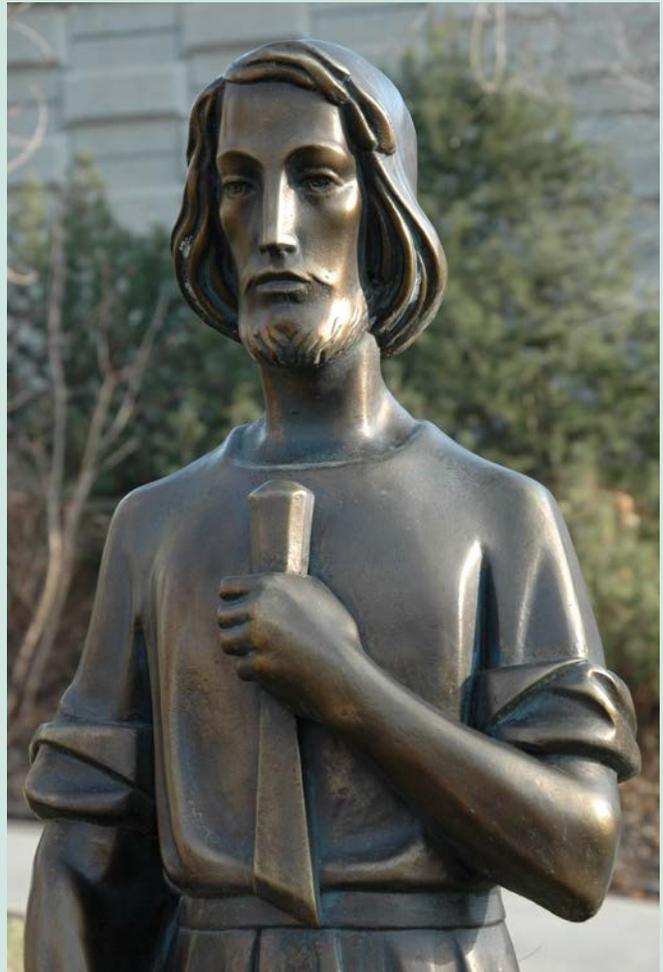
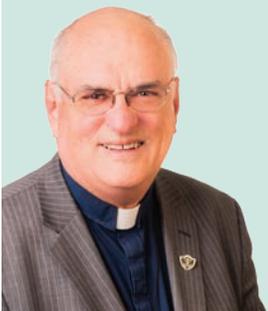


Photo: Nathalie Dumas

*"Good Saint Joseph, support the efforts of each one, so that this project may be brought to completion. May it contribute to an easier reception of pilgrims and may it promulgate a greater devotion to you.*

*We acknowledge the confidence we have that the mission of the Oratory will carry on in the spirit of its founder, Saint Brother André, and will serve the needs of the pilgrims who come from far and wide to pray."*



**Father Jean-Pierre Aumont, CSC**  
Codirector of the Associates

### A successful Christmas concert

The Christmas concert “Chantons Noël” took place at Saint Joseph’s Oratory on December 2 and 3, as singers Marie Michèle Desrosiers, Marie-Ève Janvier, Marie-Élaine Thibert and Gino Quilico took to the stage with the Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal under the direction of Andrew Gray.

The concert featured songs of peace and hope performed by soloists and small ensembles. “Singing in the Basilica of Saint Joseph’s Oratory is spectacular and inspiring,” said the artists.

Saturday’s concert ended on a festive note, as the winners of the Facebook contest launched last fall joined the artists on stage.

The four talented young people: Laurence Boily, Vera Sarrah Cyr, Kelly Ann Forget and Richard Grenier gave a brilliant performance of a popular

song with the guest performers. Saint Joseph’s Oratory organized the annual

event with support from numerous partners and sponsors. (N. Dumas)



Photo: Samuel Martin

The quartet did a wonderful job delivering the true beauty of Christmas: Marie-Ève Janvier, Marie Michèle Desrosiers, Marie-Élaine Thibert and Gino Quilico accompanied by the Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal.

### Read about 60 years of musical passion!

The Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal Boys Choir wrapped up its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary festivities on December 3, 2016, with the launch of a book on the life and history of the renowned music institution.

Executive Director of the Maîtrise Ms. Johanne Chantal called on author Rosette Pipar to lead the project.

Ms. Pipar collected the stories of former members of the Petits Chanteurs, who shared anecdotes and highlights of their time on stage, on tour and at school with renowned teachers.

Founded in 1956 by Father Léandre Brault, the Maîtrise des Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal has always aimed for excellence. The Petits

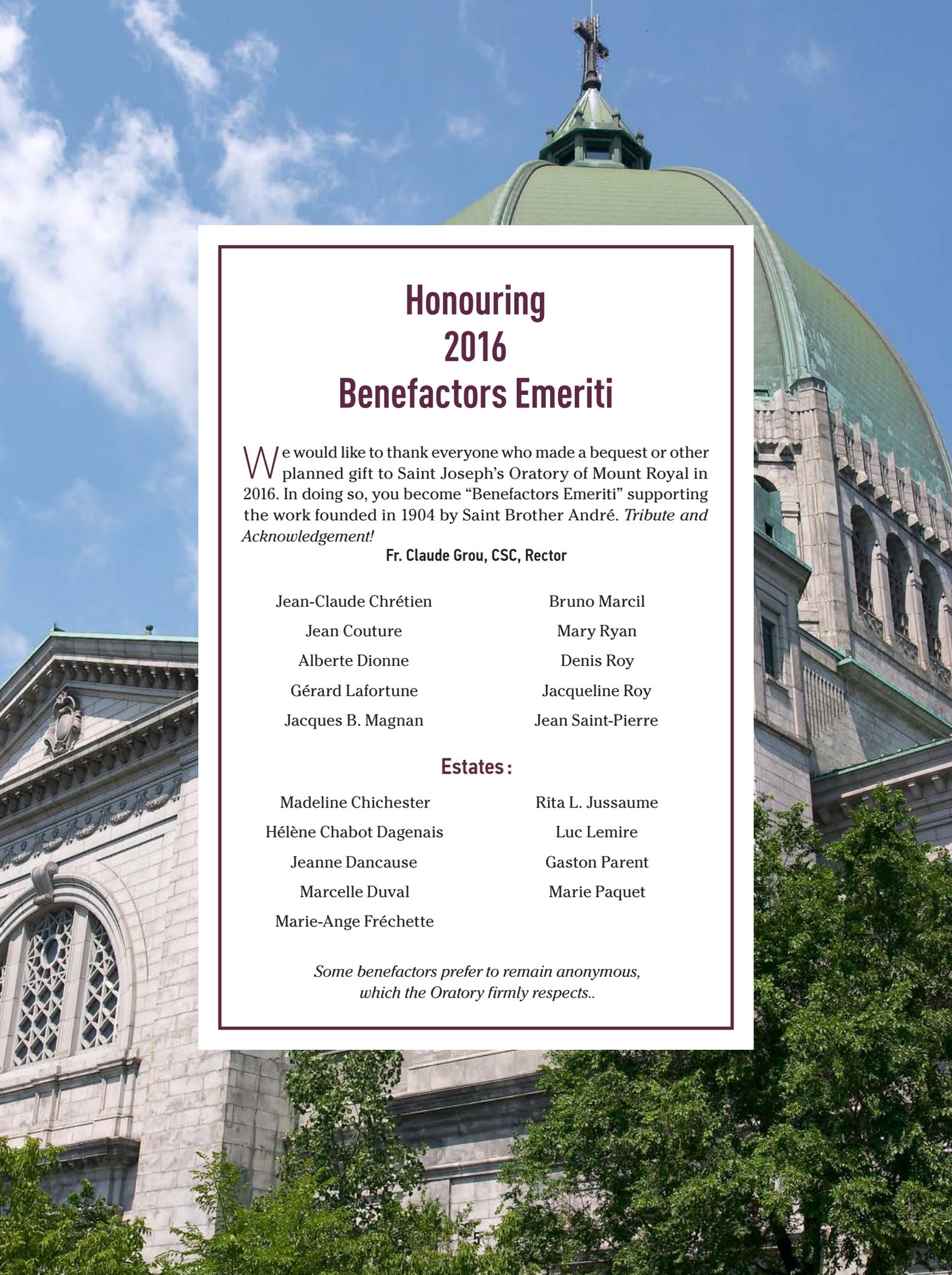
Chanteurs have left an impressive trail – and musical roadmap! – in their wake.

Prefaced by Grégory Charles, this generously illustrated book featuring material from the archives is published by Marcel Broquet. The album is a tribute to the success of the choir of Saint Joseph’s Oratory of Mount Royal. (N. Dumas)



Photo: Luc Lavergne

A number of former members of the Petits Chanteurs were present at the launch of the souvenir album. In the centre is Ms. Johanne Chantal, Executive Director of the Maîtrise, Mr. Gilbert Patenaude, Musical Director from 1978 to 2016, and Mr. Andrew Gray, current Musical and Artistic Director.



## Honouring 2016 Benefactors Emeriti

We would like to thank everyone who made a bequest or other planned gift to Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal in 2016. In doing so, you become "Benefactors Emeriti" supporting the work founded in 1904 by Saint Brother André. *Tribute and Acknowledgement!*

Fr. Claude Grou, CSC, Rector

Jean-Claude Chrétien

Jean Couture

Alberte Dionne

Gérard Lafortune

Jacques B. Magnan

Bruno Marcil

Mary Ryan

Denis Roy

Jacqueline Roy

Jean Saint-Pierre

### Estates:

Madeline Chichester

Hélène Chabot Dagenais

Jeanne Dancause

Marcelle Duval

Marie-Ange Fréchette

Rita L. Jussaume

Luc Lemire

Gaston Parent

Marie Paquet

*Some benefactors prefer to remain anonymous,  
which the Oratory firmly respects..*

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## A Newly Revamped Site... And A Major First!

### Overview

We invite you to take your own virtual tour of our new website which is centred around five main themes of life at the Oratory:



- In the **Spirituality** section, you will discover writings and prayers devoted to Saint Joseph; the life and faith-based work of Brother André and his extraordinary and far-reaching impact; a complete list of celebrations, liturgical events and

spiritual enrichment activities offered to pilgrims, and daily Mass presented on Salt and Light Television's web stream. Our regulars will be pleased to find a form that allows them to submit a petition prayer online to Saint Joseph and to Saint Brother André.



- The **Nature** section highlights the shrine's rich natural setting, one of the city's best-kept secrets! The magnificent Garden of the Way of the Cross, an architectural jewel designed by Frederick G. Todd, features sculptures by Montreal artist Louis Parent; the Père-Louis-Trempe Nature Reserve, and more.

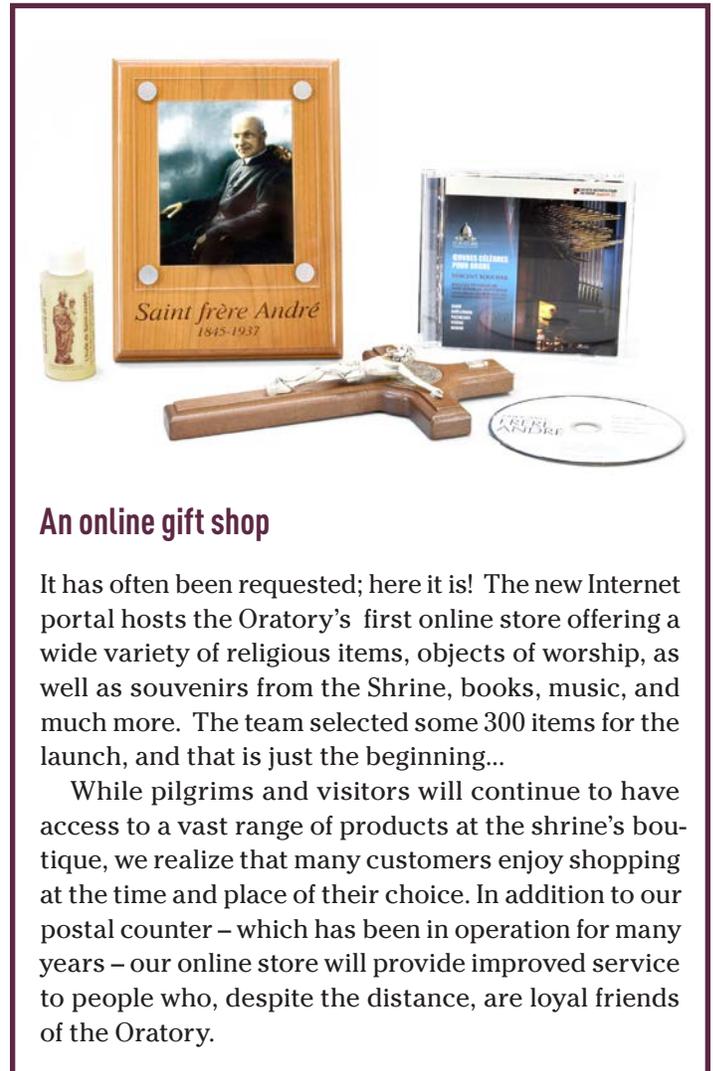


- With its concerts, exhibitions and publications, the Oratory is truly a centre for creation and cultural sharing. The **Culture** section presents the sanctuary's musical life, museum and magazine.

• **Place of Welcome:** this is at the heart of Brother André's heritage and the sanctuary's mission. This section presents the numerous dimensions of the Oratory's welcoming services, as well as all the information needed to plan a visit or pilgrimage, or organize an event.

- The shrine's history, architecture, great organs, carillon and archives centre are presented in the Heritage section.
- Donations to the Oratory allow this master-work of Saint Brother André to evolve timelessly, and to remain a sanctuary for new generations and their needs. Online donations are accepted on the Oratory website, a preferred method of several of our donors.

Visit our site to stay abreast of the progress of our renovation and development project set to launch in the coming months.



### An online gift shop

It has often been requested; here it is! The new Internet portal hosts the Oratory's first online store offering a wide variety of religious items, objects of worship, as well as souvenirs from the Shrine, books, music, and much more. The team selected some 300 items for the launch, and that is just the beginning...

While pilgrims and visitors will continue to have access to a vast range of products at the shrine's boutique, we realize that many customers enjoy shopping at the time and place of their choice. In addition to our postal counter – which has been in operation for many years – our online store will provide improved service to people who, despite the distance, are loyal friends of the Oratory.

By its very nature, this new site will remain a work in progress. You can expect regular updates and additional material, for a "lively" and dynamic virtual experience.

[www.saint-joseph.org](http://www.saint-joseph.org)



Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount-Royal, 3800 Queen Mary Road Montréal QC H3V 1H6 • Telephone: 514 733-8211