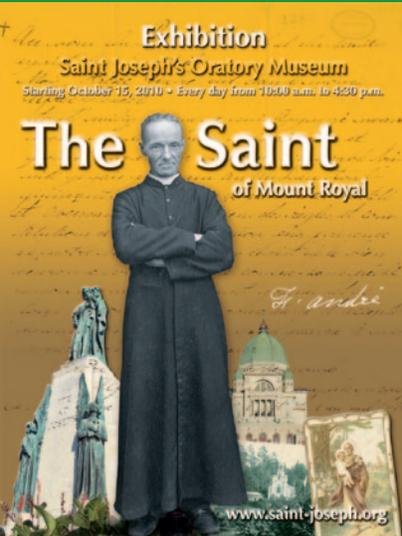




# THE FRIEND OF BROTHER ANDRÉ

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



## Saint Brother André's reliquary goes on tour!

The large reliquary containing the remains of Saint Brother André, carried during the Thanksgiving mass at the Olympic Stadium on October 30, 2010, has begun its tour of Christian communities. In a homecoming of sorts, the reliquary was first taken to the diocese of Saint-Hyacinthe, the birthplace of Canada's new saint.

reliquary itself is mounted on a slab of the same mahogany wood used to finish the interior of the basilica. A number of artists and craftsmen were involved in the creation of the reliquary, under the supervision of Father André Bergeron, CSC, former curator of the Oratory Museum.

The Pastoral Ministry team at Saint Joseph's Oratory wishes to make this unique reliquary available to parishes, Christian communities and community groups who so request by contacting father Mario Lachapelle, CSC, at 514-733-8211.

Let us work together to encourage devotion to Saint Brother André.

**Pierre Dufour, CSC**  
Vice-Rector for Pastoral Ministry

The reliquary of Saint Brother André contains remnants of Saint Brother André's heart enclosed in a glass receptacle resting on a swatch of dark red fabric. There are also two sides of a gold plaque fashioned by Sylvia Daoust. One side, inscribed L'Oratoire Saint-Joseph du Mont-Royal, depicts a bas-relief of the Oratory's façade, including the crypt and the basilica. The other side, inscribed Brother André, CSC, features a profile of his bust and the dates of his birth and death: 1845-1937. The relic and the sides of the plaque rest on pieces of stone carved from Mount Royal. The

The worship of relics is a gesture of love for a person who has been recognized by the Church as a saint. It is a sign of devotion inspired by faith.

Don't miss the exhibit at the Oratory Museum:  
**The Saint of Mount Royal**

...

Don't forget the exhibit  
**Nativité, Nativity, Natività**

...

Open every day from 10 a.m. to 4 :30 p.m.

Admission fee

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



Saint Joseph's  
**ORATORY**  
of Mount Royal



Bernard Brault



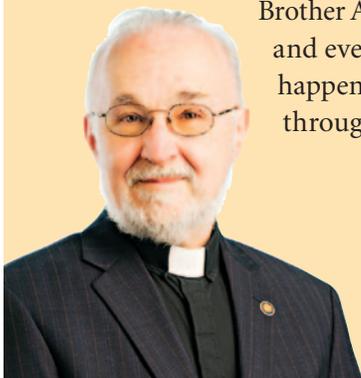
## Making sainthood a family affair

Over 400 members of Brother André's family gathered at Saint Joseph's Oratory on October 31 to celebrate the canonization of a member of the large Bessette family tree. All were justifiably proud of the fact that one of their own is now known around the world as a Saint of the Catholic Church. Their presence at the celebration of the Eucharist was proof of Brother André's deep roots within our culture.

At the meal that followed the mass, his family members shared countless anecdotes about their illustrious relative: an appearance by Brother André at a family reunion, a conversation with a grandfather, an exchange with a great uncle.

This gathering of the extended Bessette family drives home the fact that Brother André was a man of the people. We are often inspired by saints from far-away places or long-ago times, but it is important to understand that the path to sainthood is nearer than we might think, accessible through certain exceptional individuals who have shared our history.

