

July 25, 2025

Hello everyone,

After my return to Quebec in 2020, I was given the opportunity to work at Sanctuaire Notre-Dame de Lourdes in Rigaud. This Sanctuary is a true cathedral surrounded by nature. Over time, many repairs and renovations are required but finances are lacking. For some years, pilgrims have asked about improving the grotto by enlarging the space behind the statue of St. Bernadette so more people can gather and pray. That proposed extended area is what is called a belvedere. Recognizing the benefit, a belvedere would be to pilgrims, I completely support this project. Unfortunately, a lack of finances for this project has always been the obstacle, because of the many other projects at the Sanctuary which were given priority. This summer, Mrs. Christiane Lévêque, President of the Board of Directors, authorized me to go ahead with this project, provided I raise the necessary funds myself.

So, I'm asking for your help!

Two Christian entrepreneurs have offered to carry out the work of leveling the land for the belvedere (part of the rock on the mountain must be crushed) for a cost of \$5,000. Handrails and other safeguards would then be installed but I do not yet have a quote for that cost. The work would be done when Sanctuary's 2025 season ends on October 5. Before prices increase, I would like to award the contract, but I cannot do that without your help. I know it is asking a lot but your generosity in any amount would certainly help us to achieve this wonderful project. Our Lady of Lourdes would most certainly approve, and I am sure will reward you.

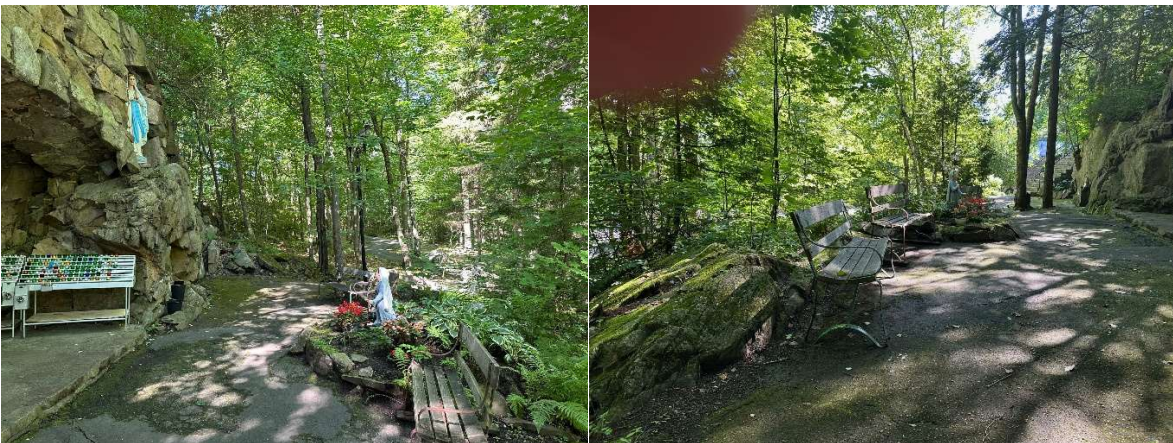
If you know of others who might help with this project, please tell them or forward this email.

You can also visit the Sanctuary's website <https://lourdesrigaud.ca>

Here is how you can send your contributions:

- 1) by cheque to "Sanctuaire Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes", 18 rue Bourget, Rigaud QC J0P 1P0 and note "**for the belvedere**".
- 2) in cash, if we meet in person
- 3) by using the envelopes marked "DONS BELVEDERE" found in the boutique
- 4) to receive a charitable receipt, you must include your name and mailing address
- 5) it is always possible to reach me by email gaetanlabadie12@gmail.com or by my cell phone 438-357-8599.

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, may you receive abundant blessings for your support for this special project.



Gaetan Labadie

C.S.V