

Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

You probably know the old nursery rhyme:

*Christmas is coming,  
The geese are getting fat.  
Please put a penny in the old man's hat.  
If you haven't got a penny a ha'penny will do.  
If you haven't got a ha'penny  
Then God bless you.*

## Christmas is Coming

Our cheerful cathedral elves will be **decorating the cathedral on December 14<sup>th</sup>** starting at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. Coffee and cookies will be provided.

There will be **Christmas Services** to suit everyone. All are Eucharists and all will be livestreamed on the cathedral YouTube channel. Details at [montrealcathedral.ca/christmas](http://montrealcathedral.ca/christmas).



**CÉLÉBREZ NOËL AVEC NOUS**  
**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US**

**Leçons et Chants de Noël**  
*18 décembre à 16 h*

**Veille de Noël**  
Messe bilingue pour familles  
*24 décembre à 16 h*  
Messe en français avec chœur  
*24 décembre à 19 h 30*  
Messe en anglais avec chœur  
*24 décembre à 22 h 30*

**Jour de Noël**  
Messe bilingue avec chœur  
*25 décembre à 10 h 30*

*plus d'informations :*  
[montrealcathedral.ca/fr/noel](http://montrealcathedral.ca/fr/noel)

**Christmas Lessons and Carols**  
*December 18 at 4:00 p.m.*

**Christmas Eve**  
Bilingual Mass for Families  
*December 24 at 4:00 p.m.*  
Choral Mass in French  
*December 24 at 7:30 p.m.*  
Choral Mass in English  
*December 24 at 10:30 p.m.*

**Christmas Day**  
Bilingual Choral Mass  
*December 25 at 10:30 a.m.*

*more information at:*  
[montrealcathedral.ca/christmas](http://montrealcathedral.ca/christmas)

 **CATHÉDRALE CHRIST CHURCH MONTRÉAL**

## Christmas Eve

### **4:00 p.m. Bilingual Family service with Communion**

If you'd like to sing in a pick-up community choir at this service, please email Nick ([nicholas.capozzoli@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:nicholas.capozzoli@montrealcathedral.ca)).

### **7:30 p.m. Choral Christmas Eve Mass in French**

Music will be provided by the Cathedral's Francophone Choir as well as a quartet from the Cathedral's professional choir.

### **10 p.m. Christmas music**

with harp, choir and organ leading the congregation into

### **10:30 p.m. Choral Mass in English**

with the Cathedral choir. Carols for all to sing.

## Christmas Day

Just one service, a **bilingual choral Christmas Mass** at 10:30 a.m.

*There will not be a Blue Christmas service this year.*

## Christmas Music


The week before Christmas there is a weekend of glorious Christmas music, with an Oasis concert on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> and the traditional service of Lessons and Carols at 4:00 p.m. Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup>. One of the pieces the choir will sing at the carol service is my favourite carol *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*. Be sure to attend this beautiful service, either in person or via livestream.

concerts  
oasis  
musicale

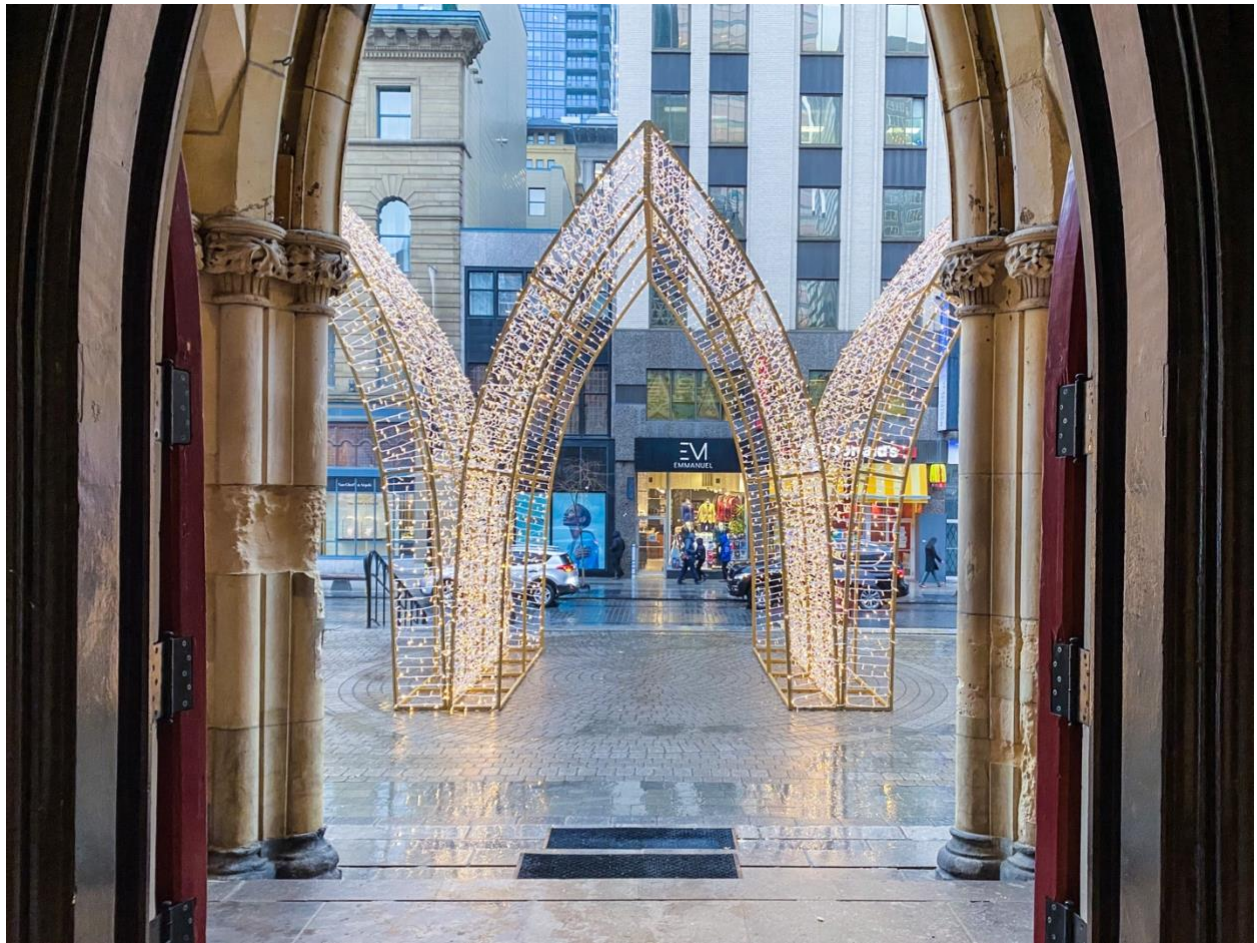
**CHANSONS DE  
NOËL**

Esther-Ruth Teel  
Chenxin Han  
Gavin Fraser  
Josephine Bywaters  
Laura Albrecht  
Owen Spicer  
Simon Poirer

DECEMBER 17, 2022 • 2PM

  
CATHÉDRALE CHRIST CHURCH MONTRÉAL  
635 Rue Ste-Catherine O, Montréal, Québec H3A 2B8

Oasis Concert December 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Esther-Ruth Teel invites us to hear the Patrick Wedd Choral Scholars and friends present a concert of Medieval, Celtic and traditional carols and seasonal songs.



*Photo by Alex Griffin*

The City erected the arches of lights leading into the cathedral, and they have also organised some carol sing-songs on the steps below for the enjoyment of passers-by on St Catherine.

**Sunday, December 11, 2022**

*Hummingbirds chantent Noël*

12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.

1:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

**Sunday, December 18, 2022**

La chorale des Intrépides

*12:15 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.*

*1:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.*

*3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.*

Hopefully, this last 30 minutes will entice people into the Cathedral for the Service of Lessons and Carols



**Olivier Messiaen**  
*La Nativité du Seigneur*

*Nicholas Capozzoli, orgue*  
*21 décembre - 19h*  
*Contribution volontaire*

 CATHÉDRALE CHRIST CHURCH MONTRÉAL

**And one more great Christmas concert -**

Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. Nick Capozzoli will perform ***La Nativité*** by Messiaen. Proceeds will go to support the Wedd Choral Scholars Fund.

**Please put a penny ...**

As we all know, there are many people who are going hungry every day. **Mile End Mission** is one of the organisations helping to feed the people in their multi-ethnic neighbourhood. We are collecting non-perishable food as a contribution to their weekly distribution of food baskets. Please bring cans or packages of healthy food to any of the Sunday services. Note – food must be non-perishable, newly purchased (nothing beyond its sell by date) and something you would be happy to serve to your own family.

Here are some suggestions:

Sources of protein – Peanut butter, chunky soups, canned stews, pasta sauce containing meat, baked beans, canned tuna or salmon, canned vegetables, healthy granola bars, canned fruit (look for low or no sugar options), pasta and rice (whole grains preferred)

**The Last Sunday of the Month Lunch in December has been cancelled.** This would have taken place on Christmas Day, and the Dean is grateful to anyone who expressed interest in volunteering for this event. After surveying the many other food provisions in Montreal at Christmas, it was decided that we would not be holding this event, and therefore the next Last Sunday of the Month Lunch will be on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### **Socks for cold feet**

Each year recently we have collected warm socks to be distributed at the January lunch. Flo Tracy is the organiser this year. Look for details of how you can help in the first January newsletter.

