ABBREVIATED CHRONOLOGY

(AS OF AUGUST 2007)

30 October 1858: Birth of Désiré Jérémie Roy in Bethierville, Quebec.

28 February 1888: J.A. Roy is ordained a priest by Mgr Fabre.

1890–1905: J.A. Roy is a missionary in the Canadian West.

30 September 1891: Birth of Marie-Louise Bouchard in Les Escoumins, Quebec.

1 October 1891: Baptism of Marie-Louise Bouchard in St. Marcellin parish in Les Escoumins.

1893: Death of Marie-Louise’s father, Théophile Bouchard, in a mining accident in Copper Cliff.

13 May 1895: Marie-Louise’s mother, Georgianne Tremblay, weds Napoléon Labelle.

December 1898: The family moves to Hanmer, Ontario (slightly north of Sudbury).

1 August 1906: J.A. Roy becomes the first curate in Hanmer.

29 September 1913: End of J.A. Roy’s term as curate in Hanmer.

1913–1916: Father Roy is the curate in Cache Bay.

1916: Marie-Louise and Joseph flee Cache Bay and come to live in Ottawa.

21 May 1917: Joseph Ray (alias J.A. Roy) buys from William Slinn Lots 133, 134 and 135 on Stanley Avenue as well as Lots 187, 188 and 189 facing on Billings Avenue in Rideau Park.


30 October 1918: Birth of Gertrude Ray, second child of Marie-Louise Bouchard Labelle and Joseph Ray (alias Jérémie Alphonse Roy). Joseph is 60 years old!

1 November 1920: Death of Georgianne Tremblay, Marie-Louise’s mother, in Hanmer. Marie-Louise attends her mother’s funeral with her son Joe. She is pregnant with her son Lorne.


1928: Jérémie Alphonse Roy (alias Joseph Ray) returns to the priesthood.


1930–1932: Marie-Louise rents the house to Mr. Baker and family. She and the children move to the second floor of a house
located on Bank St, between Cameron and Riverdale. She runs the lunch counter attached to the house but the business fails.

1932: Marie-Louise and the children move to the second floor of a house at 402 Sunnyside.

Spring 1933: Marie-Louise and the children move back to the house on Stanley Avenue. The Bakers continue to occupy the house until the fall.

1933–1935: The Great Depression worsens. Trips to Montreal. Marie-Louise and a friend rent a house on Second Ave in the Glebe and transform it into a convalescent home. The project is a fiasco and they lose their investment. Marie-Louise has a small kiosk constructed by the side of the house to sell sodas and candy. New failure.

1935–1936: Penniless, Marie-Louise rents the Stanley Avenue house to John W. Rostetter and moves with the children to a three-bedroom home at 187 James St. One can surmise that Joseph A. Roy helped out because he sells one of his lots at a loss.

1936–1937: Marie-Louise rents an imposing three-story, eight-bedroom house on Lisgar St. and transforms it into a boarding house. Total bankruptcy! Her eldest son, Joe, goes to work in northern Ontario mines.

1937–1939: Marie-Louise moves to a three-story house at 227 Nepean. She sublets two rooms to bring in revenue.

3 May 1938: Marie-Louise finds herself gripped in a financial clutch and is forced to sell the Stanley Avenue house. She sells the lots to John Rostetter for $4,000. It is a sale with a big loss and she receives no cash since Mr. Rostetter has none either. He takes out a mortgage with her.
October 1938: Gertrude, Marie-Louise’s daughter, leaves to study nursing in Cornwall.

July 1939: Marie-Louise and Lorne move to a small second floor apartment on Rideau St, at the corner of Chapel.

1 September 1939: Beginning of World War II.

1940: Marie-Louise gets a job cleaning federal government offices and moves with Lorne to a bachelor apartment on Slater St. (The house does not exist anymore.) Gertrude returns from Cornwall with tuberculosis and moves in with her mother and Lorne.

1941: Marie-Louise moves with Lorne and Gertrude to a three-story house at 5 Central Avenue. She rents out the top half of the house to a young couple.

1942: Gertrude returns to Cornwall to complete her Nursing Diploma.

3 December 1942: John Rostetter pays in full the balance of his mortgage with Marie-Louise. John Rostetter is now sole proprietor of the Stanley Avenue property.

1942–1943: DesNeiges Bergeron, Marie-Louise’s niece from Hanmer, comes to work in Ottawa and lives with Marie-Louise on Central Avenue. Lorne is in the Navy and Gertrude is in Cornwall.

1 July 1943: Wedding of Joseph Ray (Marie-Louise’s eldest son) with Marie Cécile Valois.

8 October 1943: Marriage of Lorne Ray (Marie-Louise’s youngest son) with Isabella Hall.

Spring 1944: Gertrude completes her nursing degree and gets a job at the Ottawa General Hospital.

28 July 1944: Death of Jérémie Alphonse Roy in l’Assomption, QC.
31 July 1944: J.A. Roy is buried in Berthierville where he was born.

4 August 1944: Marie-Louise becomes a grandmother.

2 September 1945: End of the Second World War.

21 September 1946: Gertrude Ray (Marie-Louise’s daughter) marries Paul-Émile Mantha.

1949: Marie-Louise is 58 years old. She leaves her government job and moves with Gertrude and her husband in Toronto where she will live until 1957.


Spring 1960: Georgette Bergeron, Marie-Louise’s godchild and niece, completes her nursing studies. Because Georgette’s mother is in the hospital, Marie-Louise goes to Hanmer and stand in for her at the graduation ceremony.

1962–1965: The Mantha family has moved to 29 Sweetland Avenue. Marie-Louise still lives at Lorne’s, but visits frequently and stays over from time to time.

September 1964: At 73 years of age, Marie-Louise travels to the Yukon with her sister Claire-Hilda, her sister’s husband and her two nieces, Clothilde and Georgette Bergeron.

1970: Marie-Louise rents an apartment in a senior citizens residence on Rochester St. She devotes herself to oil painting.


1973: Death of Marie-Louise Labelle (born Bouchard) in Ottawa. She is 82 years old. She is buried in Notre-Dame Cemetery in Ottawa, on Montreal Rd.
29 October 1994: In Aylmer, Quebec, death of Joseph Ray (Marie-Louise’s eldest son)

12 July 2005: In Ottawa, death of Albert Laurent (Lorne) Ray (Marie-Louise’s youngest son)