

**COMMUNIQUÉ No. 54 – JANUARY 14, 2022  
INFORMATION**

**To members of pastoral teams,  
To priests, deacons, PCLs, LPAs,  
To the faithful active in their communities,  
To members of religious communities,  
To Archdiocesan staff,**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As the year 2022 begins, I wish you profound peace and joy in the Lord. May the Holy Spirit continue to give us the gifts of perseverance and creativity, as He guides us on the paths of the Mission. The following are some guidelines and announcements:

**1. Clarification: Sacrament of reconciliation outdoors**

Further to our last communiqué detailing instructions regarding some of the sacraments, I would like to clarify that the sacrament of reconciliation may be celebrated outdoors. The meeting should be brief and in compliance with the health guidelines in effect. Both participants are required to wear masks.

**2. Outdoor Masses**

By clicking on this [link](#) you will find a list of places of worship in our diocese offering Mass outdoors. This list may not be exhaustive. Please inform us if your place of worship offers Mass outdoors by contacting the Communications Department at: [Communications@diocesemontreal.org](mailto:Communications@diocesemontreal.org)

This [link](#) will direct you to the page of the Diocesan Guide (available soon) for the celebration of Mass outdoors in our diocese. We are grateful to our pastoral teams for organizing these celebrations in compliance with the guidelines set out in the Guide.

**3. Christian Initiation**

a) Catechetical activities

With our places of worship closed, it is simply the case that in-person catechetical activities may not take place. We therefore encourage you to hold your activities **virtually** until further notice.

If you require support in terms of the hybrid approach, I would invite you to consult this [link](#).

A training session on the hybrid pastoral approach begins this week (see point 6. below). You may also communicate with the Office for Education in the Faith by contacting Director Pascale Haddad at: [phaddad@diocesemontreal.org](mailto:phaddad@diocesemontreal.org)

#### b) Catechumenate

At the present time, the celebration of the Rite of Election is still scheduled for March 6 and is to be held in person at the Cathedral with Archbishop Lépine presiding.

We are also proceeding as usual with an ordinary minister (bishop or delegate of the Archbishop) celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation. Depending on how things develop, we will be exploring the option of a general decree conferring faculties on pastors, as was done last year.

#### **4. Fabriques**

I would remind everyone that we must continue to work from home. Visits to the office are still allowed for administrative and pastoral staff, but only when necessary. It is up to the Fabrique to ensure that health guidelines are strictly adhered to and that attendance times at the office are properly organized in order to avoid as far as possible any protracted contact among staff members working in the same environment.

#### **5. Getting familiar with the synodal process: make it a date!**

Let's crack open the Diocesan Guide and Toolkit together. A presentation will be held on Thursday, January 20, for all who are interested in organizing reflection and discussion groups focusing on our diocesan synodal process. To attend, please register:

- **12:15 to 1:15 p.m. - in French** - register [here](#)

- **1:30 to 2:30 p.m. - in English** - register [here](#)

A Zoom link will be sent to participants upon registration.

#### **6. Hybrid Pastoral Approach - training sessions: January 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2022 - 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

A new day and a new generation call for new ways to get people interested in embarking on a relationship with Christ. Pandemic or not, we have to invent new ways of reaching people! Let's be bold and innovative like the Holy Spirit! Let's learn how while we're helping our fellow workers learn as well! It's as easy as signing up for this course, so why not get on board!

This training session is specifically oriented to those who work with our target demographic, which is children, youth and families in a pastoral setting, such as camps, campuses, parishes, communities, groups, associations etc. It is not, however, designed for parents in a family context.



<https://bit.ly/Hybrid-Pastoral-Approach>

### **Reminder – Archbishop’s Epiphany greetings – January 15, 2022**

If you have not already received the announcement and Zoom link for Saturday, I will take this opportunity to remind you that Archbishop Lépine has invited us all to take part in an exchange of Epiphany greetings with prayers and festivities to celebrate the New Year together. Here is the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88172339746>

Meeting ID: 881 7233 9746  
One-click for mobile devices  
+15873281099,,88172339746# Canada  
+16473744685,,88172339746# Canada

Dial according to location  
+1 438 809 7799 Canada  
Meeting ID: 881 7233 9746

We look forward to seeing you there!

In Him,

† Alain Faubert, VG  
Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal