



Prot. n° 33/25

Salaberry-de Valleyfield
Thursday, March 27, 2025

**TO ALL DIOCESAN MEMBERS
GREETINGS AND BLESSINGS IN THE LORD**

The Mass of Chrism will be held on **Tuesday 15 April at 7 p.m.** in Ste Cecile's Basilica-Cathedral in Salaberry-de-Valleyfield.

In this jubilee year, I warmly invite our entire diocesan Church to take part in this Chrism Mass, which demonstrates the unity of the entire community around its Bishop. You are all invited to this festive celebration: the faithful, pastoral workers, people involved in consecrated life, volunteers and, of course, deacons and priests. It is a chance not only to witness our faith together, but also to support each other in our 'pilgrimage of hope', the hope of Easter to be shared with our contemporaries.

As you know, the Chrism Mass is above all a ritual Mass during which the consecration of the oil of chrism and the blessing of the oil of the catechumens takes place, for the celebration of the sacraments of Christian initiation, the foundation of our common dignity as baptised Christians, members of the one Body of Christ, and of our common mission to bear witness to the reign of God, sprouting at the heart of our world.

In addition, the ritual includes the blessing of the oil of the sick, for the comfort of our suffering sisters and brothers. Pope Paul VI also wanted this celebration to include the renewal of the priestly promises, since priests and bishops receive at their ordination a special anointing with the holy chrism that enables them, through the Holy Spirit, to act in the person of Christ, the head of his Church.

I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 15 April at 7 p.m. in our beautiful cathedral. Together, let's also take advantage of this Church event to renew the missionary commitment of our baptism.

Please note that starting at 6 p.m., priests will be available to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation with those who wish to do so.

In Jesus Christ, our Hope,

† Alain Faubert
Bishop of Valleyfield