



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal opens its doors to you!

Montréal, June 18, 2020 - It is with great pleasure that we announce that the Oratory will finally reopen its doors to pilgrims and visitors on Monday, June 29.

Announced by the Government of Quebec, the reopening of places of worship is now authorized. "The Oratory is a place of welcome and prayer for thousands of pilgrims and visitors; it is the reason for the existence of our shrine. We are therefore very pleased to welcome them again. I wish to thank the many people who are working to establish the guidelines for a safe opening of the premises and we will ensure that these measures are respected," said Father Claude Grou, Rector of Saint Joseph's Oratory.

The reopening of the sanctuary will take place in two phases. Starting June 29th, it will be possible to visit the Oratory; to meditate in the Basilica, the Crypt Church and near the heart of Saint Brother André; to light votive candles, to purchase objects of piety at the Gift Shop, to walk in the magnificent Garden of the Way of the Cross and to admire the view of Montréal with the most beautiful sunsets in the city. The Hotel Jean XXIII Pavilion will also be accessible again and you can book now.

In a second phase, we will resume our regular activities, including Masses. The schedule of our Masses remains to be determined.

The health and well-being of every employee, pilgrim and visitor has always been and always will be a priority for the Oratory. Extraordinary measures have been put in place to comply with the general rules of protection in order to provide everyone with an environment that meets the standards of the Director of Public Health. Specific health protocol for the conduct of the Church's celebrations and sacraments will be added to these general measures.

We are aware that there will be few tour groups this summer. We extend a special invitation to the people of the Greater Montréal area. To all those who have never visited the Oratory; to all those who came as young people or a long time ago, you are more than welcome!

We invite you to visit our website (saint-joseph.org) where we will be posting details as the situation evolves.

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