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Light the candle today!



Financial:

The number of donors dropped 26% in the first six months of the pandemic and rebounded slightly since 2020, yet remains 16% below pre pandemic levels. This poses a financial risk to the long-term sustainability of most parishes and cemetery - mausoleum operators.

Parishes and businesses feel the same pinch as everyone due to inflation and in spite of an increase in giving, we have 11% less spending power.

Spending available funds wisely is a priority of everyone. In only making electronic candles and Gabriel available to parishioners does an investment ensure a return on costs.



St. Joseph's Oratory, Montreal



Pope John Paul Mausoleum, Detroit Diocese

Environmental:

A 5-day votive candle is equal to 1,200 grams of carbon dioxide. A typical Parish might use 50 candles per week producing 60,000 grams every 5 days or a Shrine may use 10,000 5-day votive candles producing 1M grams or 1 tonne each 5 day cycle.

In contrast, a tonne of carbon dioxide is approximately the amount that would be emitted by a Honda Civic driving from Boston to Seattle.

Do not think that by burning wax candles for religious purposes we are not contributing to the growth of the world's green house gases.

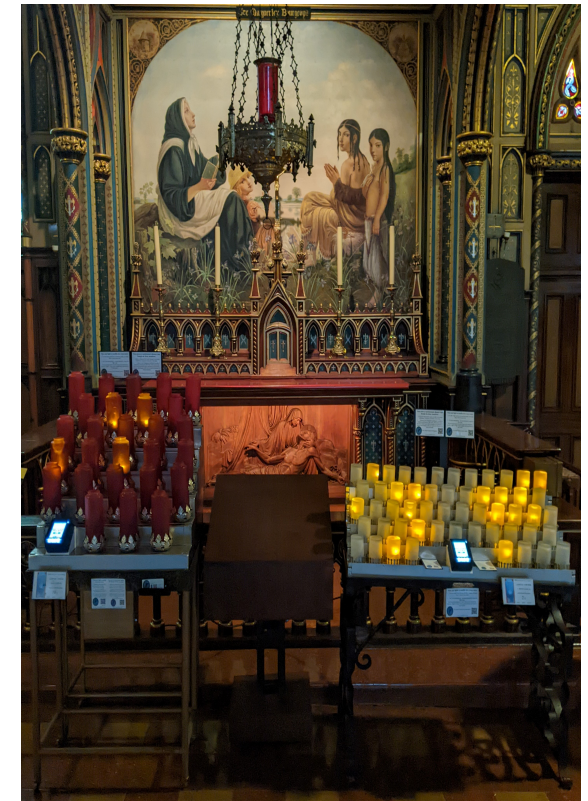


Reaching out to the Community:

A survey found the religious identity had not significantly changed due to the pandemic. Attendance at religious services was found to have been most affected by the pandemic.

By Spring 2022 rates of attendance had fallen by about 10 points. Now only around two thirds report attending religious services at least once per year and every surveyed group saw some level of decreased attendance.

Reaching out to our communities is as never more important than now and Gabriel can assist in expanding outreach community programs and satisfy fund raising needs.



Notre Dame de Montreal