



Archbishop of Montréal

April 19, 2022

« Am I my brother's keeper ? » Gn 4:9

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

At the renewal of Baptismal Promises during the recent Easter celebrations, the liturgy reminded us that: *“through the Pascal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life”*. Indeed we are beneficiaries of that *new life* which Christ has obtained for us at the price of his own life. Part of living out the newness of life in Christ is actively taking our part in the numerous efforts which we have committed to with respect to the prevention of all forms of abuse. In this light, you will find attached the text of our Disciplinary Process Policy to Eradicate Abuse. This policy stems from the eight recommendations of the Capriolo Report that appear in Appendix 1.

It is intended for all pastoral and administrative workers, clergy, religious and lay personnel, remunerated or volunteer, working within the Archdiocese, and in all parishes, missions, offices and services across its territory. It is effective as of today.

To achieve the ecclesial change to which we all aspire, to develop our individual and collective skills to prevent abuse, and to enable the creation of healthier and safer environments in all our communities, each of us is called to embrace this vision and assume our obligations and responsibilities. The policy also identifies the consequences which the numerated failures to this policy will necessarily entail.

This ecclesial commitment is certainly demanding, but also indispensable in order to restore trust in the Church, within our communities and society. May this Easter Season be for each one of us and our loved ones and communities a special time of immense spiritual consolations and social transformations filled with the Joy that only Christ can bestow.

Sincerely yours in the Risen Christ,

† Christian Lépine