


Become an artisan of hope

Partake in the renovation of the basilica



**Notre-Dame
de Montligeon**



"The most important reality is the pilgrims. They are the ones that count. We must take care and ensure that each one feels "at home", like a long-awaited family member who has finally arrived".

Pope Francis

Rev. Fr. Paul Denizot, at the door of Our Lady of Montligeon basilica. Picture: Jimmy Beunardeau

Artisan of hope

Ensuing a loved one's death, or when life is too burdensome, the shrine of Montligeon – with its emblematic basilica – represents a unique marker, a source of solace and relief for tens of thousands of people.

The Work of Montligeon stemmed from the untiring resolve of a simple countryside curate, Fr. Buguet (1843-1918). No miracle in its genesis, only insight: that of praying and engaging people to pray for the deceased, along with supporting the living – especially by means of secured employment. For over a century, pilgrims have come to the shrine, seeking hope.


Nowadays, our basilica is in jeopardy, and requires your generosity. I eagerly entreat you to, in turn, become an artisan of hope.

Rev. Fr. Don Paul Denizot, CSM.
Rector, shrine of Montligeon.



“Mary, watch over my girls until I get there!”

Erick and Sylvie regularly visit Montligeon ; they come and pray for their two daughters who got shot down during the terrorists attacks in Paris, France, on November 13, 2015.

 [Listen to Sylvie’s testimony on our YouTube channel.](#)



“Looking forward to being, one day, reunited with my wife”


Yves came to Montligeon on a pilgrimage in order to pray for his departed wife.

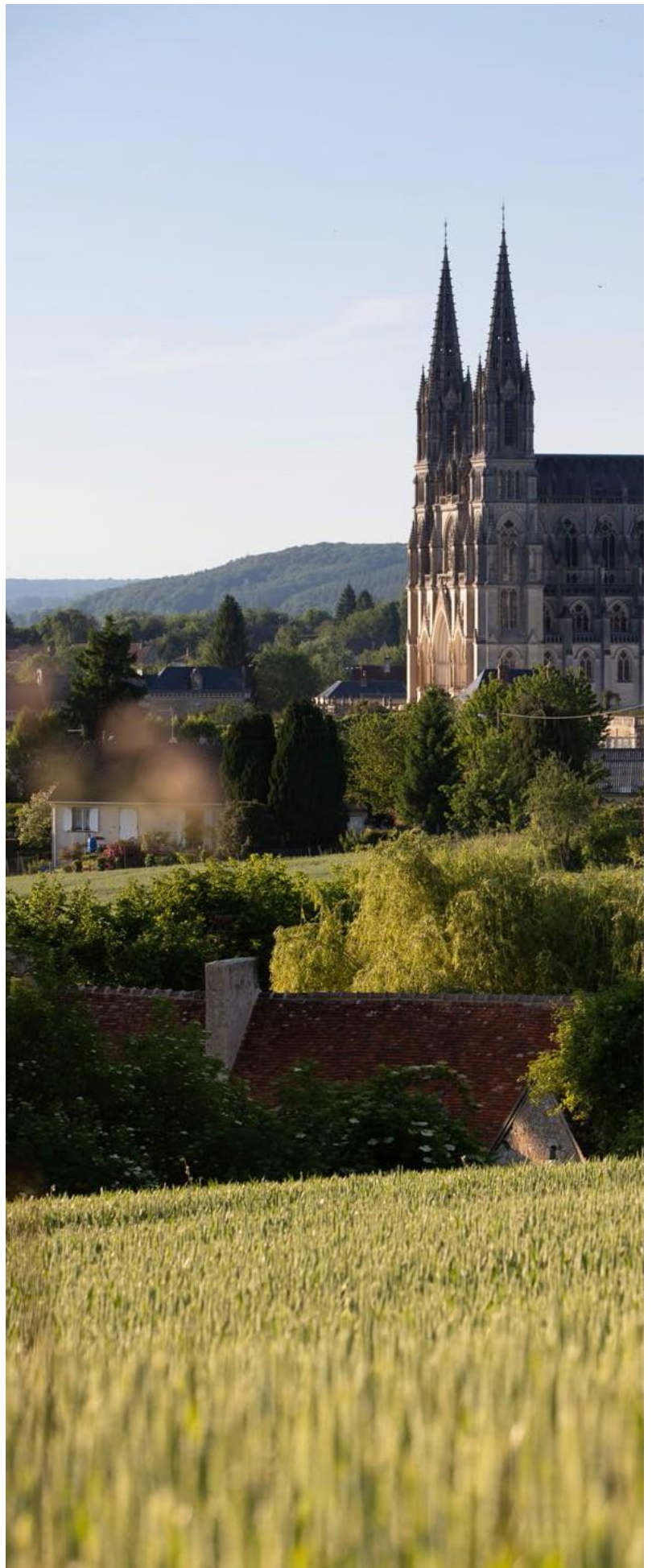
 [Listen to Erick’s testimony on our YouTube channel.](#)