### **Outreach Donation 2022**

There was a very well attended meeting of Forum last Sunday. It was decided to give \$3000 to **Communitas**, an organisation whose team includes churchwarden Michele Rattray and Deacon Peter Huish. It works out of cathedral premises to support newly released prisoners as they reintegrate into the community. Communitas is wholly dependent on donations received from its members, supporters and the general public. The decision was greeted with applause and unanimous approval.

### **A Message from Administrator Elizabeth Smith:**

Please be kind to Lucy, Cathedral Bookkeeper, and Jane, Treasurer, and submit your requests for expense reimbursements and in-kind donation receipts by December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. This is of great assistance to them as they tackle the immense task of closing the books for 2022.

Also, be aware that **Annual Reports** will need to be written soon – everyone's favourite January activity!

## **January**

Bishop Mary will be back from Sabbatical in January and will be welcomed back to her cathedral for a service including **baptism, confirmation and reception into the Anglican Church on January 8<sup>th</sup>.**

Preparation classes for confirmation are being held on  
Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Cathedral offices  
Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Cathedral offices  
Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. by Zoom.  
Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Cathedral offices

Please contact Deborah ([deborah.mesiter@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:deborah.mesiter@montrealcathedral.ca)) before the start of the series if you'd like to join.

We will also be preparing for the visit of distinguished environmentalist **Bill McKibben**, on January 15, with **two discussion groups about *Eaarth***, one of his books.

- There will be an online group Monday, January 2nd at 7:00 p.m. ([Click here to join the Zoom call.](#))
- An in-person group Friday, January 13th at 6:00 p.m., room tbd

Contact Deborah ([deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca)) if you need more information.

## The goose is getting fat ...

How many geese will still be around in 2030? How many varieties of all kinds of wild life? What can we do to preserve our bio-diversity?

That's the question being asked at COP-15, the 15th conference of the parties of the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD), adopted in 1993, meeting in Montreal until December 19<sup>th</sup>. Three cathedral members, Michele Rattray, Peter Huish and Taddy Stringer, are among the 20 000 delegates from around the world, and will be reporting back to us in January.

The CBD has three main objectives:

1. Conserving biological diversity.
2. Ensuring the sustainable use of the components of biological diversity.
3. Ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources — the genetic material of plants, animals or micro-organisms.

There was an excellent background article in the Gazette on Tuesday which you can read online [by clicking here](#).

## **You too can get involved.**

Elizabeth forwarded this announcement:

*"Réseau Environnement is honoured to organize the **COP15 Public Action Zone** (PAZ/ ZAP), which will be held from December 9 to 14 at the Grand Quai of the Port of Montreal. The ZAP is the ideal place to learn more about biodiversity and to discuss its issues. A host of conferences by experts, political actors, members of civil society and enriching activities for young and old are available."*

Brenda Linn shared two messages from the David Suzuki Foundation

- This Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm  
**La Marche Pour Le Vivant/March for biodiversity and human rights.**  
Location: Monument to Sir George-Etienne Cartier.  
In-person (ENG and FR), no admission or registration.
- December 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8 pm  
**We are all nature: An intergenerational conversation.**  
Featuring David Suzuki, Severn Cullis-Suzuki and friends.  
Livestreamed (ENG and FR), no admission or registration.  
[Click here for the livestream.](#)

COP-15 will endeavour to set targets. **We need to pray** that the world can pull together to achieve "30 by 30" - designating 30% of Earth's land and ocean area as protected areas by 2030.

## **Speaking of Saints**

This week brings us **St. Lucia** (or Lucy), a young woman who was killed during Diocletian's persecution of the church in 304. She has been venerated particularly because her feast day, December 13, was, on the old calendar, the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year. So the saint whose name means "light" became a symbol of light in darkness. *For the light shines the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.*

Thank you, Deborah for bringing us this light.



## Good News

Finally! We can see our spire, and the construction mess in the cathedral grounds is gradually disappearing. Here are two photographs taken this week by Jane Aitkens.



We are still fundraising to cover the enormous cost of this project. If you are feeling **inspired** to donate, you can do so [by clicking here](#).

## ... Then God Bless You

Let us rejoice in our community and give thanks for our many blessings.

Thank you to contributors, Elizabeth Smith, Deborah Meister, Bertrand Olivier, Jane Aitkens, Brenda Linn, Nick Capozzoli, Esther-Ruth Teel, and heartfelt thanks to Alex Griffin for wrestling MailChimp into submission and to Michel for proofreading the French version.

Ann Elbourne  
December 8, 2022