

**COMMUNIQUÉ No. 96 – FEBRUARY 2, 2024  
INFORMATION 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, Lent is already upon us. I wish you a good start to this month of February full of Church events!

**1. RCIA**

As you are no doubt aware, the Archdiocese's financial difficulties have led to a reduction in the number of staff in the Diocesan Services and, as a result, a reorganization of our activities, particularly with regard to the Evangelization and Christian Life Service. In this context, here is some important news concerning the **RCIA Service**:

**A)** Following the temporary reorganization of our services and activities, this year the Cathedral's pastoral team will assume responsibility for the three celebrations associated with the RCIA:

1. Sunday February 18, 2024 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Cathedral, celebrated by Archbishop Christian Lépine: **RITE OF ELECTION**;
2. Sunday, March 17th, 2024 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Cathedral, celebrated by Archbishop Christian Lépine: **CALL FOR ADULT CONFIRMANDS**;
3. Sunday at the beginning of October 2024 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. (date to be confirmed) at the Cathedral, celebrated by Archbishop Christian Lépine: **MASS FOR NEOPHYTES AND FIRST YEARS OF ADULT BAPTISM**.

**B)** This is the new procedure for sending information to the Chancery office:

An official e-mail from the **parish priest** only (this would replace the parish priest's official signature) with the **following information**:

- For the **RITE OF ELECTION**: last name and first name of the catechumen, name of parish and baptism date
- For an **ADULT CONFIRMATION**: last name and first name of the person to be confirmed, name of parish and planned date of confirmation

- For an **ENTRY INTO FULL COMMUNION**: first name and last name of the person, former religion of the person, name of the parish and planned date of entry into full communion
- Please send this information by e-mail to: [chancellerie@diocesemontreal.org](mailto:chancellerie@diocesemontreal.org)
- Please note that the Office for Faith Education and the Chancery office no longer need to receive the five forms (B-1 to B-5)

Please also note that, from now on, all requests and communications concerning the RCIA should be directed to the following address: [EVC@diocesemontreal.org](mailto:EVC@diocesemontreal.org)

We understand that these changes can present challenges, and we are grateful for your flexibility and commitment to the spiritual well-being of our diocese.

Despite the many challenges that lie ahead, I want to emphasize that the RCIA program remains an important part of our diocesan life. While some temporary adjustments have been necessary due to layoffs, I want to assure you that we are actively working to reorganize all Catechumenate and RICA initiatives.

## **2. World Day for Consecrated Life**

On the occasion of World Day for Consecrated Life, which takes place every year on February 02, feast of the Presentation of the Lord at the Temple, a Eucharistic celebration will be presided by Archbishop Christian Lépine, on **Saturday February 3, at 10:30 a.m.**, at the Cathédrale Marie-Reine-Du-Monde, 1085 Rue de la Cathédrale, Montréal QC H3B 2V4, under the theme: "Consecrated life at the service of society". The Mass will be broadcast live on the diocesan YouTube channel, accessible via the following link: <https://youtu.be/KAAViUClucA>

Let's take this opportunity to remember the priceless blessing that a person of consecrated life has brought to our lives. Someone may already have shared moments of prayer with us, offering kind advice throughout our educational journey. One of them may even have offered his or her assistance during our medical procedure at their health care facility. They may have generously offered their support and guidance in other aspects of our lives.

It's a wonderful opportunity for us to give thanks to God with the consecrated men and women of our archdiocese, present in religious congregations, societies of apostolic life, secular institutes, new communities and members of the Ordo Virginum.

We are therefore honored to warmly invite you to this very special celebration, and would be delighted to count on your presence. Please come in large numbers to support them and share this moment of joy with them.

### **3. 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](#)

A warm welcome to all!

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Here we are, brothers and sisters! If it's true that Lent invites us all to live "with our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ", and to "enter into God's combat", it seems that current events in our Church, in Montreal and in Quebec, are urging us to do so even more. I therefore address to you these wishes inspired by Saint Paul (cf. Phi 4:1): So, my beloved brothers and sisters for whom I have so much affection, stand firm in the Lord!

In Jesus our Saviour

†Alain Faubert, VG  
Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal