



Archbishop of Montréal

December 16, 2022

Dear collaborators in the mission,

Since May 2021, we have been working steadfastly to implement a rigorous complaint handling process in the Archdiocese of Montreal.

This week, despite our joint efforts, our Church institution has received much criticism. We find ourselves faced with various feelings, including misunderstanding and disappointment.

The transformation process in which we are resolutely engaged may seem longer than some would like, but we are pursuing it with perseverance, and with the determination to complete the implementation of all the recommendations contained in the Capriolo report.

Among these, an external audit of the complaints handling process was launched at the beginning of December and will be completed in a few months. The results will allow us to hear the criticisms, evaluate our practices, and enact the improvements deemed necessary.

I particularly thank those who work with me most closely for their hard work in carrying out each step of a complex transformation process.

I am very grateful to the Honorable Pepita G. Capriolo for having designed the process of freeing the voices of victims, and to courageously shed light on abuses as we search for justice.

I would also like to highlight the essential contribution of the Ombudsman. Anyone who has experienced abuse, or who has witnessed it, can count on an attentive and caring welcome.

Finally, I sincerely thank the approximately 1,200 people who have already taken part in the Focus on the Victims of Abuse training.

We continue to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, doing all we can to prevent abuse and to liberate the voices of its victims.

Yours in Jesus Christ

† Christian Lépine
Archbishop of Montreal