Brother André reminds us that, here and everywhere, great things can happen when we allow God to act through us. ■



**Father Claude Grou, CSC**  
Rector

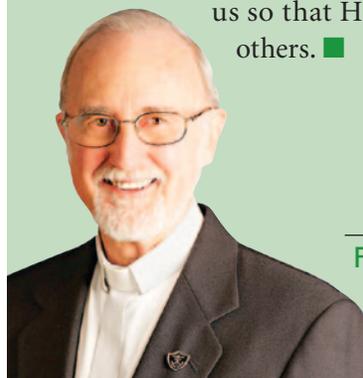
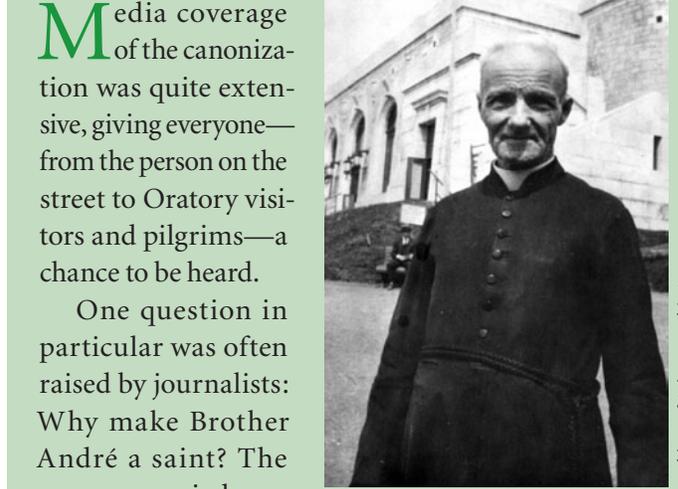
## The truth of the matter!

Media coverage of the canonization was quite extensive, giving everyone—from the person on the street to Oratory visitors and pilgrims—a chance to be heard.

One question in particular was often raised by journalists: Why make Brother André a saint? The answers varied considerably and included:

1. Part of a Church-led PR campaign to improve its image.
2. Good for business and the religious tourism industry.
3. He's known as a healer.
4. He was a builder: He created a space worthy of Saint Joseph.
5. He is a model of compassion: «He was more attuned to others than the average person, which is why he's an example for all of us.» **Stéphane Laporte, La Presse.**
6. He was a visionary: «He helped many people to find God.» **Pope Benedict XVI.**
7. The Church made Alfred Bessette a saint because it holds him up to the Christians of the world as «a model for and of the presence of God.» **Jean-Claude Turcotte.**

And that's the truth of the matter! Our challenge: Like Saint Brother André, to allow God to live in us so that He might use us to give to others. ■



**Father Bernard Lacroix, CSC**  
Director  
The Associates of Brother André

## A new Director of the Planned Giving Program

In February 2008, Francine Cardinal was named Director of the Planned Giving Program. Ms. Cardinal was remarkably successful in this capacity, listening attentively to donors and building relationships of trust with those who wished to support Brother André's work through a planned gift (bequest, lifetime annuity, donations of equity, real estate or life insurance). The administration of Saint Joseph's Oratory now confidently passes the torch to Claudia Côté.

We are pleased to welcome Ms. Côté to our team as the new Director of the Planned Giving Program. She is fully qualified to take on this key role and has already had the privilege of working with some of you. An excellent listener, she will quickly make you feel at ease discussing the values you hold dear and how you might express them through your charitable donation.

After earning a degree in psychology, Ms. Côté studied law at the University

of Ottawa and was admitted to the Quebec bar association in 1997. She is currently working part-time on an Master's of Business Administration at Université de Sherbrooke (Longueuil campus). From 1997 to 2008, she worked in private practice, focusing on commercial, tax and civil law. In March 2008, she was appointed Director of the Planned Giving Program for Les petits frères des Pauvres, which works to fight isolation and solitude among the elderly. She has been a member of the Canadian Association of Gift Planners since 2008, and was named a member of the Board of Directors of this organization in December of that year. Children have always been an important part of her life. She has sat on the Board of Directors of the Fondation de l'école secondaire De Mortagne since December 2009, and was named Chair in October 2010.

Appointed to her new position on December 10, 2010, Claudia Côté is

continuing the good work done by her predecessors, and we are confident that you can rely on her to help you make informed decisions. Feel free to contact her today. ■



**Claudia Côté, B.A., LL.L.**

Director  
Planned Giving Program  
514-733-8211, ext. 2523  
or (toll-free) 1-877-672-8647  
ccote@osj.qc.ca

### Thinking of becoming an Associate of Brother André?

Why not do it today!

You will join a unique group filled with fellowship in the spirit of Blessed Brother André.

One phone call is all it takes!

