



## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESAN SERVICES - May 4, 2021

The Diocesan Services team has been working from home. You can still reach the members of the team [by email](#) or [by leaving a telephone message](#). For any emergency, please dial 819-771-8391, followed by zero.

### Office of the Archbishop

#### SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR OR VULNERABLE ADULT - DIOCESAN PROTOCOL

A few decades ago, like many Quebec and Canadian dioceses, the Archdiocese of Gatineau gave itself several tools to properly manage any allegation of sexual abuse committed by one of its priests. Among these tools were a clear and detailed protocol, a committed advisory committee, and a competent episcopal delegate able to respond to these allegations.

Even if such allegations are becoming increasingly rare, Archbishop Durocher is proceeding these days with the updating of the protocol and the renewal of the advisory committee and its mandate, in accordance with the most recent developments in Church law in this area. He is pleased to appoint a woman as a delegate to manage such allegations, Ms. Lise Duguay of Notre-Dame-de-l'Eau-Vive parish. (This post had always been held by a priest.)

Also, he appoints Mr. Daniel Dezainde, president of a new committee that will work on the prevention of sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable people in our parish environments.

On our [website](#), you will find [Archbishop Durocher's decree](#) announcing these changes, the [renewed protocol](#) for the management of allegations, [an abridged version](#) of this protocol, and an [illustration of the decision tree](#) established by the protocol.

These initiatives manifest the constant concern of the Archdiocese of Gatineau to protect its young members and respond quickly and responsibly to any victim of clerical sexual abuse. Let us pray that these initiatives will bear fruit and that never again will a child or young person be hurt in our Church.

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR COLLEAGUE PIERRE-ALAIN GIFFARD

A note to let you know that as of May 10th, I will continue my involvement in the Church in the Diocese of Pembroke. It has been a great joy to work for the Archdiocese of Gatineau on many levels, especially the synodal process. Despite our confined situation, I have had the pleasure of meeting à number of you. Thank you for who you are and for all you are doing in the name of your faith! It was a pleasure to collaborate with Bishop Paul-André Durocher, with Father Rodhain Kasuba, and the entire team of the Diocesan Center. I was able to appreciate the contribution of each one to the life of the diocese and its parishes. In the Diocese of Pembroke, I will be working as Director of pastoral work. This is a position I have held in the past and I have accepted their offer to continue serving, in this way, the Church and its mission of evangelization. *Pierre-Alain Giffard*



# Pastoral services

## MONTH OF MARY

Pope Francis encourages everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually. In his letter, he notes that [it is also easy on the internet](#) to find good models of prayers to follow. He offers prayer suggestions, including one which is [specific to this time of the pandemic](#). [Here is a prayer to Mary](#).

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## RESOURCES FOR THE WEEK FOR LIFE AND THE FAMILY

Every year the Church in Canada designates one week to proclaim the gift of family and life. The Week for Life and the Family will be commemorated this year from May 9 to May 16, with the theme, "Family, the Domestic Church: A Sign of Hope and Life." [Please share this link](#) to resources prepared by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops to help support and celebrate families in your parish: Let us give thanks for all our families and offer them our prayers and support in this challenging time.

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## THE WORD FOR FAMILIES

[The Word for Families](#) is a series of fun story booklets – with activities – that help children, youth and families engage with Scriptures together. These booklets are FREE to download and can be printed at home.

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## YOUTH MINISTRY

Do you have a youth group in your parish? Would you like to start one up? A small group of people involved in youth ministry in our diocese will be getting together for a virtual meeting to share ideas and information. Please get in touch with [Julie Cool](#) if you would like to join this meeting.

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## CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS (CCCB)

[Life and Family Suggestions for Homilies and Prayers](#) of the Faithful during May 2021.

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## WOULD YOU LIKE TO FIND OUT ABOUT RETREATS, ACTIVITIES IN FRENCH?

In this English version of the diocesan bulletin, we share information relevant to our English-speaking parishioners. If you want to find out about retreats and resources available in French only, you might want to also subscribe to the French *Infolettre*. [You can sign up here](#).

# Office of the diocesan bursar

## EXEMPTION FROM THE DIOCESAN CONTRIBUTION DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

During its regular meeting on April 19, the Diocesan Council for Economic Affairs decided to grant parishes an exemption of 1/50 of their 2021 diocesan contributions for each Sunday of the period from January 10 to February 21, 2021. The credit for the seven Sundays when the churches had been closed at the request of the government for sanitary measures will be granted with the invoice of the diocesan contribution for the second quarter of 2021. If parishes have decided to extend the closure of their church after February 21, the exemption does not apply for additional Sundays. Parishes that have questions or particular difficulties for their finances are invited to contact the diocese to discuss them. This is the second time in a year that the diocese has granted such exemption due to the health crisis. The objective is to help each parish face the decrease in revenue from regular collections. Thank you!

## The 2021 fundraising campaign for our parishes ("la dîme")

### Standing together even 2 metres apart!



On the same theme as last year, the 2021 fundraising campaign for our parishes ("la dîme") is currently taking place in the 53 parishes of our Diocesan Church. As in previous years, the Archdiocese continues to collaborate with the parishes by offering promotional tools and advertisements in the media. In addition, parishes can count on *Les Jardins du Souvenir* corporation partnership to support them in distributing their solicitation letter. The campaign runs throughout the spring, and there will be a reminder in the fall. In the coming weeks, a video message from Archbishop Paul-André Durocher will also be published on the archdiocese's web platforms (website, Facebook). To make a donation to one or the other parishes, it is possible to do so via the online donation platform on the website of the Archdiocese of Gatineau.

Your donation allows your parish to continue its mission. Thank you!

## NEWS FROM THE PARISHES AND MOVEMENTS

### FOR SALE

**St-Médard parish** has an upright piano for sale and work desks, tables, chairs, and office filing cabinets. For more information, contact the parish office: 819 684-6760

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/INVITATIONS TO SHARE

This section is for the sharing of announcements/invitations from parishes and movements in the diocese. If you have an activity to share or advertise, please send a note to [Bozica Domitrovic](mailto:Bozica.Domitrovic) on **Friday before the newsletter release**.

### CONTACT

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