

COMMUNIQUÉ No. 73 – JANUARY 16, 2023 INFORMATION

To members of pastoral teams, To priests, deacons, PCLs, LPAs, To the faithful active in their communities, To members of religious communities, To Archdiocesan staff,

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The following items of information may serve to remind us that, as we come back from the holiday season, our Church's mission goes on in Hopefulness:

World Day for Consecrated Life, February 4, 2023

World Day for Consecrated Life is celebrated each year on February 2 at the feast of the Presentation of Our Lord. Here in Montreal, in observation of the 27th anniversary of this feast, we will take part in a joyful **Eucharistic celebration on Saturday, February 4, at 10:30 a.m. at the Sanctuaire Marie-Reine-des-Coeurs, with Archbishop Christian Lépine presiding**. The Sanctuaire is located at 5875 Sherbrooke St. E., Montreal (Cadillac metro station).

All are invited! The Mass will also be livestreamed on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@EglisecatholiqueaMontreal/streams.

This day is an opportunity to give thanks to God for our many consecrated men and women. It is also a day for us to pray for them, as well as for new vocations, in addition to raising awareness among young people of the reality of consecrated life.

In this year of the Synod on synodality, as we are exhorted to "walk together," let's ask ourselves, "Who are these sisters and brothers and these consecrated men and women living in our parishes and our neighbourhoods? Are we aware that we are all together on the same mission?"

I would like to invite you to underscore the importance of this day and, if possible, show a gesture of gratitude and brotherhood to the men and women in consecrated life in your parishes.

We would invite you to pray for them, to get in touch with them and visit them during this feast time and get to know them better!

- A first gesture might be to mention them during your Eucharistic celebrations on February 2, or the preceding or following Sunday.
- As a second gesture, you could get in contact with them by sending a greeting card (suggestion: this can involve families and young people), communicating online or in person or by telephone, and asking for their news, etc.

Even if seemingly small, any such action inspired by love and gratitude will be greatly appreciated and will help foster communion and synodality in our Church. I thank you in advance for your consideration.

To participate in the diocesan celebration, click on the link: https://forms.office.com/r/BkYfsjCnFX

A prayer and resources to accompany this occasion, as well as several other suggestions, are all available on the web page of *Carrefour intervocationnel* (formerly Centre PRI) dedicated to World Day for Consecrated Life: https://www.carrefourintervocationnel.ca/fr/jmvc/index

For further information: Office for Consecrated Life - vitaconsecrata@diocesemontreal.org

A synodal conversation about the preferential option for the poor: luxury or necessity?

Save this date! Saturday, January 28, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Vicar General Alain Faubert and Director of the Social Action Office Ms. Louise Royer wish to invite all those who are interested to attend a synodal conversation on this subject. The purpose of the meeting is to enable us to SEE more clearly our diocese's progress in terms of the preferential option for the poor and have a better idea how well coordinated the confessional groups and community organizations and institutions have been in their collaborative efforts. What impact have they had on the circumstances of poverty and social injustice? Are some opportunities presenting themselves? Are there future difficulties to be addressed? What further strengths could be brought into play, and what areas of weakness need to be overcome? This initiative aims to help define our diocese's missionary approach. The event will take place in the parish hall of the Mary Queen of the World Cathedral. Participation via videoconference will also be possible. Further information will follow for registration.

Focus on the Victims of Abuse seminars continue from January 21, 2023

Together we continue our firm commitment to fight against all forms of abuse in the Church of Montreal and in our society!

The "FVA seminars" are intended for pastoral staff, churchwardens and employees of the Fabriques, catechetical volunteers (18 years and older) and PHC volunteers. If you did not have the opportunity to attend this mandatory training last year, here is your chance! More information and FVA registration here.

I hope to have the opportunity to meet with you at one or more of these events, and I thank you for the valuable service you perform for the Church. Keep the faith, and let's remain united with one another in prayer.

In Jesus our Savior,

† Alain Faubert, VG

+ Ola Fauha

Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal