

RELEASE No. 16 - August 6, 2020
INFORMATION
To Pastors, Parish Pastoral Teams and Religious Congregations

Dear Brothers and Sisters, here is more news about our life in the Church in Montreal.

1. Clarifications regarding security measures for celebrations

Following the latest government directives, in effect since August 3, and in conjunction with the Assembly of Quebec Catholic Bishops (AÉCQ), the Diocesan “Deconfinement” Committee has prepared – in a 10 "Question & Answer" format – detailed explanations regarding the application of the new measures. Among other subjects, they deal with the transition to a maximum of 250 participants for indoor gatherings, the distance required between participants, the wearing of masks, singing and the distribution of printed material (i.e. *Living with Christ*). **Please read this [document available here](#), and adjust your practices accordingly.**

In addition, a **poster developed by CNESST** specifically for places of worship is being produced. It will be available soon on the diocesan website (<https://diocesemontreal.org/en/parish-resources/pastoral-personnel>). You **must** print it and post it at the entrance of your church.

2. Prayer for Lebanon and various initiatives of solidarity

The day that Beirut was rocked by a terrible explosion, August 4, Archbishop Lépine sent a message of sympathy to Eparch Paul-Marwan Tabet, the Eparchial Bishop of the Maronite Catholics in Canada <https://bit.ly/LetterLebanon>

As a sign of solidarity with our Lebanese brothers and sisters, pastors are invited to **offer a special prayer intention** during Sunday Masses and to draw attention to the various ways we can show our solidarity, such as contributing to the Development and Peace Emergency Fund for Lebanon (<https://www.devpe.org/en>), to Aid to the Church in Need (<http://acn-canada.org/>) and to CNEWA Canada (<https://cnewa.org/ca>). In addition, the Archbishop asks that wherever possible, either this Sunday or next, **parishes hold a special collection**. Send the collected money to the CACRM, and it will be forwarded through the Maronite Eparchy in Canada to Cardinal Patriarch Bechara Boutros Rai in Lebanon.

3. Mark your calendars

- A. The pandemic, which took us by surprise in March and which maintains a tight grip, has led us to continue our efforts within the diocesan worksite in a different way so as to effect our missionary transformation. The coronavirus cannot restrict the movement of the Holy Spirit! Thus, a diocesan event to re-launch our diocesan project will take place on **Monday evening, September 14, 2020**, the feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross. Details will follow soon.

- B.** Please take note that the preparation of a **forum for parishes throughout Quebec on the mission of evangelization** is underway; it will be held on **Saturday, May 29, 2021, at Saint-Bonaventure Parish in Montreal**. More details will be available in September along with promotional tools to prepare for this event (video clip, flyers, posters).

On this the feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, may his Glory be our strength!



+ Alain Faubert, VG
Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal