

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,



Praying for peace in a war-ridden world

There are 7 headlines in our letter today – **Special Announcements, Music, Community Activities, Learning and Teaching, Trans Day of Remembrance, Offering Support/ Asking for Help**, and **Fun and Games with the Diocese** - plus a question about ordering church calendars. We invite you to listen, learn and join with a joyful heart.

Special Announcements

Road Closures

There will be some road closures this weekend that may impact your commute to the Cathedral on Sunday.

Robert-Bourassa Blvd will be closed between Sainte-Catherine and President-Kennedy. Maisonneuve Blvd will also be closed between Union Ave. and Robert-Bourassa Blvd.

Please wear a mask

In light of the critical situation in hospital emergency rooms, Dr. Luc Boileau, the Quebec director of public of health, strongly encourages us to wear masks in crowded public places. The Cathedral has masks available for those who want them; those who wish to remain unmasked are encouraged to select pews which will enable them to remain at a 2-meter distance from other worshipers.

Music

The music last Sunday was superb. Thank you to Nick, Owen, Esther-Ruth and the choir. If you missed **Sunday's All Souls Requiem**, you can still watch it [on the Cathedral's YouTube page](#). The Cathedral Choir presented Eleanor Daley's unconventional Requiem, drawing on texts from scripture, the BCP, Russian liturgy, and poetry by Canadian Carolyn Smart. You can find the text in the bulletin [on the cathedral website](#).

If you want to preview music for services from now until Christmas [you can look at this page](#).



 CATHÉDRALE CHRIST CHURCH MONTRÉAL
ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS



Sunday, November 27 at 4:00 p.m.
featuring the Christ Church Cathedral Choir

The Advent Carol Service will be at 4pm on November 27 – the best possible way to start the Advent and Christmas season. [Click here to RSVP to the Facebook event](#).

The next **Oasis concert** in the cathedral is *Flutopie: Une Collection de Musique*, at 2 pm on November 19th. Featuring Adelina Steinmetz (flûte traversière), João Menegale Barbi (contrebasse), Jane Mei (piano) and Andrew Ysnogorodsky (guitare), the concert will be an intimate collection of jazz, soundtrack, and pop songs.

Community



CATHÉDRALE CHRIST CHURCH MONTRÉAL
CATHEDRAL DEDICATION DAY
BILINGUAL CELEBRATION AND INTERCULTURAL POTLUCK



Sunday, November 20 at 10:30 a.m.
RSVP to peoples.warden@montrealcathedral.ca
by November 13 to participate in the potluck.

This Sunday is a special celebration of the reign of Christ. The service at 10:30 will be a bilingual service shared by the English and French communities (Note there will not be a service at 9am this week). This will be followed by an intercultural lunch featuring dishes from our various ancestral homelands or dishes which are simply meaningful to each of us, a great opportunity to share our histories and our cultures. If I were being truly British I would bring roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, but that's too complicated to cook in the parish kitchen while attending the service, so it will have to be a dish which just needs reheating. [Click here to RSVP to the Facebook event.](#)

You are invited to **two seasonal craft making events** -Advent wreaths for your home on November 26 at 11:00 am and miniature boxwood Christmas trees on December 11. Please note the RSVP deadline for Advent wreaths is this Sunday at noon.

The cost for wreaths is \$10/wreath for supplies, which is substantially less than they cost. If you are able to offer more, you are invited to do so. The cost for the miniature Christmas trees is \$20 with a sign-up deadline of November 25.

To sign up for either event (or both!), email deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca.

Wise Saints and Sinners: On November 29th, parishioners of retirement age or above are invited to lunch together in Fulford Hall, beginning at noon. There is no cost to attend, but

please RSVP to deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca no later than November 26th so we can provide an appropriate amount of food. Fulford is accessible to those with mobility issues if you enter through the door at 1444 Union Ave.

Back, in person, at last! Esther Guillen invites us to **Cathedral@6**, a bilingual, ecumenical Communion service, planned and led by young adults but open to all ages. Sunday at 6 p.m. Pastor Jean-Daniel is preaching. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Learning and Teaching

Confirmation/Inquirers Class in Advent:

Deborah writes:

One of the joys of our life as a Cathedral community is the way our congregation includes people from many different faith traditions, and from none. All are welcome to attend and participate. If you are new to the Anglican tradition, however, and you wish to learn more or might even be considering becoming "officially" Anglican, you may want to consider Confirmation, which is the ritual in which a person makes an adult profession of their faith and their desire to become part of our church. We'll be offering a Confirmation class weekly during Advent to learn about Anglican ritual, theology, and understandings of Scripture. This class will prepare participants to be confirmed by Bishop Mary on the Feast of Epiphany, which we will observe on Sunday, January 8th, but there is no expectation that participants will make that commitment. It's a safe and inviting space to explore and deepen your faith. Classes will be scheduled around the availability of participants, but may be on Monday or Tuesday evenings.

Contact deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca ASAP to sign up or to learn more.



CATHÉDRALE CHRIST CHURCH MONTRÉAL

WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

EFFECTIVE CLIMATE ACTION IN A CHANGED WORLD

with renowned author and activist

Bill McKibben



Sunday, January 15, 2023

Suggested reading :

Eaarth: Making Life on a Tough New Planet

available at The Word bookstore from Nov. 9

***Eaarth* by Bill McKibben will again be available for purchase this Sunday**, courtesy of Adrian King Edwards and the Word bookstore. Cost \$20 (cash please).

Deborah will be organising study groups to discuss this book in preparation for Bill McKibben's visit to the cathedral on January 15. [Click here to RSVP to the Facebook event.](#)

Bertrand plans to attend the **commissioning of Lay Readers** which closes their annual study day on Saturday November 19. The service of commissioning will be at 4pm at the Church of St. John the Baptist in Pointe Claire (233 Ste-Claire Avenue, Pointe-Claire) followed by a reception to thank and celebrate our lay readers.

In his letter to the diocesan clergy Robert Camara reminds us that "our Lay Readers are a valuable resource and part of our leadership teams across the Diocese."

Our Cathedral Lay Readers are Vivian Lewin, Sam Keuchguerian, Michel Gagnon and Jean-Robert Bellarmin, so please come and support them if you can.

Trans Day of Remembrance

Alex reminds us that this Sunday is not only Christ the King Sunday, but it is also the Trans Day of Remembrance, a day to mourn the transgender and gender-non-conforming people who have died because of hatred and violence. The day focuses on the trans people who are murdered (most often black and indigenous trans women), but it is also an appropriate time to remember the other kinds of violence and discrimination that transgender and gender non-conforming people face, and to pray that all trans people receive the acceptance, support, and gender-affirming care that they need. Along with National Lutheran Bishop the Rev. Susan Johnson, our Primate, the Most Rev. Linda Nichols, has issued a statement for the Trans Day of Remembrance. [You can read it here.](#)

Alex has also written a prayer for the Trans Day of Remembrance:

*God who is Mother, Father, both, and neither,
We come to you in great sadness for the violence which has been carried out against your transgender children. Grant that those who have died may enter into your eternal rest. Change the hearts of those who live in hatred and transphobia. Protect your transgender and gender-nonconforming children from violence, discrimination, and all kinds of harm. Shine your light upon them that they may live as their true selves, trans and beloved. Teach us all to support and protect our trans neighbors that they may reflect the glory of your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.*

Offering Support, Asking for Help

Dr Edward Whitely from the Dept of Psychiatry at McGill is carrying out **a study focusing on access to mental health services for Afro-Caribbean Christians**. In his own words:

We are looking to interview Afro-Caribbean Christians who have experienced mental health issues such as anxiety or depression. The purpose of these interviews is to better understand (i) barriers and facilitators to recovery; (ii) pathways and obstacles to care; and (iii) experience in the official health care system. We are particularly interested in the role that religious faith and religious communities can play in the process of recovery and healing.

If you would be interested in participating in this study, please speak to one of the clergy.

