



## **Father Claude Grou, CSC — Biographical Notes**

### **Novembre 16, 1941**

Born in Saint-Laurent City, province of Quebec

### **April 20, 1968**

Ordained to the priesthood in the Congregation of Holy Cross

### **1968 – 1972**

Studies Philosophy at the state university in Pune, India where he obtains his PhD in 1973.

### **1971 – 1980**

Works as a missionary in India teaching Indian Philosophy and Religion at the Papal Seminary in Pune.

### **1981 – 1982**

Appointed director of vocations upon his return to Quebec.

### **1982 – 1986**

Becomes assistant provincial of the Canadian Province of the Holy Cross Fathers.

### **1986 – 1998**

Serves as superior general of the Congregation of Holy Cross in Rome, Italy.

### **1998**

Returning to Quebec again, becomes director of social pastoral work for the Holy Cross religious of Montréal

### **2001**

Appointed director of pastoral services at Saint Joseph's Oratory.

**August 2004**

Becomes vice-rector of pastoral services at Saint Joseph's Oratory. In addition, agrees to serve as president of the Oratory's centenary festivities, from October 17, 2004 to October 30, 2005.

**September 19, 2005**

Appointed rector of Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal.

**November 20, 2005**

Assumes office as rector.

**October 17, 2010**

Canonization of Brother André.

**March 1st, 2019**

Inauguration of the worksite of Saint Joseph's Oratory's major development project

**Honours**

**Peace Medal – November, 20 novembre 2005**

On November 20, 2005, the same day he assumed office as rector of Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal, Father Claude Grou received the YMCA Peace Medal in recognition of his exceptional contribution as a "peacemaker". He was awarded the medal at a ceremony paying tribute to five Montréal individuals and groups who have shown a clear commitment to peace. For his part, Father Grou was recognized as a promoter of peace for having implemented the Sunday Brunches for Peace, held six times a year at the Oratory. These gatherings bring together people of all backgrounds in search of solidarity and concrete means "to build a world of justice and peace". This was the 18th Peace Medal Awards Ceremony held by the YMCA of Greater Montréal. The initiative was adopted in 1981 following a declaration by the World Council of YMCAs

**The Grand Ulysse de Montréal prize awarded to Fr.Claude Grou – May 15, 2017**

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, 2017, at the annual Ulysse Awards gala, organized by Tourisme Montréal, which recognizes Montréal's bold and innovative tourism organizations.

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."

#### **In the Name of Peace – July 27, 2018**

A delegation from the Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run made a stop at Saint Joseph's Oratory on July 27, 2018. At this occasion, Rector Claude Grou, CSC, received the Torch-Bearer Award for welcoming and carrying the torch of peace at each of its visits to the Oratory. The Peace Run is a global torch relay that symbolizes humanity's universal aspiration for a more peaceful world.

#### *Source :*

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