

THE ALTAR OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN
THE RIGHT TRANSEPT.

In the left transept is a newly designed Shrine to Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. The terra cotta image of Blessed Kateri is by the French-Canadian sculptress Rose Anne Mona. Beneath the Shrine is a small altar and a kneeler on which are mounted the relics and liturgical prayer to Blessed Kateri.

Another liturgical renovation is the newly-built confessional room in the right tower at the rear of the Church. The layout of this space allows for the option of going to confession "face to face" or in the more traditional manner.

The large stations of the Cross, originally from St. Peter's Cathedral, London, Ontario have been rearranged in the transept



THE NEWLY BUILT CONFESSIONAL ROOM.

areas. The plaques from different benefactors and groups, who over the years have been so faithful to the Shrine, have been brought together in two areas flanking the central doors.

The Martyrs' Shrine offers in its liturgical setting, a happy blend of that which is familiar in the traditions of the Church as well as a renewed setting for the Eucharistic Celebration. The recent changes are witness to a living Church as foreseen in the vision of the Martyrs, Fr. John Filion, S.J., the founder of the Shrine, and the Jesuits of the Upper Canada Province, proud custodians of one of Canada's most beautiful settings for the worship of God and the honoring of His Saints.

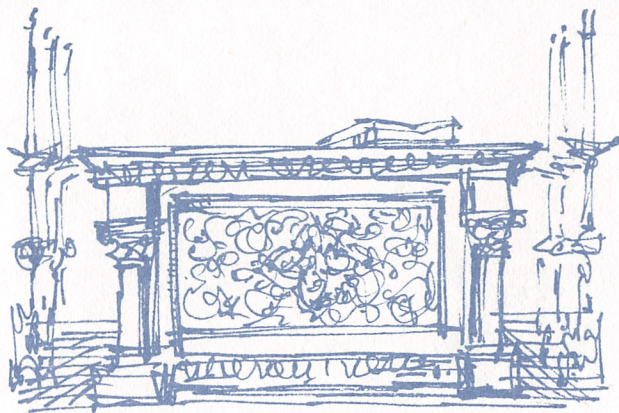


martyrs' shrine

Midland, Ontario
L4R 4K5

le sanctuaire
des martyrs canadiens

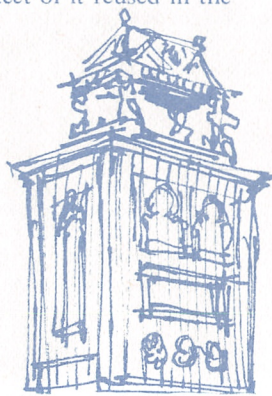
THE CHURCH THE MARTYRS' SHRINE



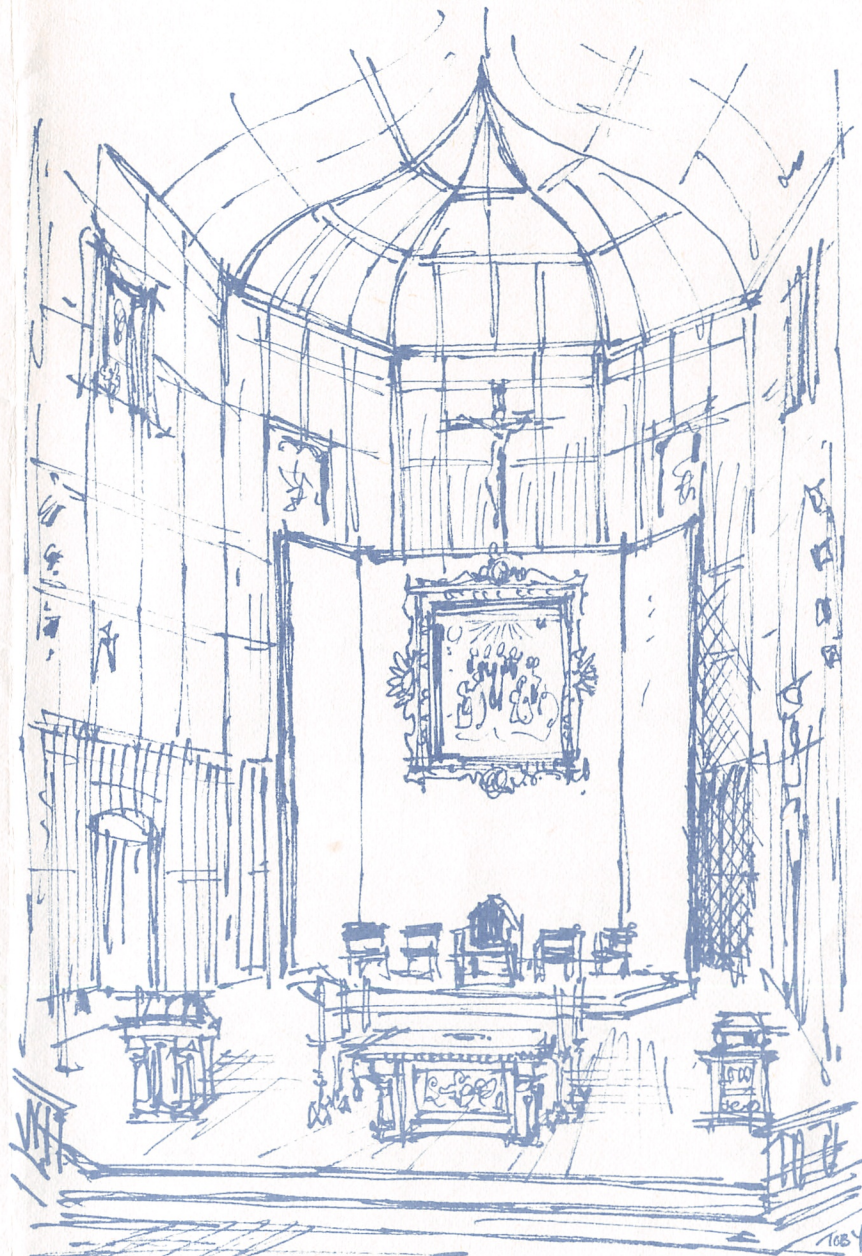
The reopening of the Shrine in May of 1982 marked the culmination of a winter of steady activity in which liturgical renovations were carried out to the interior of the Church. Designed by Fr. Toby McGivern, a priest of the archdiocese of Montreal and a liturgical consultant, the renovations were implemented to bring the worship areas of the Church into conformity with the spirit and directives of Vatican II. The work was carried out locally under the supervision of Mr. Raymond Piitz.

