



SUMMER 2018

Gathering Opportunities

At the Oratory Museum

New exhibition
Discovering Montréal's Religious Heritage

May 1 to November 11, 2018

Permanent exhibition
A World in a Crèche

Sunday Concerts

15:30, in the Basilica
La Folia Series
May 6 to July 1st

Summer Concerts Series
July 15 to September 23

Pilgrimage of the Haitian Community

Solemn Mass
presided over by
Most Rev. J. Gontrand Décoste, S.J,
Bishop of Jérémie,
Saturday June 30, 17:30, Basilica

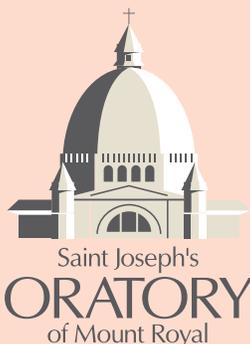
August: the Month of Saint Brother André

Many activities to celebrate!

More details on page 6

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www.saint-joseph.org



THE FRIEND OF BROTHER ANDRÉ

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

A rendez-vous with beauty

In this garden of shadows, the sculptures shine bright. Time seems to stop upon entering. This lush green space is an ideal setting for meditation, contemplation, release, wonder and peace.

The horticulturists of Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal take meticulous care of the Garden of the Way of the Cross built on the mountainside. Year after year, they work to revitalize each corner of the site, where trees and shrubs were planted at the turn of the 1940s based on the plans of landscape architect Frederick G. Todd. It is a masterpiece that the Oratory wishes to preserve.

"Balance among the elements is essential. To achieve this, you need to be in tune with the plant, mineral and architectural environment," explains Stéphane Charbonneau, who coordinates the work done in the garden. "The layout, volumes, shapes and textures are all elements to consider when we are choosing plants and arrangements to arrive at a harmonious result," he adds.

This magnificent garden features 16 stations composed of 42 characters created by Montreal

sculptor Louis Parent. Strangely, this pathway which recalls the sufferings of Christ—from his condemnation to his death on the Cross—evokes feelings of gentleness, harmony and tranquillity. "The spiritual authenticity of these works lies in the fact that they speak to a profound beauty," remarked members of the panel of appreciation for the Way of the Cross sculptures. "When we spend time examining these figures one after the other, it creates a feeling of beautiful resonance, full of radiance and love, humility and wisdom, poise and charm. Parent was able to bring the material to life, and give it a soul."

Take advantage of the warm weather to come admire this modern work of art and be charmed by this garden, which will transport you momentarily out of the city and, who knows, away from your everyday worries.

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The Feast of Saint Joseph, a continuing tradition

At the beginning, the small oratory erected in 1904 could only be used during warm weather months. It was not until March 19, 1909, following an expansion of the chapel, that it became possible to celebrate the Feast of Saint Joseph there. Nine years later, in 1918, the celebration was able to be held in the new Crypt Church. One hour before the grand 3 p.m. celebration presided over by Montreal Auxiliary Bishop Georges Gauthier, the nave was already filled with people. In 1921, a journalist from *The Montreal Star*, S. Morgan-Powell, enthusiastically described the ceremonies that

mark this festive day. He also recounted his meeting with Brother André and described him in the following words: “Here is a man who lives in peace with God and his fellow men and women.”

As of March 19, 1955, the celebration could be held in the Oratory’s Basilica. During this Solemn Mass, Cardinal Paul-Émile Léger read the Rome

Declaration whereby the Mount Royal temple was declared a Minor Basilica.

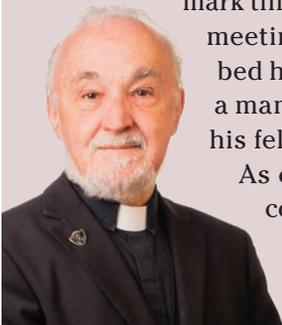
Quebec society has changed significantly since 1955; religious practice has greatly decreased and transformed.

Yet, the Feast of Saint Joseph remains one of the most popular annual events at Saint Joseph’s Oratory of Mount Royal, with its 11 Eucharistic celebrations and participation by over 10,000 pilgrims.

The tradition lives on! Every year on March 19, we are reminded that the place chosen by Brother André to honour his friend Saint Joseph remains, even in the heart of the city, a privileged place of prayer and peace.



Father Claude Grou, CSC
Rector



Believe in the impossible

Every year, the Oratory staff and the Congregation of Holy Cross invite you during the month of August to come celebrate the birthday of Saint Brother André in the place where he inspired so much hope and love.

Brother André shows us the way. To believe in the Risen Christ is to have the assurance that we can move mountains. Throughout our sometimes painful journey toward our own resurrection, someone is always there with us, bringing us well beyond our limits.

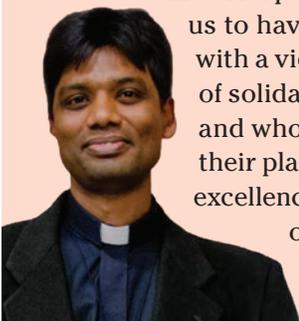
He shares his own life story with us. He introduces us to a hunger and thirst which no amount of power or material possessions can satisfy. He pushes us to have ambition and competence, but with a view to seeing us develop networks of solidarity with those who are suffering, and who need to regain their dignity and their place in society. He impels us toward excellence in the art of sharing and love for

others. This is one part of Brother André’s valuable legacy.

To this day, Brother André continues to fascinate us. He attracts us. He intrigues us. To become his friend, his Associate, is to engage with him in the pursuance of his lifework and build hope for a better, more fraternal world. By visiting Brother André, we discover a way of being, of acting, that has the potential to transform our lives and those of others. We learn the language of the heart and of faith.

On August 9, come meet with Saint Brother André whose legacy is still alive and well. Come experience a deeply spiritual connection, and listen to what he has to say. Brother André will lead you to He who is the source of life; to He who works toward goodness and allows us to achieve the impossible.

Father Thomas Xavier Gomes, CSC
Co-Director of the Associates



The Grand Associates of Brother André A committed group

Everyone proudly sports their gilded medal bearing the image of Brother André held by a gold and purple ribbon. As a symbol of their commitment to Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal, this decoration is given out each year to new Grand Associates of Brother André during the solemn celebrations of the Feast of Saint Joseph.

On this occasion, all Grand Associates of Brother André who have contributed to the Oratory over the past year are invited to a banquet in recognition of their support. As they gathered in the Joseph Olivier Pichette Hall on March 19, a few of the Grand Associates shared with us their motivations for giving. One name in particular came up in several responses: Saint Brother André!

"We trust in Brother André, we come here for him!" says Robert Landreville, who has been a Grand Associate for six years. "He cured one of my aunts," adds his wife. Simone Mérette-Landreville became a Grand Associate five years ago, after making a financial contribution for the installation of electronic votive lamps in the Saint André Bessette Chapel. At another table, Jeanne d'Arc Laliberté, who came from Coaticook especially for the event, explained her own motivations: "I donate to the Oratory because I have favours to ask, and also there is so much to do and maintain here! It seems as if

The Grand Associates of Brother André are benefactors who have contributed \$2,000 or more in donations to Saint Joseph's Oratory over the years.



Ms. Simone Mérette and Mr. Robert Landreville, Grand Associates of Brother André.

Saint Joseph wanted me to come this year: what beautiful weather!" she continues. Poor winter weather and road conditions are often an obstacle for these benefactors who sometimes come from far away to take part in this annual event.

Of the new Grand Associates of Brother André, whose names are printed on the event's menu, 70% live in Quebec, 15% in Ontario, and 8% in various U.S. States. A few

come from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Alberta as well as France and Australia. Their backgrounds are varied but their attachment to the Oratory has no borders.



Father Claude Grou, CSC, the Oratory's Rector, in great company of guests.



Ms. Lucette Chiasson and Mr. Stefano Difruscia, Grand Associates of Brother André.

“It’s a magnificent place!” affirms Madeleine Legault, who has been a Grand Associate of Brother André for 15 years. Originally from Timmins, she has called Montréal home for many years. She and her husband Daniel take pleasure in introducing Saint Joseph’s Oratory and Brother André to their guests. They have also brought their children and grandchildren to see the Oratory. “They show interest and they pray... in their own ways,” she says.

Stefano Difruscia and his wife Lucette Chiasson chose to become Grand Associates of Brother André “to support the Oratory,” they say in unison. After the meal, they will go light the votive lamps before Saint Joseph, in their name and in the names of others who asked them to do so. “We are on a mission with numerous intentions!” says Stefano with a wide smile.

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*Thanks to all of you,
Grand Associates of Brother André,
for your faithful commitment
to support the Oratory
along the years!*

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Are you interested in becoming a Grand Associate of Brother André? Contact the Office of the Associates of Brother André,

by phone: 514 733-8211, ext. 2723

by email: associes@osj.qc.ca

And then, you could learn more about the Recognition Program at Saint Joseph’s Oratory of Mount Royal.