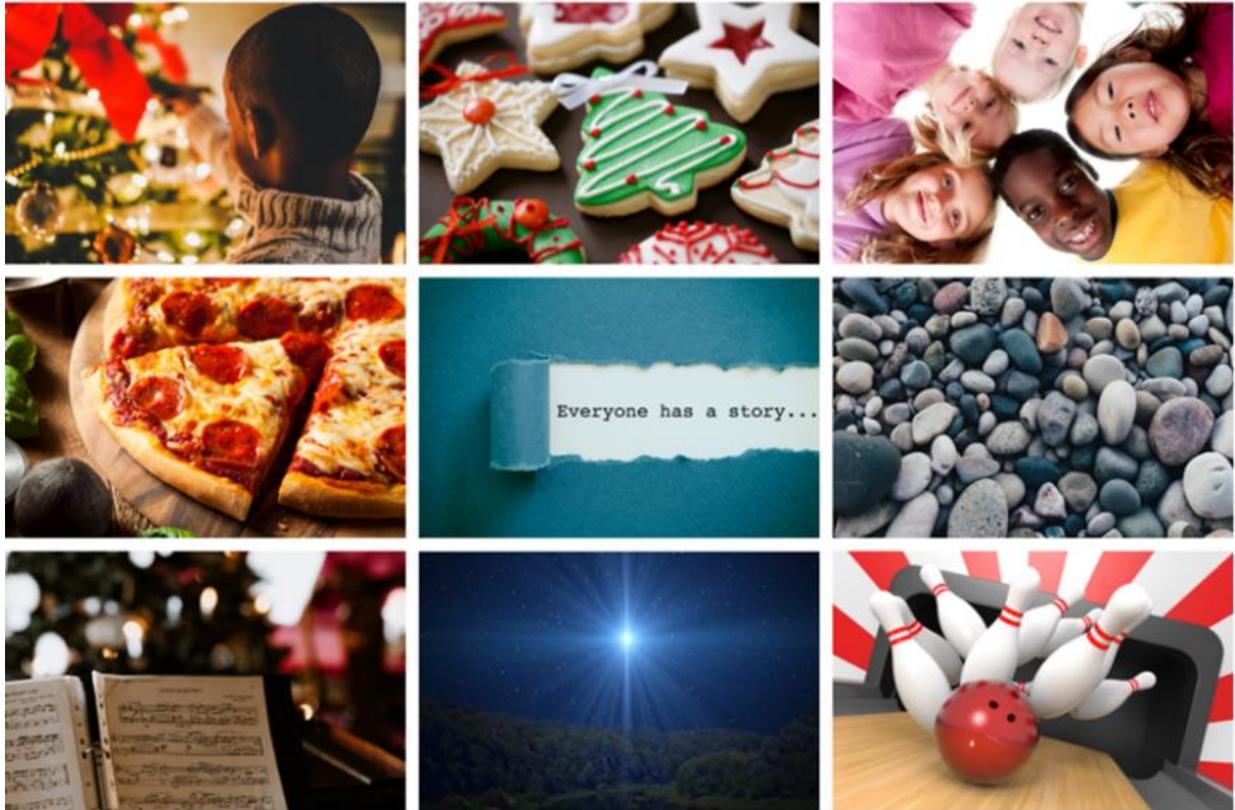
During Advent, we will be **collecting canned and packaged healthy food** to donate to Mile End Mission. Please be generous. As we all know, there is tremendous food insecurity in the poorer parts of Montreal.

At the end of September, the Coalition Inclusion Québec joined the groups who are currently mounting a **legal challenge against Bill 21**, the law which bars civil servants in positions of authority, such as teachers, police officers, judges and government lawyers, from wearing religious symbols while at work. Observant Muslim women feel particularly targeted by this law.

Announcing the challenge, Jonathan Goldbloom wrote “ We also believe the courts have a critical role to play in preserving the framework for the inclusive society we want to build together.” [You can read the 4 arguments underlying the CIQ’s challenge here.](#)

Bertrand made a small donation to Coalition Inclusion Québec on behalf of the cathedral to help with the appeal. On November 9, the Rev’d Diane Rollert announced that CIQ were able to surpass their financial goal thanks to organisations like the cathedral.

Fun and Games with the Diocese



Family Christmas Party storytime, pizza & bowling

Friday, December 9th 5-6:30pm 7505 Sherbrooke Mtl West
mtlyouth@montreal.anglican.ca



Lee-Ann Matthews, the Diocesan Youth Project Coordinator, is organising a fun, community family Christmas party that includes pizza, craft, bowling, singing and stories on Friday December 9th, 5-6:30pm at St Philips Anglican Church, 7505 Sherbrooke West

Note the event is free but donations to the Bishop's Action Appeal are suggested / encouraged to support our missions. [Click here to learn more about the action appeal and make a donation.](#)

You must sign up by December 2nd in order to participate. RSVP by contacting Lee-Ann at mtlyouth@montreal.anglican.ca.

A Question about Calendars

In previous years we have sold Canadian Church calendars at coffee hour. Would you like us to do it again this year? If we get together an order of 20 copies, we are eligible for a reduced rate and can sell the calendar for \$5. Otherwise, you can order your own copy on the Anglican website for \$7.50. If you want a copy, please email me (Ann) at ann.elbourne@montrealcathedral.ca by November 24. [You can preview the pictures in the calendar here.](#)

If we don't get an order for 20 copies [you can make your order on the Canadian Church Calendar web page.](#)

To inspire us to take all these messages to heart, here's a picture of one of the flower arrangements created by Julie Wang for last Sunday's services of remembrance.



Thank you, Julie, for your loving attention to the flowers in the cathedral. Thank you to this week's contributors, particularly Bertrand, Deborah, Alex, Esther Guillen and Esther-Ruth Teel. Thank you, Alex, for formatting the Mailchimp version of the letter and Michel for polishing the French version.

Ann Elbourne

November 18, 2022