“Helping the deceased and comforting the grieving”

Following his wife’s demise, Oliver came with his 3 daughters in Sept. 2021, so as to attend a mourning retreat.

 [Listen to Oliver’s testimony on our YouTube channel.](#)



Suddenly past the bend on the road to Montligeon, one is greeted by an awesome and unexpected sight: a basilica amidst fields.

The basilica of Montligeon: place of relief and hope



As a beacon when seeking hope, the basilica is an incitement to take time for prayer, a call to enter into the realm of faith.

Caring for souls

Far from the prevalent mayhem, the world center of prayer for the deceased receives thousands of visitors and pilgrims. With around 50 organized events a year, especially aimed at the bereaved, it affords counselling, respite, and consolation, as much as allows for encounters and exchanges. Moreover, the basilica is the seat of the Montligeon fraternity of prayer for the deceased, and present in 32 countries. Its 1272 prayer groups epitomize genuine schools of hope.

→ montligeon.org/en/montligeon-prayer-groups/

Welcoming every pilgrim

The shrine operates as a bridge between human beings and the Kingdom of God. The basilica is an open invitation to contemplation and experience a comforting source of hope. Its vast dimensions accommodate crowds and yet, they remain reassuring. Foreshadowing the Kingdom of Heaven, it enables one to already encounter, whilst still on earth, the communion of saints, in which no one is ever isolated.

→ montligeon.org/en/individual-sojourns/

An unmatched place worldwide

Consecrated to Our Lady of Deliverance of the poor souls in purgatory, the basilica is a place of prayer for the deceased. In a world where death is taboo, and which conceals ever more people in mourning, it sustains as a constant reminder that relations with our deceased are never severed. Love endures beyond death. In ministering to the bereaved, this unique place affords a haven where one can find a listening ear as much as an unmatched site to recollect one's kin, and recover hope.

→ montligeon.org/en/emerging-from-mourning/

The most visited monument in the Perche region

The edification of the basilica of Montligeon began in 1896. It developed at the favor of the innumerable pilgrims' offerings. Each year, it hosts 120,000 people. Registered in the French catalogue of National Historic Monuments, the neo-gothic styled basilica of Montligeon presents a complete array in the art of twentieth century stained glass substantiating Christian Hope.

A basilica in jeopardy

Three prevailing matters of urgency: the rooftop, the stained-glass windows, and the stonework. Refurbishment works may no longer be postponed. Invisible to the non-specialists, the derelict features undermine the whole construction.



Some stained-glass windows display nerve-racking disjoints

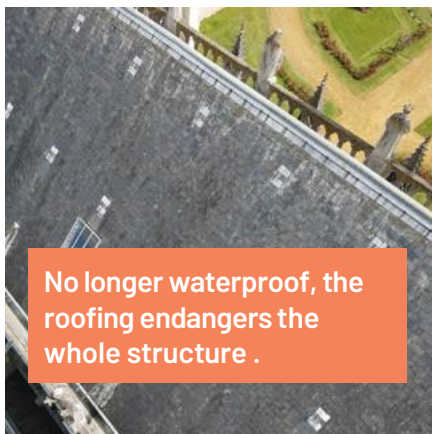
22 stained glass windows in need of renovation: €826,496.00

Absolute works of art depicting eschatological themes as well as the Communion of Saints, the stained-glass panels located in the choir of the basilica (alluding to Christ Jesus' Passion, Resurrection and Ascension together with the life of the M.B. Virgin Mary) present corroded fetters, warped lead portions, and broken or missing fragments.

