CONFÉRENCE DES ÉVÊQUES CATHOLIQUES DU CANADA
CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

29 October 2018

Rabbi Reuben Poupko
Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl
Rabbi Debra Landsberg
Rabbi Jonathan Infeld

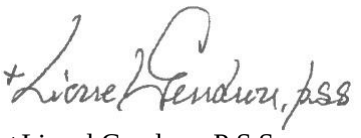
Dear Chairs of the Canadian Rabbinic Caucus,

On behalf of the Catholic Bishops of Canada, we wish to extend to you and the Jewish communities of Canada our deepest condolences and support in response to the shooting that took place at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania this past Saturday. We have tragically learned that this horrendous incident has claimed the lives of eleven congregants of the synagogue along with many others injured, including first responders.

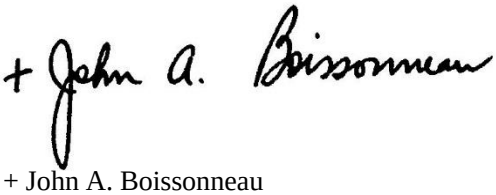
This act of unspeakable violence during the Sabbath is a terrible and clear manifestation of anti-Semitism, a scourge which most regrettably persists in our world today and is of great concern to the Jewish community, the Catholic Church and society as a whole. We are acutely aware of and sensitive to the trauma caused by such acts reverberates throughout the Jewish communities with its pain and terrible affects not being lessened by distance or geographic borders.

At this difficult time of both mourning and distress, we wish to tighten the hands of friendship with you, to emphasize our solidarity, our prayers, and our closeness to the Jewish people of Canada. May the Lord of peace and love comfort those who have lost their loved ones and extinguish the vehemence, hate and division which are plaguing our world.

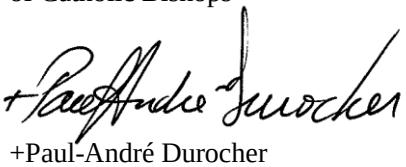
May their memory be for a blessing.



+Lionel Gendron, P.S.S.
Bishop of Saint-Jean-Longueuil and
President of the Canadian Conference
of Catholic Bishops



+ John A. Boissonneau
Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto
Catholic Co-Chair of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops – Canadian Rabbinic Caucus Dialogue



+Paul-André Durocher
Archbishop of Gatineau
Member of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops – Canadian Rabbinic Caucus Dialogue

c.c.: - Mr. Richard Marceau, Vice President, External Affairs and General Counsel, The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs
- Mr. Steve McDonald, Director of Policy and Strategic Communications, The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs

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CELEBRATION OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

Parents, don't forget our last gathering will take place on Sunday, November 18 in the Parish Hall at 10:00 AM. Please be sure to be there as we will be discussing the preparation for the sacrament!

Why RCIA?

Our lives are a journey to God until the day when we all join together in our eternal home and worship the Lord face-to-face. You are among friends. As we build community through our RCIA sessions, it becomes clear that we all have times of doubt, fear, and frustration. During RCIA, we come together to look at our lives in light of the Gospel so that we can embrace a fuller discipleship of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

There are many reasons people decide that they are interested in becoming a Catholic. It makes no difference if you have been raised in another denomination, have no church affiliation or experience or even if you were never baptized. You may have started out Catholic but never completed your initiation with the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. RCIA is the process by which we welcome and prepare adults to enter the Catholic faith.

The RCIA process is sensitive to your needs before you make any commitment to the Catholic Church. Below you will find the full process divided into periods for the unbaptized:

- **Period of Inquiry:** What is the Catholic faith all about? Am I called to embrace it? What difference does the gospel of Jesus Christ make in my life? This is a time we look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you may have. No commitments are made or expected at this time.
- **Period of the Catechumenate:** A time to grow in prayer and mature in faith. Presentations are given on the Catholic faith and then connected to Scripture to see how it impacts our lives.
- **Period of Enlightenment:** Coinciding with the season of Lent, this time is devoted to prayer, a Lenten retreat and final preparation for those who will celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.
- **Period of Mystagogy:** The living out of Catholic faith through parish involvement. We explore how to become a real part of parish life at Saint Anne Parish.

As mentioned above, the RCIA is sensitive to your needs. So, the extent and the requirements of the process are adapted for the baptized of other denominations.

Is The Time Right For You?

Why not make the time to come and see how God works in your life. The only regret you may have is that you didn't do it earlier! Call the Parish Office at 472-3970 to see how we can welcome you into the Church.

Check out our website at procathedral.ca



Make a Joyful Noise!!

The Pro-Cathedral Music Department has begun a new season and welcomes anyone who is interested in this special ministry. Singing at the 11:00 AM mass, warm-up takes place at 10:30 AM in the Lower Sacristy. Regular rehearsals are held at 6:30 PM in the Cathedral.

A choir is the perfect manifestation of the adage "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts." You don't need to have a particularly beautiful voice to contribute to a beautiful, collective sound. Being part of something bigger than yourself is both humbling and motivating.

If you have a love of music and want to be involved, contact Jane for more details at the Music Office at music.finance@procathedral.ca
No special skills needed - bring your voice and join us!

Do you play a musical instrument—Piano? Violin? Organ? Brass or Wind Instrument? Call Jane - our music ministry could use your talents!



The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the most unique and beautiful aspects of Catholicism. Jesus Christ, in His abundant love and mercy, established the Sacrament of Confession, so that we as sinners can obtain forgiveness for our sins and reconcile with God and the Church. The sacrament "washes us clean," and renews us in Christ.

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained'" (John 20:21-23).

CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD IN THE CATHEDRAL EVERY SATURDAY FROM 3:00 TO 3:45 PM JUST PRIOR TO THE 4:00 PM MASS.

If you haven't been to Confession in a while, the Catholic Church wants to welcome you back, and invites you to participate in this beautiful sacrament of healing. Take a step in faith. You'll be surprised about how free you feel after taking part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. So many Catholics describe incredible feelings of peace, joy, relief, and love that they never expected. Jesus is calling you to experience His mercy in this way too.