

COMMUNIQUÉ
pour diffusion immédiate

Good news: the reopening of churches is announced

Montreal, June 17, 2020 - The government announced last Monday that as of June 22nd, indoor gatherings in public places were authorized, up to a maximum of 50 people. This means that once again, under the authority of the dioceses, Christian communities will be able, each at their own pace, to come together to meet, celebrate their faith and give thanks to God for all that health care workers have done in recent months to care for and save the lives of their sisters and brothers.

This reopening also means that we will finally be able to welcome bereaved families to celebrate with them the funeral of their deceased loved one. To facilitate this welcome, our assembly is in dialogue with the Corporation des thanatologues du Québec and with the Association des cimetières chrétiens du Québec in order to coordinate our efforts to respectfully welcome families as soon as possible.

As public health authorities are reminding us, it is important to remain vigilant to prevent the pandemic from claiming new victims. For this reason, health protocols specific to the Catholic liturgy have been prepared and approved by the public health authorities. The parish teams are currently working to become familiar with the protocols and implement them. This will make it possible to welcome believers of all ages in a safe environment to celebrate their faith.

By refraining from gathering in recent months, Catholics have helped to reduce the spread of the virus and save lives. By various means, the pastoral teams offered support and accompanied their brothers and sisters in this collective ordeal. It is important now to continue to support one another, with God's grace, and to continue to serve our neighbour.

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Source : Assemblée des évêques catholiques du Québec (AECQ)

Renseignements : Mgr Pierre Murray, C.S.S.

Assemblée des évêques catholiques du Québec

514-914-0553

pmurray@evequescatholiques.quebec | www.evequescatholiques.quebec