

Dear young people,

It is with joy and hope that I invite you to take part in this year's diocesan celebration of World Youth Day (WYD), which will take place from November 16 to 24, 2024, right here in Montreal. This year, Pope Francis calls us to reflect on the inspiring theme taken from the prophet Isaiah: Those who hope in the Lord will run and not be weary (cf. Is 40:31). This message of renewal and encouragement reminds us that, even in the midst of the challenges of our time, we can find our strength in the Lord, the source of all hope.

As the Holy Father reminds us in his message, we are all called to be "Pilgrims of Hope". The fatigue and difficulties we encounter should not immobilize us, but rather invite us to walk with faith and determination. That's why I encourage you to read Pope Francis' message in its entirety. You'll find comforting words that will light your way and strengthen your faith.

During this week of festivities, several events are proposed to you in order to live a profound experience of faith, community and sharing:

- November 16, 2024 - Teen Festival (9:30am-5pm): A dynamic day at Saint-Sauveur Melkite Cathedral, specially designed for young people aged 13 to 17. Come and experience a time of prayer, joy and encounters with other young people your age.
- **November 22, 2024 - VIVA! :**
- **6 to 8 p.m.: Youth Ministry Leaders Reunion** a great opportunity for Mission youth leaders to gather at the Cathedral parish hall (1110 Mansfield St.) for a moment of sharing over a meal.
- **8pm: Christ the King vigil at Mary Queen of the World Cathedral.** I invite you all, young and young-at-heart, to take part in this special vigil of prayer, adoration and witness. It will also be a special time to bless our youth workers and send them out on mission.
- **November 24, 2024 - Masses for the Solemnity of Christ the King (World Youth Day)** in your parishes: This will be a good time to strengthen ties in your parish communities.

I invite you not to come alone, but to invite your friends! Don't be afraid to reach out to those who may never have participated in such an event. I assure you that this experience can transform your lives. You'll find not only a vibrant community, but also a Christ waiting to fill you with joy and hope.

I pray for each and every one of you, and look forward to meeting you during this time of grace. May the Lord bless you and guide you on your journey of faith!

Jesus loves you!

† Christian Lépine

Archbishop of Montreal

