

The clergy alone enter. "Peace be to this dwelling," says the Pontiff. And all present reply, *Amen*. Then the choir sings: "Eternal peace be to this dwelling in the name of the Eternal God. May the Peace which lasts for ever, the Son of the Father, be the peace of this dwelling. May the peace of the holy Consoler be sent to this house and dwell in it.—Zachens, they continue, hasten to descend, for this day will I dwell in thy house. And he hastened to descend and joyfully received the Lord into his house. On that day was salvation given to that house." *Alleluia*.

The *Veni Creator* is then sung, and is followed by the Litany of the Saints, during which the names of the titular Saints of the Church and of the altars to be consecrated are repeated.

During the singing of the *Benedictus*, each verse of which is alternated with Jacob's words: "This place is indeed wonderful; it is no other than the house of God and the gate of Heaven," the Pontiff, with the staff of his crozier, inscribes the Greek and Latin alphabets on some ashes previously sprinkled upon the floor of the church in the form of a St. Andrew's cross, a rite which symbolizes the two languages in which the Apostles preached the Gospel.

The Pontiff standing opposite the altar he is to consecrate blesses water, salt, wine and ashes, with which mixture he asperges the altar, the walls of the Basilica three times, and the floor of the church from the altar-step to the principal entrance. During this the other six consecrating Bishops vest for the ceremony, and a portion of the above-named mixture is reserved for each of them.

His Grace the Archbishop of Montreal was the consecrator of the Altar of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

His Grace the Archbishop of Ottawa, of St. Joseph's altar.

His Lordship the Bishop of Three Rivers, of St. Alphonsus'.