



Our Lady of Angels

The Church Our Lady of Angels looks out over the Gulf of Bengal, facing the rising sun. It was built between 1851 and 1855 of 'Neapolitan pink' stone, and the work was overseen by the engineer Louis Guerre. Descendant of a family who had been in Pondicherry since the 18th century, Guerre also built the presbytery and other fine houses in the area. The original Church of Our Lady of Angels was built in 1707, in its current position between the rue Dumas and the rue Rolland, after the arrival of the first French Governor of Pondicherry, Francois Martin, in 1674. This first Church eventually became too small and when it was falling into disrepair a second Church was built in its place, between 1739 and 1758, during the glorious years of the Governor Dupleix. In 1761 this Church was razed to the ground by the English, as was the rest of the French city. Another Chapel was provisionally used until the completion of the existing building. Traditionally the Church has always housed a priest of French origin, and today it is the residence of the Tamil/French priest, Father Michael John Antonysamy. Our Lady of Angels is the only Church in Pondicherry where Mass is celebrated every Sunday in all three of the city's languages: French, English and Tamil.

RESTORATION WORK ON THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF ANGELS : TOTAL BUDGET : 80,000 €

DETAILS :

- Weatherproofing
- Roofing and tiles 650 m2
- Scaffolding for weatherproofing
- Recasting and installation of the 22 windows on the nave
- Repair and installation of the 8 windows of the dome
- Supply of 3 windows for the roof
- Supply of 3 ladders for access to the Church-towers
- 2 trap-doors onto the Church-tower terrace
- Repair to parts of the paving
- Repairs to electrics
- Decoration of the Church interior
- Decoration of the Church exterior
- Exterior scaffolding
- Interior scaffolding
- Supply of 90m of rope for the bells
- Repairs to the rain-guards on the Church-tower windows
- Repairs to 80 benches
- Repairs to the 4 altar columns
- Various

