MONTREAL, August 19, 2020 - On August 28 at 7:30 p.m., Pascal Cyr, deacon, will be ordained to the priesthood in Montreal's Mary Queen of the World Cathedral.

After more than 30 years of journeying to the priesthood, he feels ready to accept the challenges of the new life that awaits him. For Pascal Cyr, the mission of a priest today is to be "a servant of Christ the Pastor, the Christ who watches over his Church". Being a priest is watching, but it is not doing things in the place of others. The priest, he says, "is there like all the rest of the baptized in the Church. We are there and we build the Church together". The dimension of pastor that resonates most strongly in him is "being the one who watches over others" in the sense of taking care of the flock.

Two months from now, on October 2, Francis Bégin will be ordained priest at 7:30 p.m. in Mary Queen of Peace Church. After a long journey, he invites everyone to "not be afraid to respond to God's call because it is the most beautiful thing that can happen to us. God wants our happiness and God knows what is the best way for us."

"To do God's will" is the vocation of a priest today for Francis. "The universal vocation is holiness, but each of us has a particular vocation. The important thing is to respond to the call that God sends us and to be holy in the world in which we live," he added.

Thanks to the generosity and fervent prayer of many of the faithful, the Office of Vocations of the Diocese of Montreal was happy to sponsor both men in a spiritual and financial way throughout their journey.

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