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*Your support for the development
of the shrine is essential!*

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Become a monthly donor

The best way to provide long-term support to the work of Saint Brother André

Did you know that signing up for preauthorized monthly donations by bank transfer or credit card is an easy way to support your favourite cause?

Monthly donations are stable and predictable contributions that allow Saint Joseph’s Oratory to better plan its financing campaigns and reduce its administrative costs.

It is a practical and efficient way to give back. By becoming a monthly donor, you will continue to receive *The Friend of Brother André* newsletter to stay in touch with the Oratory. Because your contribution will be spread out over the course of the year, it will have little impact on your budget. For us, it will make all the difference in reducing the administrative costs of our fundraising, allowing us to invest a greater portion of your donation directly into the Oratory’s services such as pastoral work, liturgy, cultural activities and much more!

Participate in our conversion to monthly donations campaign!

Example:

If your usual annual donation amount is \$120, you can choose to donate \$10 per month over the course of the year.

If you so wish, monthly donations also allow you to increase your contribution which will be spread over 12 months.

Fill out the attached form. Select “by preauthorized payments” or “by credit card”. Choose the number of payments and the monthly amount. Enter your bank or credit card information, and don’t forget to sign. You’re done!

Prefer to provide your information over the phone?

Call us today at 514 733-8211, ext. 2723,
Monday to Friday from 8:30 to 16:30.



THANK YOU to every one for your interest and gifts toward Saint Joseph’s Oratory of Mount Royal!

Your generosity helps maintain, expand and develop this emblematic landmark of Montreal.

► continued from page 1

A rendez-vous with beauty

Photos: Samuel Martin



The backdrop of the rock of Mount Royal highlights the monuments of the Way of the Cross carved out of Indiana limestone.



The harmony of the arrangements is created through the colours, textures, shapes, and volumes of the plants and their surroundings.



The garden's mineral and plant elements complement one another.



The faces of Louis Parent's models emanate tenderness. Notably, his Christ does not wear the usual crown of thorns.



At the pool, patches of greenery were created on either side of the benches, providing an environment conducive to contemplation and meditation.



The Garden of the Way of the Cross on the mountainside designed by Frederick G. Todd, 75 years ago: a haven of greenery you simply must visit!

THE GARDEN OF THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Open from May 1 to June 10, 7:30 to 19:30 and from June 11 to October 8, 2018, 7:30 to 21:00 — Free entry

Meditated Way of the Cross with musical animation by Nicolas Desautels. — From June 28 to August 31, Thursdays (in English) and Fridays (in French) following 19:30 Mass.

A month-long birthday celebration!

Throughout the month of August, several activities will be held at Saint Joseph's Oratory in honour of Saint Brother André, who was born Alfred Bessette in August 1845.



All friends and benefactors of the Oratory are invited to come celebrate his birthday on Thursday August 9, 2018. On the agenda: cake, carillon recital and a Eucharistic celebration at 19:30 followed by a torchlight procession.

“Saint Brother André, Patron of Caregivers in Canada” will be honored at all masses on Sunday, August 12, through the testimonies of caregivers.

Then, the long-standing tradition of the yearly pilgrimage to Brother André's birthplace will be on Sunday, August 26 at Mont-Saint-Grégoire. This activity is including Mass at the parish church at 11:00, meal and prayer at the commemorative monument. Visit our website for more information!

Sunday Concerts

Each Sunday, in the Basilica, organists play the Grand Beckerath organ, occasionally accompanied by various instrumentalists or vocalists. Under the musical direction of Vincent Boucher, the Oratory's titular organist, the concerts program presents a new series this spring: *La Folia*, from May 6 to July 1st, followed by the *Summer Concerts* series from July 15 to September 23, 2018. Giant screen projection. Contributions gratefully accepted. – **Sundays, 15:30**



DISCOVERING

MONTREAL'S RELIGIOUS HERITAGE

Exhibit of Photographs and Objects

L'ORATOIRE
Saint-François-de-Mont-Royal
www.saint-joseph.org

From May 1 to November 11, 2018
Museum of Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal

Did you know that
Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal
is the largest shrine around the world
dedicated to Saint Joseph?

Keep in touch with the Oratory throughout the year thanks to our monthly newsletter!
Register on our website: www.saint-joseph.org