

COMMUNIQUÉ No. 97 – FEBRUARY 6, 2024
***** IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OUR ARCHBISHOP *****
INFORMATIONS AND REMINDER

**To Members of Parish Teams,
To our Clergy, PCLs, and LPAs,
To the faithful active in their communities,
To Members of Religious Communities,
To Archdiocesan Staff,**

Dear brothers and sisters, please take note of this **important communication from our Archbishop** and share it with your networks. I also join some information and reminders indicative of our Church's commitment to the spiritual good of all:

1. Palliative Care at Crossroads: When Faith and Legislation Meet

At the complex crossroads where faith, healthcare and legislation intersect, the Catholic Church's position on end-of-life care has always been rooted in the sanctity of human life. The Church recognizes the importance of high-quality palliative care, emphasizing the need to address not only physical pain but also the emotional, affective, and spiritual needs of individuals. However, recent legal changes have introduced a challenging landscape for institutions like St-Raphael Palliative Care Home.

You will find [HERE](#) a link to Archbishop Christian Lépine's statement and the text of the appeal to the Superior Court, which seeks to suspend this new obligation.

2. "It is not good that the man is alone" (Gn 2:18): World Day of the Sick, Saturday, February 10, 2024

As part of the *World Day of the Sick*, instituted in 1992 by Saint John Paul II in memory of Our Lady of Lourdes, *SASMAD* is once again organizing a celebration for and with the sick on Saturday, February 10.

The event will take place at Saint-Isaac Jogues Church, 1335 rue Chabanel Est (parking available); after a time of welcome starting at 9:30 a.m., it will begin at 10:00 a.m. with the Rosary, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Priests will be on hand in the morning for individual confessions and to administer the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The event will culminate at noon with a Eucharistic concelebration presided over by Episcopal Vicar Father Harry Célestin c.s.v. Courtesy of Les Amis de Jeanne Mance, soup will be served in the church basement for all participants.

Access and transport: A shuttle bus, the Catholic Action mini-bus, will take participants from the Sauvé metro station (north exit) at 9:15 a.m. to the Saint Isaac Jogues church, then back to the Sauvé metro station after lunch. Note that an elevator also facilitates access between the church and the basement.

We hope you will be able to attend this important diocesan event. Please feel free to pass on this invitation to anyone who might be interested.

For further information, please contact SASMAD at 514 272-4441.

[Message of His Holiness Pope Francis - XXXII World Day of the Sick - here](#)

3. Paroisses en Mission

I would also like to draw your attention to this initiative by a network of Quebec parishes committed to missionary conversion. A 2nd Provincial Forum is being planned for April 20, at the Basilica of Notre-Dame-du-Cap in Trois-Rivières!

(In French only)

For more information, please visit their Web site : <https://paroissesenmission.org/>;

Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/ReseauParoissesEnMission`](https://www.facebook.com/ReseauParoissesEnMission)

YouTube channel : <https://www.youtube.com/@paroissesenmission>

[Form to register your team for the Forum on April 20, 2024](#)

4. Reminder - Diocesan Mass / World Marriage Day 2024

This beautiful Mass, dedicated to couples and families, will be presided over by Father Robert J. Gendreau on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at 5 p.m. Archbishop Christian Lepine sends his regrets as he will be out of town that day and cannot celebrate with us.

Couples attending this Mass will be invited to renew their marriage commitment and receive a special blessing. This Eucharistic celebration will also be live-streamed on the [YouTube channel of the Catholic Church of Montreal](#).

We look forward to seeing you on February 10, and would be grateful if you could contact us to reserve pews for your community in the Cathedral prior to your arrival if needed.

Please find hereafter the updated poster for the *Diocesan Mass for World Marriage Day 2024*:

[Poster here](#)

Hoping you'll be able to join us at one or other of these events, I wish you, dear brothers and sisters, a joyful start to Lent.

In Jesus our Saviour



†Alain Faubert, VG
Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal