



FALL 2017

Gathering Opportunities

Sunday Concerts

15:30, in the Basilica

Sunshine and Music

19:30 on the terrace

Wednesdays, September 6, 13 and 20

The Journées de la culture

Nuts for the Organ

Fun workshop for kids (6 to 12)

with Vincent Boucher

Basilica's organ loft

Saturday, September 30, 14:00 to 15:00

Reservations at www.ciocm.org

The Guido Nincheri stained-glass windows

Conference (in French) with the participation of the artist's grandson.

The Oratory Museum

Sunday, October 1, 14:00

(free admission all day)

Annual Gathering of the Associates of Brother André

Sundays, October 1, 8, 15, 22

(by invitation)

Remembrance Mass

In memory of our dearly departed

Thursday, November 2

Exhibits

at the Oratory Museum

Saint Joseph Likes Montreal

A World in a Crèche

...

www.saint-joseph.org



Saint Joseph's
ORATORY
of Mount Royal

THE FRIEND OF BROTHER ANDRÉ

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

Tourisme Montréal honours the Rector of the Oratory

The 2017 *Grand Ulysse de Montréal* prize was awarded to Father Claude Grou, CSC, Rector of Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal, for his involvement in the tourism industry and in particular for his contribution to the development of religious tourism.

This recognition was presented to him on May 15 at the annual Ulysse Awards gala, organized by Tourisme Montréal, which

recognizes Montréal's bold and innovative tourism organizations.

Mr. Raymond Bachand, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Tourisme Montréal, and Mr. Yves Lalumière, President and Chief Executive Officer, presented the award to Father Grou.

Honouring the winner, whom he describes as a builder, Raymond Bachand recalled his dedication culminating in the canonization of Brother André and praised the challenges that Father Grou overcame in implementing the major development project: "an ambitious project that will change the face of the Oratory by making it even more welcoming, more accessible, and bring an exceptional point of view over Montréal (through access to the dome)."

After thanking the work of his team, Father Grou referred to the theme of the 375th anniversary of Montréal. "Building a bridge between the tourist world and the religious quest is fundamental," he said. "It is at the heart of what we are trying to do together."

Congratulations to Father Claude Grou for this prestigious award!



Photo: Tourisme Montréal

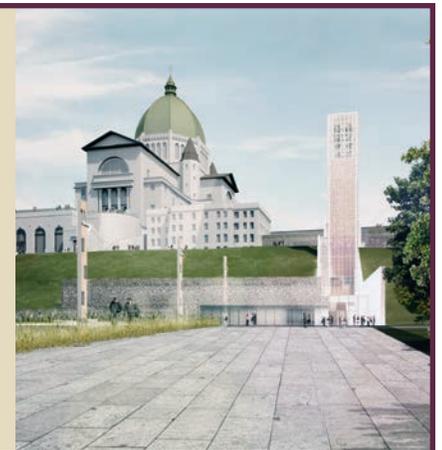
Father Claude Grou, CSC, receives a prize from the representatives of Tourisme Montréal, Mr. Raymond Bachand, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Mr. Yves Lalumière, President and Chief Executive Officer.

Feature: major development project

In this issue of THE FRIEND, you will find a special feature dedicated to the major development project that will begin in the fall of 2017.

At a glance, discover the highlights of the project as well as the perspectives of the future welcome centre and the redesigned outdoor spaces.

A LEED © project, respectful towards the environment, which prioritizes the accessibility and the quality of the experience for the pilgrims and visitors of the Oratory.





1 Reconfiguration of the site's landscaping and outdoor facilities



2 Front of the welcome centre



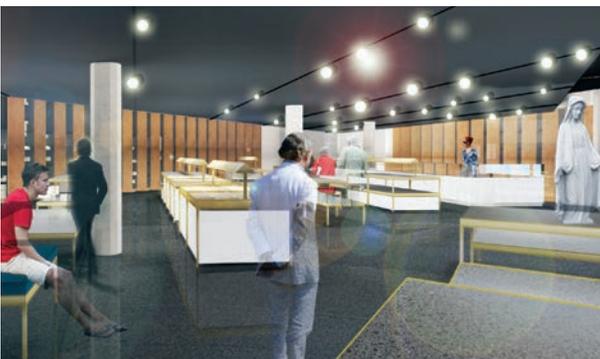
3 Holy Family Plaza



14 Atrium and passage to the Votive Chapel



13 Ascent to the Votive Chapel and Basilica



12 Boutique



11 Atrium between cafeteria and boutique



10 Ascent under the carillon

2017 -

More accessible, and

Next phase of work: construction of a new welcome centre, reconfiguration of the site's landscaping and outdoor facilities, creation of a large pedestrian plaza, restoration and enhancement of the carillon – a project which prioritizes the preservation of heritage buildings, the improvement of visitor experience and the sustainable development of the site.

New welcome centre (fig. 1, 7-14)

- Building harmoniously integrated with the topography of Mount Royal, integrating materials from the site or inspired by the mountain as well as green roofs - the project aims at LEED © Silver certification
- Luminous interior offering spectacular views all along the ascent to the Crypt and the Basilica

DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OF SAINT JOSEPH'S ORATORY OF MOUNT ROYAL



4 Holy Family Plaza and carillon



5 Carillon enhancement

- 2019

even more welcoming

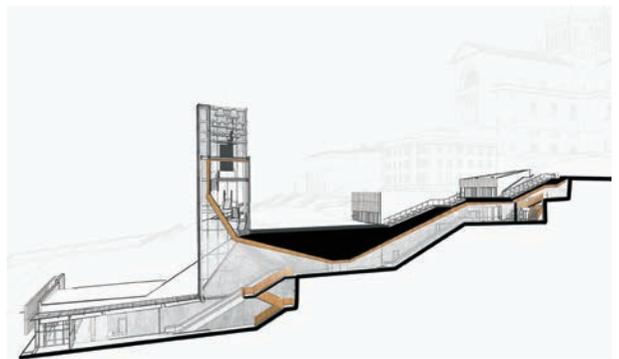
- Spacious spaces for visitor services, including boutique and cafeteria
- Street level interior access to all the facilities – better accessibility especially for persons with reduced mobility

New landscaping and outdoor facilities (fig. 1-6)

- Reconfiguration of the monumental front garden of the Oratory (Saint Joseph Garden)
- Holy Family Plaza, a large multifunctional pedestrian area
- Monumental structure for the Oratory's carillon (an instrument unique in Quebec!) which will be a key architectural feature of the site – addition of 5 bells to the 56 that it currently includes as well as tiered stairs seating for recitals
- Increase in vegetation cover, diminution of asphalted zones; reduction of vehicular traffic on the site
- Improved illumination to highlight the spaces and buildings of the Shrine



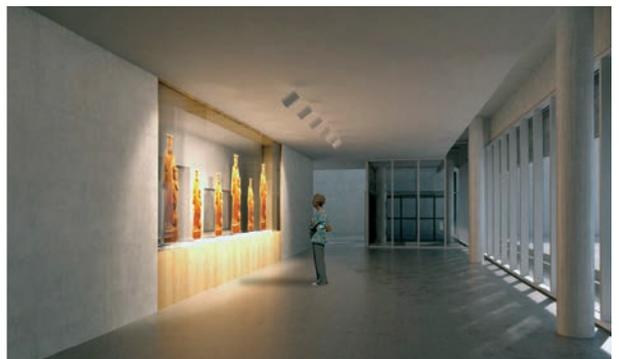
6 View from the esplanade of the Basilica



7 Cross-sectional view – welcome centre



9 Reception area



8 Hall of the welcome centre

2019 – 2021

Highest Window Onto Montréal

Last phase of work: Complete reconfiguration of the Oratory Museum, development of the dome and the observation centre

This final phase of the major development project is at the planning stage, which will continue over the next two years. An important conceptual work must be carried out and an architectural contest is envisaged.

Oratory Museum Renewal

The Museum will not only be renovated but completely reconfigured. Clearing the large, existing windows will allow to benefit from the natural light, which will be skillfully incorporated into a new scene. An optimized trail will integrate the permanent exhibition of nativity scenes from around the world, the dioramas of Saint Joseph, as well as the rooms dedicated to temporary exhibitions.