Urgently required: restoration of cracked, deformed or missing glasses

- Total and partial replacement of the lead lattice and corroded fetters
- Securing of weakened or damaged components.

Cost per stained glass window: €37,568.00



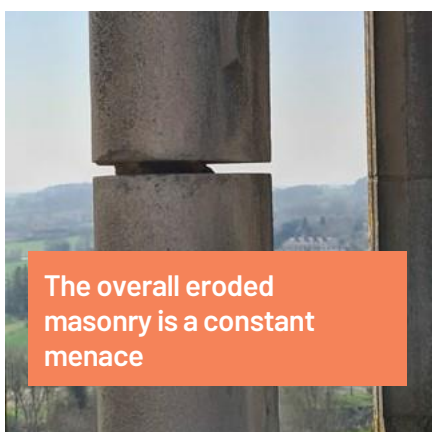
No longer waterproof, the roofing endangers the whole structure.

2,650 square meters of rooftop to be renovated: €1,473,512.00

The rooftop of the basilica is the initial roofing (1903). Over the years, its various constituents have become brittle and, in places, display significant flaws and deterioration.

Urgently required: replacement of all slates • renovation of rain waters evacuation system • renewal and waterproofing of all joints

Cost per 25 sq.m.: €13,901.00



The overall eroded masonry is a constant menace

Urgent stonework repairs: €1,008,386.00

Weather conditions have impaired the balustrades, sculptures, windows, and buttresses as well as the ashlar joints.

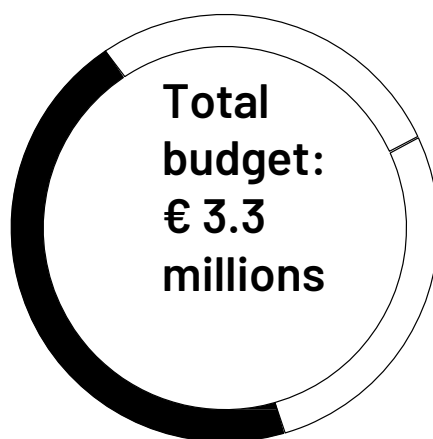
Urgently required: reinforcement of eroded seals so as to ensure watertight ashlar joints

- Substitution of ashlar segments • Sealing of clefts and stone work re-pointing.

Become an artisan
of hope today:
partake in the
renovation of the
basilica.



To be
sponsored:
45%



Solicited grants:
27.5%

Assets:
27.5%

"I bring my patronage to Montligeon"

"Heritage is everyone's business, of which we are all depositary. This is why I support Montligeon in its sponsors quest, so that, together we may contribute to offering Montligeon a new lease on life. In gratitude."

Stéphane Bern

In charge of Fondation du Patrimoine

"A significant outlay for a notable edifice"

"The urgency first and foremost lies in the utter want of restoration relating to the various enclosed and covered areas of the basilica; all of which date back to its erection. Some parts, notably the choir and its apsidal chapels, are particularly complex."

François Pougheol

Heritage architect in charge of the plan

"Let us prolong Fr. Paul Buguet's endeavor!"

"The *Fondation du Patrimoine* could not remain impervious to the restoration scheme of Our Lady of Montligeon basilica and is proud to be associated with its sponsorship campaign. Let us all prolong Fr. Buguet's labors!"

Claude Trianon

"Fondation du Patrimoine"
Regional delegate

**Become an artisan of hope:
join the major benefactors of
the Montligeon basilica**

Make a secured online donation

I support this scheme

<https://soutenir.montligeon.org/b/my-donation>

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Photo : Yori Bailleres

Stéphane Bern visiting the shrine of Our Lady of Montligeon on Dec. 21, 2021.



The Fondation du patrimoine is a partner in the restoration of the basilica of Montligeon. The French State has missioned the Fondation du patrimoine to promote the protection and heightening of proximity and religious heritage.

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