



October 22, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ

Thanksgiving has come and gone, the leaves are still full of colour and autumn is well and truly upon us.

Adjusting to life in a pandemic, we have had to learn new ways of being church and making community, as well as find new expression for our Christian witness and pastoral care. Our team of staff and volunteers, as well as all of you, have risen to those challenges with great creativity, resilience and grace, and it has been wonderful to see the Cathedral community continue to thrive, even in a very different online incarnation.

Following the early request of the house of Bishops, we have been keeping a Eucharistic fast and have been encouraged to know that Christ was still very much present among us in our worship in many ways. I am writing with great joy to let you know that, in line with other churches in the Diocese, Corporation has agreed that we will resume Eucharistic worship from 1 November, the feast of All Saints when we celebrate all those who have built up the body of Christ in the past and the present. The Eucharist will be celebrated in the Cathedral in person, from the main nave altar for physical distancing reasons, at 8 am, 9 am and 10:30 am, and included in our three Zoom services.

Attendance in person remains at 25 people according to current government guidelines and pre-booking continues to be available online for the Sunday services. All usual safety precautions will be in place. Please do not attend the in-person services at the Cathedral if you are not feeling well or experiencing any Covid-like symptoms. Also, due to current constraints, people worshipping at the Cathedral do need to leave the building at the end of the service, so we are not able to provide a way to attend post-service online activities from the Cathedral at this stage.

To provide an option for those who prefer a quieter and shorter service during the week, weekday lunchtime Eucharists will be offered on Thursdays and Fridays at 12:15.

While we are obviously planning for a seamless transition into this new format, we will all need to be flexible as we get used to doing things differently again and we thank you for your understanding. The intention is that there will be interactivity between those participating at the Cathedral and those participating at home and it might take a little while to get this absolutely right.

At this time, I would like to thank all of you for your continued generosity and support during what has been a very unexpected year. We do rely on your continued presence and enthusiasm, as well as energy, talent, financial support, goodwill, and prayers. The community of the Cathedral would not be the same without your engagement and involvement in so many ways, and we are truly grateful to you. Please do remember that the clergy are happy to discuss any pastoral issues you may encounter, and you can reach us through the Cathedral office.

With much love and prayers as we continue to journey into the unknown in these uncertain times, in the knowledge that God is with us every step of the way.
Yours in Christ.



The Very Reverend Bertrand Olivier
Dean of Montreal and Rector of Christ Church Cathedral