Dome Development

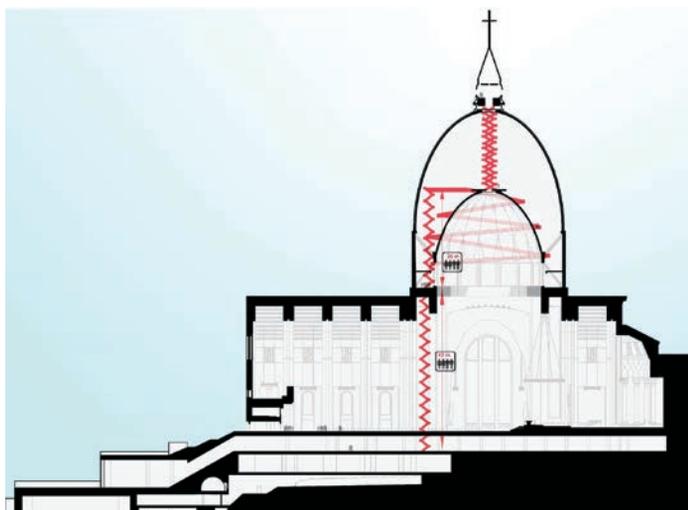
The construction of the dome of the Basilica and of an observation centre at its peak will make these spaces accessible to the public, thus materializing the initial plans approved by Saint Brother André since the beginning of

the construction of the Oratory. The architectural design of the dome allowed the creation of an immense space—the “inter dome”—between the outer dome and the cupola (inner dome) (fig. 15) which reaches a height of 40 meters (130 feet) at its highest point.

A new elevator will link the Museum and two exceptional viewpoints: at the base of the dome, visitors will have a view of the interior of the Basilica, while the exterior wall, partly made up of stained glass windows, will already offer a superb panoramic view. A second stage, at the top of the cupola (inner dome), will allow you to admire the interior of the Basilica, at a height of about 12 stories, through the oculus. For those who wish to do this part of the visit on foot, a spiral route will be built on the inner dome.

Observation Centre

From there, pilgrims and visitors will complete their journey with a final climb on foot, enabling them to reach the Observation Centre at the top of the Basilica (fig. 16) where they will discover an exhilarating view from the highest window onto Montréal. It will be the highest viewpoint over the city and its surroundings, and the Oratory management intends to offer this unique opportunity of wonder to all the pilgrims and visitors.



15 Cross-sectional view of the inter dome

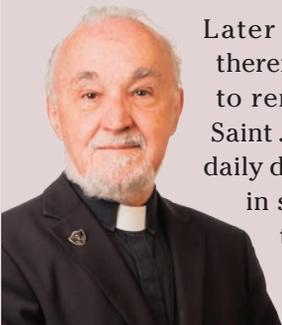


16 The highest window onto Montreal

A Dream Come True

On the occasion of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Oratory, Cardinal Paul-Émile Léger, then Archbishop of Montreal, quoted one of his predecessors, Bishop Ignace Bourget (1799-1885) who, almost one hundred years earlier, dreamed of seeing a special place in Montreal to honour Saint Joseph.

In 1862, when he came to bless the first stone of a new chapel for the Grey Nuns, Bourget inserted a parchment on which was written this sentence addressed to Saint Joseph, “We hope you also will have pilgrims in great numbers.”



Later he would say, “It is evident, therefore, that the whole country ought to render great honours to glorious Saint Joseph, and this ought to be their daily devotion. Indeed, this is a practise in some communities and parishes that honour and love him as their pastor and father.... Therefore,

there ought to be a church which, in a manner of speaking, carries out this service for all the others, and in which he can receive daily honours for his outstanding virtues.”

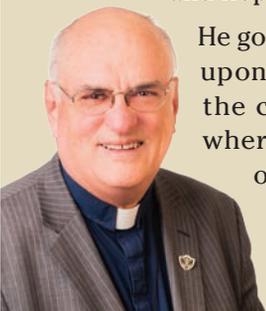
Cardinal Léger made a connection between this desire and the mission of Brother André. “From the dream of Monseigneur Bourget, who so vividly desired a place of pilgrimage for Saint Joseph, to this almost incredible achievement of Brother André, the movement of grace is one and the same.”

The dream became a reality with this great shrine in honour of Saint Joseph on Mount Royal. We are working to make it even more appealing, and to ensure its sustainability, with the help of the thousands of benefactors who support the Oratory. Thanks to their generosity and their vision, Saint Brother André’s legacy continues to offer welcome and comfort to its millions of visitors.

Father Claude Grou CSC
Rector

An Achievement Verging on the Extraordinary

Upon the death of Saint Brother André in 1937, Omer Héroux, a journalist with the *Le Devoir* newspaper paid a glowing tribute to the founder of the Oratory: “He leaves behind him achievements that verge on the extraordinary, a monument of stone which will defy the centuries and a monument of the spirit that no one can properly grasp yet. At the centre of our province, on the mountain side of our great city, he has founded a sacred place where hundreds of thousands of pilgrims converge each year. He has created a hearth from where the most forceful essences waft over all America, a hearth radiating life, light, consolation and hope.”



He goes on to say that he has impressed upon the most materialistic persons the consciousness of another world where loftier realities transcend and overshadow all our petty squabbles.

If this spiritual monument has lasted until now, it is thanks to

the support of many pilgrims and in particular the Associates of Brother André who have experienced this sacred place where Brother André’s influence can still be felt.

For many people, Saint Joseph’s Oratory will always be a hearth glowing with life, light, consolation and hope, where, through the presence of Saint Brother André, they feel the breath of the Divine. Like an echo, they hear him repeat these familiar words, “See how the good Lord loves us, how he dotes on us.”

The extensive construction which is underway will enable us to better accomplish the mission of this work called upon to defy time. Help the Oratory to witness the presence of the Divine in the heart of the city and to radiate far beyond. Your support is valued. May Saint Joseph and Saint Brother André watch over your families and bring you joy and peace.

Father Jean-Pierre Aumont, CSC
Co-director of the Associates of Brother André

Spotlight on the Oratory's organs

The 2017 music season at Saint Joseph's Oratory will feature two major concerts in the fall. The *Cathedral Music* series concludes on Sunday, October 29 with *Symphonies for Organ by Saint-Saëns and Guilmant*, presented in the Basilica at 15:30 by Sinfonia Ensemble from Montréal directed by Louis Lavigueur with organists Jonathan Oldengarm, Jacques Boucher and Vincent Boucher. Tickets (\$) are available on the website of the Canadian International Organ Competition: www.ciocm.org, as well as at the entrance of the Basilica before the concert.

To mark the 100th anniversary of the Oratory's Crypt and its Casavant organ, a concert will take place on Tuesday, November 21 at 19:30. The major work on the program:

Arvo Pärt's *St. John Passion* will be interpreted by the Choir and the Instrumental Ensemble of the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul as well as by organist Vincent Boucher under the direction of conductor Jean-Sébastien Vallée. The evening will be hosted by Gilles Cantagrel. Tickets (\$35, \$50) are on sale at the Montreal Bach Festival, esteemed partner of the event, www.festivalbachmontreal.com.



What's new at the Museum

At the opening on June 1, the Oratory Museum unveiled its new temporary exhibition *Saint Joseph Likes Montréal*, as well as the new version of the permanent crèche exhibition entitled *A World in a Crèche*. Two must-see works to admire: the stained-glass windows by Guido Nincheri depicting Canada's devotion to Saint Joseph and the crèche of Joseph Guardo, whose life-size figures were renewed. A must-see!



Photo : Samuel Martin

Roger Nincheri was proud to talk about his grandfather Guido to the guests of the opening. Here with Chantal Turbide, Curator of the Museum, and Father Claude Grou, Rector.

Inauguration of Escales découvertes

The *Escales découvertes* (Discovery Halts) were inaugurated on Saturday, June 10, 2017, by the Mayor of Montréal and partners in this project, including Father Claude Grou, CSC, Rector of Saint Joseph's Oratory. The tour offers visitors an intuitive, sensory and renewed discovery of Mount Royal through street furniture and signage. This project is part of the legacy to the community as part of the 375th anniversary of the founding of Montréal. At the same time, the new name of the Outremont summit, TIOTHIA:KE OTSIRA'KÉHNE, was inaugurated through an indigenous ceremony.



Photo : Elaine Mayrand

Do you have any questions about the Planned Donation Program by which you can support Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal? Contact new Program Director Mr. Daniel Théorêt to learn all the advantages and benefits.



Photo: Christine Bourgier

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