



2022 Annual Campaign: “Giving Changes Lives”

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Amid the joy of Easter, we must not forget the great demands that faith in Jesus Christ entails. Our hopefulness is constantly being put to the test regarding our own lives and the world, convulsed in the battle against violence and evil. The Russian invasion of Ukraine is an attack on the Ukrainian people and a cause of great anguish for Ukrainians and people of Ukrainian descent around the world, in Canada, in Quebec and in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Montreal. For that reason, it is more important than ever to celebrate the death and resurrection of the Lord, as the forces of evil are unleashed around us and touches our lives.

At the same time, we are also asked to be generous, to contribute towards the work of proclaiming God’s Love.

Our 2022 annual campaign, “**Giving Changes Lives**,” begins April 27. The Catholic Church of Montreal needs your support so that we can continue to fulfil our mission: to witness to the Love of God, to follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, and to become ever more completely the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the Body of Christ and the sons and daughters of the Eternal Father, ready to serve individuals, families and all of humankind.

On Ash Wednesday, Pope Francis urged us to pray for peace and to implore Heaven for an end to armed conflict. I know that many among us are petitioning the Lord. The people of God, not knowing what to expect tomorrow, are more than ever in need of the love of the crucified Jesus:

of Him who bore all our sins, our sufferings and death when He gave his life on the cross for all of humankind. By the power of his resurrection, Jesus comes knocking at the door of our hearts, calling on us to let Him in, to be of service to one another, supporting, accompanying and sharing with each other. We are called to live continually in solidarity with one another. Therefore, let us accept this gift of the Easter season and use it to show that, united, we make up one and the same human family. By the grace of God, let us learn to pray, to give, to forgive and to be reconciled in concrete ways.

Let Easter this year be a celebration of solidarity, an Easter of sharing, an Easter of hope. Let Jesus Christ guide us and make us instruments of his Peace.

Thank you for your prayers and your generosity! **Giving changes lives.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Christian Lépine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

+ Christian Lépine
Archbishop of Montreal