

Archbishop of Montreal

Pastoral Letter: WYD 2022

October 17, 2022

Dear priests, Dear members of the pastoral teams, Dear collaborators in the mission,

At the conclusion of the Eucharistic celebration of the Solemnity of Christ the King on November 20, 2020, Pope Francis wanted to relaunch the celebration of WYD in the local Churches and announced that starting in 2021, this celebration, which was traditionally held on Palm Sunday, would now be held on the Solemnity of Christ the King Sunday.

In communion with the Holy Father, our universal Church, and in the spirit of the international WYD, the <u>2022 Diocesan World Youth Day</u> will be celebrated in four parts:

- TEEN Festival: Saturday, November 12, 2022, 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
- WYD MTL Week: November 13-20, 2022
- MAIN EVENT Christ the King Vigil: Friday, November 18, 2022, 7:00 P.M.
- Christ the King Sunday Masses: in the parishes

It is with the aim of welcoming the fruits of this new momentum that I have the joy of inviting all the young people of our diocese to gather on the occasion of the 37th Diocesan World Youth Day. All young people from your parish community are welcome: those whom you come across every day, teenagers, young adults, engaged couples, newlyweds, young families, young catechists and also confirmed ones from previous years! The theme of <u>WYD 2022</u> is : <u>"Mary arose</u> and went with haste" (Luke 1:39)

Our Holy Father reminds us that "in these troubling times, when our human family, already tested by the trauma of the pandemic, is racked by the tragedy of war, Mary shows to all of us, and especially to young people like herself, the path of proximity and encounter."

Through this experience, we hope that the young people will live an encounter with Christ who is alive and who wants us to be alive. He is "a young person among young people" who gives us strength and hope. I invite you to join the youth, especially at the vigil of Christ the King where I will have the opportunity to bless all those who work with youth. Let us pray together for the youth of our diocese who are God's "today".

We rely on you to promote this initiative to give a special focus to your Sunday celebrations on November 21 where you are invited to highlight the participation of youth. For further information, please contact Isabel Correa, Director of the Youth Ministry, at 514 925-4300 ext. 273

United in prayer in Jesus Christ,

+ Christian Lepine

† Christian Lépine Archbishop of Montreal