



# THE FRIEND OF BROTHER ANDRÉ

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

## Meeting Opportunities

Exhibition at the Oratory Museum

*Drawn by the Spirit* - André Bergeron, Marie-Anastasie, Frère Jérôme

**Festival Bach +**

Organ works by Johann Sebastian Bach

Sundays at 3:30 PM

Festival conclusion: Grand Gala Concert, December 1, 2013

## Journées de la culture

• **Carillon workshops** by Andrée-Anne Doane, Oratory carillonneur  
Friday, September 27 for schools and Sunday, September 29 for pilgrims and visitors

• **Peek behind-the-scenes as part of the exhibition**

*Drawn by the Spirit* - André Bergeron, Marie-Anastasie, Frère Jérôme  
Sunday, September 29

Entry to the museum is free all day.

**All events during the Journées de la Culture are free.**

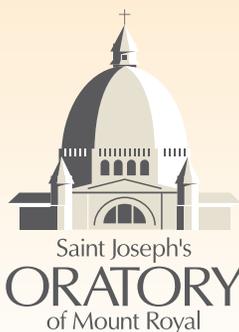
## Organ Concert with Frédéric Champion

As part of the festival **Rendez-vous des Grands 2013**, organized by the Canadian International Organ Competition, a concert by **Frédéric Champion**.

Saturday, October 26, 2013 at 2:00 PM in the Basilica

General admission: \$25

Tickets on sale at the Oratory gift shop.



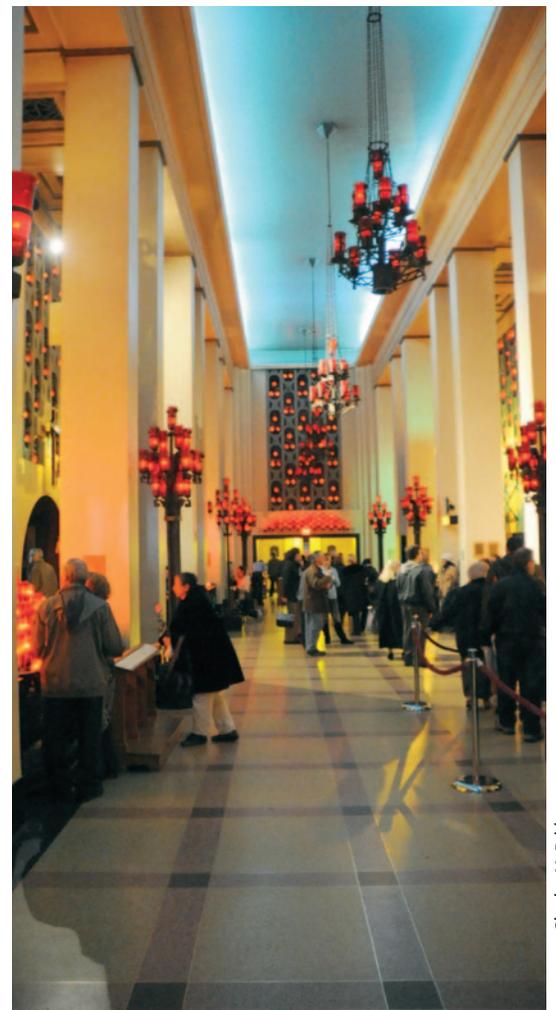
## Sprucing Up

Saint Joseph's Oratory is a trove of art and architectural treasures that people come to see again and again. The Votive Chapel at the entrance to the shrine, near the Crypt Church, is a gem that has enthralled pilgrims for 64 years. This is one of the first places that visitors explore when they begin their visit to the shrine.

Illuminated by hundreds of vigil lamps and votive lights lit by people who have come to pray for their intentions, the Votive Chapel is entirely devoted to Saint Joseph. Beautiful bas-reliefs sculpted by artist Joseph Guardo depict the great saint under different attributes. Between these sculptures, iron grilles filled with attached canes and crutches left as ex-votos reflect the confidence and strength of the prayers of the sick and suffering who come to the Oratory and depart relieved of their distress. These canes and prostheses were left largely during the lifetime of Saint Brother André. The Votive Chapel takes its name from these symbols of recognition and gratitude for the attentive presence of the Oratory's founder.

To receive hundreds of thousands of visitors a year, employees must expend a great deal of time and energy on keeping the place clean and well-maintained. The many ex-votos must be dusted regularly. The lamp racks emit fine smoke and soot that darken the walls and ceiling, while the wax sometimes leaves traces on the fixtures.