The old main altar, originally from St. Peter's Paulist Church in Toronto, was dismantled and every facet of it reused in the building of the new altar of sacrifice, the Blessed Sacrament altar in the right transept as well as being incorporated into the new pulpit and reliquary stand in the sanctuary.

The central focus of the Church is the sanctuary. The altar of sacrifice fashioned from the central panelings of the old main altar and flanked by six tall brass candle sticks and the matching processional cross adapted from the central crucifix that sat above the original tabernacle, are all part of the original altar furnishings.



THE RELIQUARY



THE RENOVATED SANCTUARY AREA OF THE SHRINE

The famous painting of the eight Martyrs, painted by the late Mother Mary Nealis — was brought forward from the back wall of the sanctuary and placed in a new reodos, giving it a better setting and highlighting the dedication of this Church to their memory.

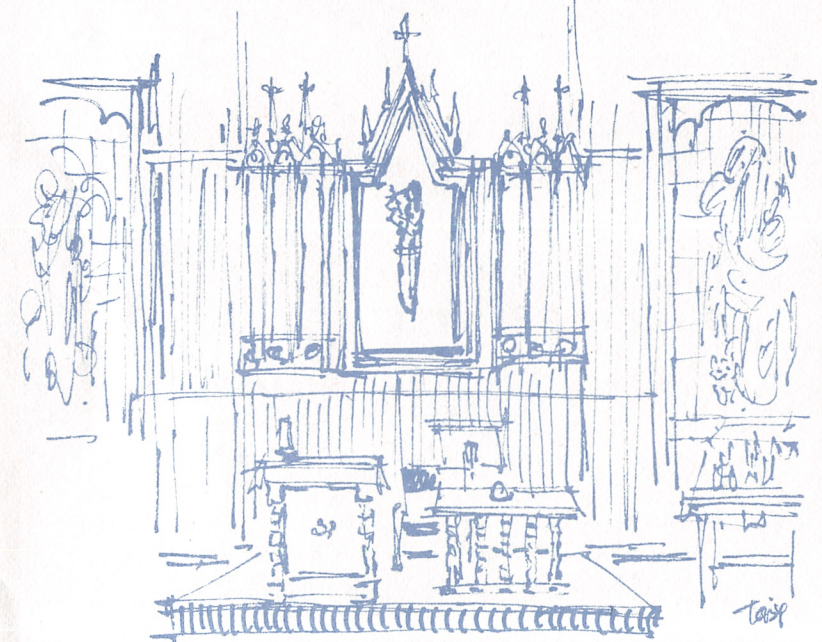
The crucifix is of linden wood and is a recent addition as is the celebrant's chair, in green, and the flanking red upholstered chairs in the sanctuary. The new pulpit features the enthronement of the Bible and the large pillars supporting the podium are from the old main altar. The reliquary, to the right of the altar of sacrifice, is a richly ornamented bronze casket featuring statuettes of priest, Indian, lay helper, and governor, supporting the relics of Saints Jean de Brebeuf, Gabriel Lalement and Charles Garnier.

The kneelers to each side of the steps leading to the sanctuary area, contain prayers and petitions in 15 languages.

The glass-encased statuary to the right and left of the sanctuary contains plaster representations of Saint Gabriel Lalement and St. Jean de Brebeuf.

In the right transept is located the Blessed Sacrament Altar, made of the more decorative components of the old main altar and incorporating the original tabernacle. Such is the work of local craftsmen that two of the four pillars at the base are "copies" of the original. In front is a kneeler on which is mounted for veneration the relics of Sts. Jean de Brebeuf, Gabriel Lalement and Charles Garnier.

In the central niche above the tabernacle is St. Joseph with the child Jesus, Patron of Canada and of the Missions. St. Joseph holds a special place in the devotions at the Shrine.



THE SHRINE TO ST. KATERI TEKAKWITHA
IN THE LEFT TRANSEPT.