



Dear Diocesan MEMBERS,

WE'RE STEPPING OUT WITH CHARITY!

Still in the spirit of Pope Francis, who challenges us to be a missionary Church, a Church "reaching out", this year, our theme concludes the process undertaken over the past three years and which focused on the theological virtues. After the virtues of faith and hope, it is now the virtue of love which, as Saint Paul tells the Corinthians (*1 Corinthians 13:13*), is the greatest of the three.

In 2018, we set up a committee to reflect and work on the future of our diocese and parish communities. After extensive consultation and meetings in all the pastoral regions of the diocese, the committee produced an important report that reminds us of the urgent need to do things differently in the Church and to invent new ways of meeting together the challenges facing us, both financially and pastorally

Once again this year, we are launching a fundraising campaign and we are counting, more than ever, on your financial support, not only to continue our regular pastoral projects (formation of young people in Christian life, vocation ministry, support for families, support for missions, etc.) but also to create activities that concretely reflect our charity and solidarity with the poor and the abandoned in our society.

Our logo features a heart supported by a hand and/or a flame. Let us have our hearts in our hands and make a very generous contribution to this fundraising campaign. May the Spirit of love inspire in us a surge of charity and solidarity so that love may reign in our hearts and especially warm the wounded, unloved or rejected hearts of our communities and our world!

With my gratitude and blessing,

† Noël Simard

Bishop of Valleyfield