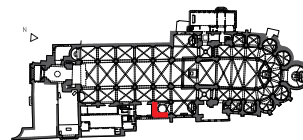


# RESTORATION OF THE SAINT-MAUR CHAPEL AND ITS 19TH-CENTURY DÉCORS

FILE no.47 - Upper sections, and the confessional



## DESCRIPTION

In the Saint-Maur Chapel, originally constructed in the 17th century, Victor Baltard continued the grand decorative scheme begun in the nave and the aisles of the church, commissioning painter Alexandre Denuelle to create an abundant, colourful décor on the walls of the chapel. To the south, a faux-architectural pattern serves to highlight the beauty of the ornamental stained-glass window produced by the workshops of Lusson in Le Mans in 1863. The other wall is given over to a representation of the *Swoon of the Virgin*, painted by Oscar Varcollier in 1846 and surrounded by painted and gilded neo-Romanesque wooden panels. Beneath this ensemble, a sculpted wooden confessional is an example of the furniture designed for the church in the early nineteenth century by ecclesiastical architect Jean-Baptiste Lassus.

## RESTORATION AND OBJECTIVES

Now torn in places, the Varcollier paintings will be taken down for thorough restoration, as well as work to conserve the wooden frame.

Following on from the work in the aisles, a comprehensive restoration of the painted décors and wood panelling will reveal the vibrant colours which have been gradually dulled by the effects of time. The south window was recently restored and will receive a simple check-up, but the Lassus confessional will be thoroughly restored, providing a great opportunity to study in detail the complex techniques which the architect used to assemble his creations.



Damage to the canvas and peeling paint



1. Neo-Romanesque gilded and painted arches
2. *Swoon of the Virgin*, Oscar Varcollier, 1846
3. Confessional, designed by Lassus
4. Polychrome faux-architectural décors
5. Stained glass panels from the Lusson workshop, Le Mans
6. Coloured, ornamental stained glass window, 1863

## COST OF SPONSORING THIS WORK

€ 150,132

**All costs relating to contracting, coordination and commissioning will be borne by the City of Paris.**