



## **PRESS RELEASE AND INVITATION**

### ***Archbishop Lépine invites you to the Feast of Corpus Christi***

Montreal, June 18, 2019 – Archbishop Christian Lépine invites you to participate in the Feast of Corpus Christi on Thursday, June 20.

“Everyone is invited to join me in celebrating the Feast of Corpus Christi, which will begin with a solemn Mass at Mary Queen of the World Cathedral at 7:30 p.m. Following Mass, a Eucharistic Procession will be held,” the Archbishop states.

An estimated 1,500 people – including many members from Montreal’s numerous cultural communities – are expected to participate in the procession that will take place along René-Lévesque Boulevard, from Mary Queen of the World Cathedral to St. Patrick’s Basilica (this route will be closed to traffic). Last year, more than 2,000 participated in the event.

On the Feast of Corpus Christi – the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ – Catholics honour the “Real Presence” of Christ in the Eucharist. This feast is an ancient tradition, which has been observed for centuries by holding a Eucharistic Procession, in which a consecrated host, placed in a blessed receptacle (i.e. a monstrance), leads the congregation, who follow while singing hymns and reciting prayers.

Thursday, June 20, at approximately 8:30 p.m. (following the Mass)  
Departure from Mary Queen of the World Cathedral  
René-Lévesque Boulevard (Place Ville-Marie)

Midway along the route, the procession will temporarily halt in front of Place Ville-Marie, at which time the Archbishop will step onto the float carrying the Blessed Sacrament to solemnly bless the city before continuing to St. Patrick’s Basilica for the final message and Benediction with the exposed Eucharist in the monstrance.

The candlelight procession will last approximately 45 minutes. **This event will take place regardless of weather conditions.**

– 30 –

**For more information or an interview, please contact:**

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