

NU-FRA-1239  
2024-12-31



**A Montfortian Sanctuary for a Jubilee experience**

**PONTCHÂTEAU, France** - Following Pope Francis who opened the Holy Door during Christmas Eve, Monsignor Laurent PERCEROU, Bishop of Nantes, celebrated the opening of the Jubilee, on Sunday, December 29, 2024, at the 11:00 a.m. Mass at the Basilica of Saint Donatien, during which the parishes of the diocese received a lantern that will illuminate this Jubilee year. Pilgrimage is a fundamental element of any Jubilee event. Pilgrims of hope will not fail to take ancient and modern paths to live the Jubilee experience, which is why Monsignor Percerou included in the proposals that will punctuate this Jubilee year. What could be better than the "Calvary of Pontchâteau" because Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort wanted that way, as a reconstruction of the "Holy Land" in Brittany, in order to allow many pilgrims to find themselves in a sacred place of meditation. On this 14-hectare site, we can follow different paths. Each path tells us, in its own way, the love, mercy, and tenderness of God. And this is the foundation of our hope, the theme of the jubilee year of 2025. The main paths that can be followed in the sanctuary are:

- **The Way of the Cross**, which reminds us of the one on the mountain in Lourdes. It is the most followed by pilgrims. Inaugurated on June 24, 1899, by Cardinal Richard, Archbishop of Paris, this route is marked with sculpted groups, representing the different stations of the Passion of Christ.
- **The Montfort path**, inaugurated in 2016 on the occasion of the 3rd centenary of the death of Saint-Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort. It describes the life of Montfort in 21 paintings.
- **The Rosary path**, located behind Calvary, offers a visual and a word from God for each mystery.
- **The path of God's tenderness**: 25 paintings by Ricardo Scotti are exhibited in the great hall of Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort. They express God's tenderness for his chosen people, and for all humanity through scenes taken from our holy history.
- **The path of consolation**, the last path inaugurated by Bishop Laurent Percerou on September 24, 2023, is a place to honor the memory of children who did not see the light of day and who remained unburied.

These paths will be covered during the ones that will take place in Pontchâteau. Each day, which runs from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., will offer the Eucharist, the possibility of the sacrament of reconciliation, the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and an animation following a program of 11 days:

- January 15, Biblical Jubilee Path of God's Tenderness
- February 1, Jubilee of Consecrated Life and Religious Life
- March 2, Jubilee of the Way of the Cross
- April 2, Jubilee of the Way of Montfort
- May 10, Jubilee of the Rosary and Families
- June 21, Jubilee of the Music Festival, the Hymns of Montfort
- July 9, Solidarity Jubilee
- August 9, Jubilee of Volunteers in the Church
- October 15, Jubilee of Youth
- November 15, Jubilee of the Way of Consolation
- December 7, Jubilee of Families

All these days propose to begin a journey to meet Christ. These jubilee days at the Calvary of Pontchâteau, accompanied by the Montfortian Family, will put you on the jubilee path of hope, through solidarity, justice, commitment to the service of God, in joy and peace with all.

*Stéphane FENG Animation project manager Calvary of Pontchâteau*