514 733-8211

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



# GATHERINGS AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

## MARCH 2011

### From March 10 to 18

#### Novena to Saint Joseph

*Beacons illumine our path.*

*Some saints have a heart-to-heart conversation with Joseph*

New: Nine preachers: one each day of the novena

Preaching at 2 p.m. in the Basilica and 7:30p.m.\* in the Crypt Church

**March 10:** Blessed Frédéric Janssoone (Roger Poudrier, o.f.m.)

**March 11:** Blessed Marie de l'Incarnation (Rita Gagné, o.s.u.)

**March 12:** Saint Marguerite d'Youville (Ghislaine Desjardins, s.g.m.)

**March 13:** Blessed Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin (Madeleine Coutu, s.p.)

**March 14:** Blessed Louis-Zéphirin Moreau (Rev. André Godbout, Rev. Jean-Marc Robillard)

**March 15:** Blessed Marie-Léonie Paradis (Rev. Gilles Matthieu)

**March 16:** Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys (Denise Lamarche, c.n.d.)

**March 17:** Blessed Basile-Antoine-Marie Moreau (Gérard Dionne, c.s.c.)

**March 18:** Saint André Bessette (Mario Lachapelle, c.s.c.)

\* With the boys choir the *Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal*

## Saturday, March 19

### Feast of Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary

Solemn Masses in the Basilica

10 a.m.: Msgr Terrence Prendergast, Archbishop of Ottawa (bilingual)

2:30 p.m.: Msgr Martin Veillette, Bishop of Trois-Rivières

7:30 p.m.: Cardinal Jean-Claude Turcotte, Archbishop of Montréal

Masses in the Crypt Church at 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 12:30 a.m., 2:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m. **and 8 p.m. (in English)**

## APRIL 2011

### Palm Sunday, April 17

Blessing of the palms during the Mass at 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., **11:15 a.m. (in English)**, 12:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

At 11 a.m.: Mass, procession and solemn singing of the Passion with the *Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal*

### Holy Thursday, April 21

#### Mass of the Lord's Supper

at 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., in the Crypt Church

### Good Friday, April 22

#### The Lord's Passion

at 3 p.m., in the Basilica

#### Way of the Cross

at 7:30 p.m. in the Crypt Church

### Holy Saturday, April 23,

**Easter Vigil** with the *Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal*

at 7:30 p.m., in the Basilica

### Easter, April 24,

#### Resurrection Sunday

Masses at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.\*, 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Basilica

\* With the *Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal*

Masses at 7 a.m., 8 a.m., **11:15 a.m. (in English)**

and 7:30 p.m. in the Crypt Church

### Saturday, April 30

**Meeting of the Rector's Group:** Mass and banquet

(by invitation)

## MAY 2011

### Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, Feast of Saint Joseph, the Worker

Schedule subject to change. Please visit our website for the complete program of events:

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

**Novena and Feast of Saint Joseph**  
March 10 to 19, 2011  
*Beacons illumine our path. Some saints have a heart-to-heart conversation with Joseph*

**New**  
Nine preachers: one each day of the novena  
Preaching at 2:00 p.m. and at 7:30 p.m.

**MARCH 10**  
Blessed Frédéric Janssoone  
Preacher: Roger Poudrier, o.f.m.

**MARCH 11**  
Blessed Marie de l'Incarnation  
Preacher: Rita Gagné, o.s.u.

**MARCH 12**  
Saint Marguerite d'Youville  
Preacher: Ghislaine Desjardins, s.g.m.

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Blessed Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin  
Preacher: Madeleine Coutu, s.p.

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Preacher: Gérard Dionne, c.s.c.

**MARCH 18**  
Saint André Bessette  
Preacher: Mario Lachapelle, c.s.c.

**SOLENN MASSES IN THE BASILICA**  
- MARCH 19  
10:00 a.m. - Msgr Terrence Prendergast, Archbishop of Ottawa (bilingual)  
2:30 p.m. - Msgr Martin Veillette, Bishop of Trois-Rivières  
7:30 p.m. - Cardinal Jean-Claude Turcotte, Archbishop of Montreal

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

### The story of a dear friend of Saint Joseph and Brother André

**M**y name is André-Jean, I am 60 years old. When I was only 2, I spent three months at Sainte-Justine Hospital.

I couldn't keep any foods or liquids down. At the time, the doctors were baffled by my case. Twice, I was put into a little room known as the "Death Chamber." It was very dark, lit only by a nightlight. Apparently, there was nothing more they could do for me.

At that point, my parents, Aurore and Adrien, great believers in the power of prayer to Saint Joseph and Brother André, went to the Oratory to pray that I might be healed.

Mom and Dad bought me a little altar containing a statue of Saint Joseph at the Oratory's Gift Shop. During my hospital stay, that miniature oratory lit up my room; at night, I would turn it off. My mother also subscribed to the Oratory magazine.