A general clean-up of the walls and ceiling of the Votive Chapel, made necessary by the thousands of vigil lamps and votive lights lit annually, will incur significant costs. If you



Charles McBride

would like to help us with a donation designated for this important clean-up, simply specify it on the card accompanying your donation. Your support will be greatly appreciated and will allow us to offer attractive and well-kept premises to all the shrine's visitors. Welcome to the Oratory and Votive Chapel!

**Sylvie Bessette**

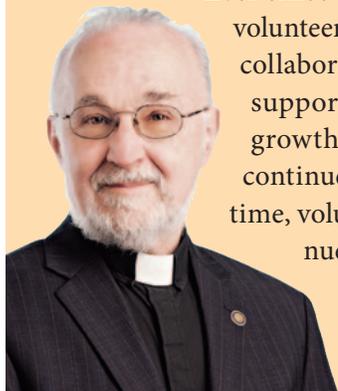
## Volunteer work, an essential aspect of life at the Oratory

The small group of people who surrounded Brother André when the Oratory was founded in 1904 shared his dream of welcoming the men and women who came to honor Saint Joseph on Mount Royal. The members of this group helped Brother André through action and through prayer. Many came to pray the Stations of the Cross regularly with Brother André.

Ever since the passing of Brother André, volunteers have continued their valuable collaboration with the shrine and their support has played a big part in the growth of the Oratory. This tradition continues today. As in Brother André's time, volunteers offer their help to continue the efforts of welcoming, companionship and prayer that have marked this shrine for over a hundred years.

A wide variety of services is provided by Saint Joseph's Oratory volunteers. They are all part of a beautiful extended family. Every volunteer makes a unique contribution with his or her own style and talent. Together, the volunteers contribute a human and spiritual vitality that is essential to the development of Saint Joseph's Oratory.

Any group of volunteers needs to renew and enrich itself by welcoming new people who are ready to donate their time to others. If you are prepared to share your time and energy helping pilgrims of Saint Joseph's Oratory, we will be pleased to accept your generosity. Call to get more information from Visitor and Pilgrim Services (Tel.: 514 733-8211) or send an email to [pelerinage@osj.qc.ca](mailto:pelerinage@osj.qc.ca).



Maxime Boisvert

*FATHER CLAUDE GROU CSC, RECTOR*

## It is easy to receive the Great Reliquary of Saint Brother André at a place near you!

Every week, I receive many telephone calls from people who want to know when the Great Reliquary of Saint Brother André will come to their area, and from those who would like to receive it in their parish or diocese.

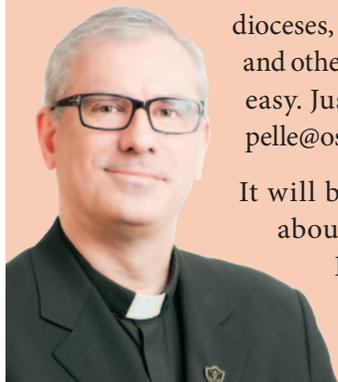
Consult the Saint Joseph's Oratory website at [www.saint-joseph.org](http://www.saint-joseph.org) to quickly find out about the Great Reliquary visits in the coming months. As for parishes, dioceses, communities, retirement homes and other places that wish to receive it, it's easy. Just send me an email at [mlachapelle@osj.qc.ca](mailto:mlachapelle@osj.qc.ca) or call me at 514 733-8211.

It will be my pleasure to inform you about the availability of the Great Reliquary and the list of services, documents, other promotional items and prayer models that

the Oratory's pastoral team can provide to make this spiritual journey significant for you and the members of your community.

The Great Reliquary is accessible to all. There are no costs for receiving it. However, you need to take charge of its shipping and safety. Contributions are left entirely at the discretion of the requestors. Donations received will be used to give other less fortunate groups a chance to see the Great Reliquary.

I am expecting many calls and emails from you. Thousands of people in Canada and the United States have already been spiritually touched by Saint Brother André's visit. We hope that you will get to know it as soon as possible!



Maxime Boisvert

*FATHER MARIO LACHAPELLE CSC, DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATES OF BROTHER ANDRÉ*

## Wonderful meeting you!

**A**s announced in the previous newsletter, the new group of Notable Benefactors recognizes donors who provide a bequest or any other type of planned donation to Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal.

For the first time this year I had the great pleasure of sharing a meal with some Notable Benefactors to celebrate the feast of Saint Joseph on May 1st at the Rector's Group dinner. (This is one of the privileges granted to Notable Benefactors.)

The dinner was a great opportunity to meet many of you, and to once again discuss your commitment to the Oratory and Saint Brother André. It was also an honour for me to personally present to those joining the ranks of Notable Benefactors the promised medal of Saint Brother André.

I had a wonderful time in your company.

Do not hesitate to contact me for information about the Planned Giving Program and the privileges granted to Notable Benefactors.

It was a pleasure meeting you and I thank you for your trust and support!

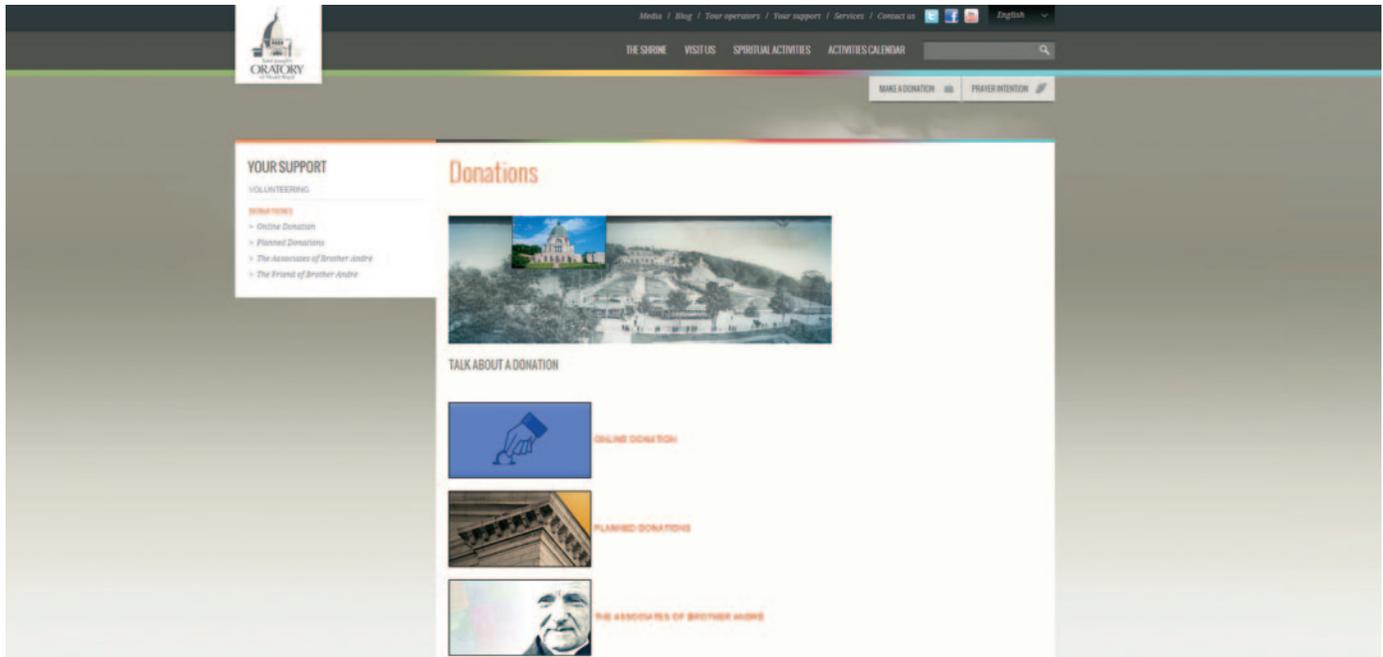


**Claudia Côté, B.A., LL.L.**

Legal Advisor  
Director, Planned Giving Program  
[ccote@osj.qc.ca](mailto:ccote@osj.qc.ca)

Follow me on the web for other planned giving blogs at the following address: [CotcClaudia.blogspot.com](http://CotcClaudia.blogspot.com)





# Your Online Support

**D**id you know that, on June 11, Saint Joseph’s Oratory launched a completely revamped website? It is now easier to navigate through the various sections of the site, and the visuals are a real feast for the eyes.

There is a part that will be of particular interest to all readers of *The Friend of Brother André* newsletter. The section **Your Support** (<http://www.saint-joseph.org/en/your-support>) has two equally important components: you can acquire information on how to become a volunteer for Saint Joseph’s Oratory, or read about the many ways to make a planned gift to the Oratory. There is clear and concise information showing how flexible planned giving

can be. The door of Claudia Côté, Director of Planned Giving, is always open.

Would you like to become an Associate of Brother André? Or do you know someone who would? In the section **The Associates of Brother André**, you will find complete information on how to do so. Do not hesitate to contact us about it!

Donors are a very important part of the life of the shrine, which receives no subsidies for its operating expenses. Your presence and ongoing support are the breath of life. Thank you for your solidarity and enjoy the new Oratory website!

**Sylvie Bessette**



## Tribute to Réalla Champagne

.....  
**Mrs. Réalla Champagne died on May 3, 2012, surrounded by her family.**  
.....

**H**er loved ones, missing her a great deal, have spoken particularly of her dedication to her husband and family. Réalla was a sweet, kind and generous woman.

A hard worker, she took over the family farm. She then cleaned private homes, always eagerly and enthusiastically.

She had great faith in Saint Brother André and Saint Joseph's Oratory. Novenas at the Oratory were very important for her.

To give witness to her Christian values in her will, Mrs. Champagne chose, in 1990, to leave the residue of her estate as a bequest to the Oratory.

In recognition of this generous gesture, we are honoured to pay tribute to her.

Thank you, Mrs. Champagne! These acts of generosity make a difference and make it possible to continue the work of Saint Brother André.

We will always remember you in our prayers.

**Claudia Côté, B.A., LL.L.**

Director, Planned Giving Program



### **A Lasting Heritage!**

More than 165 donors, in addition to Ms. Champagne, have made a bequest in the past to Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal. If you are a representative of an estate, you can contact me so that tribute can be paid to these people.

On June 30, 2013, more than 15 new donors became eligible for the Notable Benefactors program. Mention will be made in the next issue of *The Friend of Brother André* newsletter of those who consented to have their names published.

Do not hesitate to contact me for information about the Notable Benefactors program.

**Claudia Côté, B.A., LL.L.**

Director, Planned Giving Program

### Two New CDs

Organist Vincent Boucher is a frequent collaborator at the Festival Bach +, which is currently underway at Saint Joseph's Oratory (concerts in the Basilica every Sunday at 3:30 PM until December 1, except September 29). On August 11, 2013, he released two CD recordings of performances on the grand Beckerath organ.

On one CD, *Œuvres célèbres pour orgue*, Boucher interprets works by Bach, Boëllmann, Pachelbel, Vierne and Widor. The other CD, called *Arvo Pärt: Trivium*, offers works for organ and some transcriptions.

These discs are sold under the *Disques XXI* label and are available at Saint Joseph's Oratory gift shop.

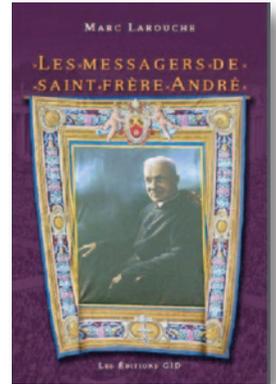


### A Generous Contribution

The new Saint André Bessette Chapel, accessible to pilgrims in the Basilica since March 2013, required the deployment of considerable human and material resources. It involved costs for renovation, design, lighting and moving furniture that had been generously donated by the Grey Nuns of Montreal. This project was made possible thanks to donations from many sources, including the Knights of Columbus. The Oratory wishes to acknowledge all the donors who made this project possible.

### Les Messagers de saint frère André

This is the title of a new book by Marc Larouche, a journalist with the Quebec City daily *Le Soleil*, which was published in the spring of 2013. The back cover of the book states that Mr. Larouche compiled many accounts “by personalities and ordinary people whom the Saint helped at various times in their lives.” Beginning with the story of his own father, who was healed after six years of prayers to Saint André, Marc Larouche offers us a touching testimonial of the role that Saint André can play in all our lives. Published by Éditions GID, *Les Messagers de saint frère André* will appeal to the many believers attracted to Brother André. Enjoy the book!



Martin Tremblay

### Marie-Élaine Thibert at Saint Joseph's Oratory

Christmas concert with guest artists  
and participation of  
the Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal

Only one show in the Basilica!  
Saturday, December 7, 2013 at 8 PM

Admission Network: 514 790-1245 - [www.admission.com](http://www.admission.com)

Consult our Website at [www.saint-joseph.org](http://www.saint-joseph.org)