Still today, André-Jean pray saint Joseph in front of his little altar. He also put in front of it a picture of Brother André and a votive lamp.

Their prayers were granted and I was healed. That was the last time I was ever sick enough to be hospitalized. ■

**André-Jean Plouffe**

### Tribute to Saint Brother André by the Borough of Saint-Laurent

**T**o mark the canonization of Brother André, the Borough of Saint-Laurent unveiled, November 29, 2010, an interpretation panel that highlights an important link between the borough and the renowned Montrealer.

Brother André spent the last few days of his life in Saint-Laurent. Indeed, he died on January 6, 1937, at l'Hôpital de Saint-Laurent, receiving good care from the Soeurs de l'Espérance of the Congregation of the Holy Family of Bordeaux. The sisters carried out their hospital mission in a house that used to stand at the corner of avenue Sainte-Croix and boulevard de la Côte-Vertu.

The mayor of Saint-Laurent and vice-chair of Montréal's Executive Committee, Alan DeSousa, stated that it was important to commemorate this historic event in a long-

lasting manner. «This interpretation panel is a gift that we're offering to citizens today as well as to future generations so they'll be reminded

of the ties between their community and a person who is a major figure in Montréal's history, Saint Brother André.» ■



The interpretation panel was placed in front of the actual CLSC Saint-Laurent: Diane Eng, political attaché to Christine St-Pierre, government minister and Member of the National Assembly for l'Acadie; Father André Charron, CSC.; Geneviève Hotte, chair of the Centre de santé et de services sociaux de Bordeaux-Cartierville-Saint-Laurent; Aref Salem, city councillor for the Norman-McLaren district; Alan DeSousa, mayor of Saint-Laurent and vice-chair of Montréal's Executive Committee; Michèle D. Biron, borough councillor for the Norman-McLaren district.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### The Oratory honoured for its television commercial

To reward the campaign surrounding the canonization of Brother André, Saint Joseph's Oratory received, Tuesday November 9, 2010, a *Prix Coup d'éclat! 2010* given by the *Société des attractions touristiques du Québec* and *Festivals et Événements Québec*. The Oratory was reward in the category «Television commercial, budget under \$500 000 » with a 30 second clip presenting exclusive films with Brother André. You can see the winning clip on the Oratory's Web site at [www.saint-joseph.org/en](http://www.saint-joseph.org/en)



The representatives of the Oratory's Communication Office were very proud to receive this recognition and didn't forget to thank their partners who contributed to the success of this campaign. From left to right: Mylène Forget (Massy-Forget Relations Publiques), Danielle Decelles (Communication Office of the Oratory), Daniel Demers (Ogilvy Montréal), Nathalie Dumas (The Oratory magazine) and Lucie Tremblay (TVA Sales and Marketing) who presented the price.



### Saint Brother André, pray for us! !

Following Brother André's canonization celebrations, the team of Saint Joseph's Oratory's Gift shop and our artists outdid themselves in creating gorgeous and inspirational objects of faith and devotion. You will be impressed by the quality and originality of the many objects of devotion, commemorative gifts, books, compact discs and artistic renditions of our holy friend. Perfect gifts for you and your loved ones! What better way for your family to honour Saint Brother André. If the items pique your interest, you're sure to be delighted during your next visit to the Oratory Gift Shop!



Visit our section  
«Supporting the Oratory»  
to learn more about  
all our programs:  
[www.saint-joseph.org](http://www.saint-joseph.org)



### Religious and spiritual tourism in Québec: an action plan for marketing the four national sanctuaries of Québec

It is with great enthusiasm that the four national shrines of Québec and their four affiliated regional tourist associations realize a preliminary tourism marketing plan for the following places of worship: Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal, the Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Basilica, Our Lady of the Cape Shrine and Saint-Anthony's Hermitage at Lac Beauport. This plan provided the opportunity to lead marketing actions, for the first time, at the annual World Religious Travel Association (WRTA) Expo, which took place this year in Montréal (from November 13 to 16, at the Palais des congrès); to develop a joint Internet site ([www.quebecshrines.com](http://www.quebecshrines.com)) and to produce a common promotional brochure in French and English. The objective of employing this dynamic action plan is clearly to make Québec one of the most prized religious and spiritual tourism destinations in

the world due to its unique heritage, highlighted by its four national shrines. According to recent data, the four national shrines of Québec collectively attract three million visitors, thus making them the premier tourist attraction of Québec!

