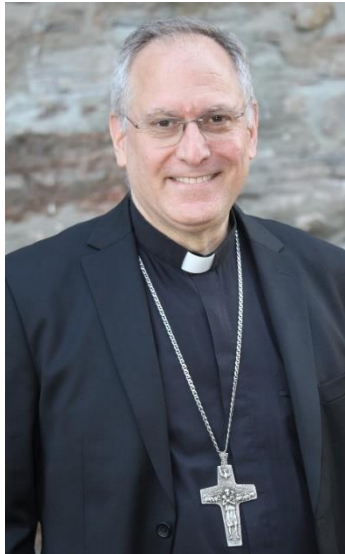


Pastoral Year 2026-2027

Message from Bishop Alain Faubert

***“I am with you, (Mt 28:20)
so that justice and peace may embrace.” (Ps 85)***



Dear members of the diocese,

Do you dream of justice and peace? Perhaps you have more “down-to-earth” dreams: to love and be loved, to have a fulfilling job that provides financial security and the opportunity to build a future—a family, a home, a car, travel. Yet, in recent times, we have come to realize that all these dreams—ours and those of billions of our fellow human beings—will not come true if there is no justice and peace within us and around us. Everything is connected! We live out our very personal hopes on a planet that is becoming increasingly suffocated, running out of resources. We pursue our plans in a world where conflicts, both small and large, threaten to set it ablaze—and in doing so, threaten our security and our plans for the future. So, do you dream of justice and peace? Justice and peace are like two cornerstones upon which everything rests—in our personal lives and in the life of our society. So, it’s wonderful to believe in them, to never lose hope for a better future for ourselves and for everyone.

But here’s the thing: is all of this just a dream? In any case, our God isn’t just dreaming! He takes action to make the dream a reality: “His salvation is near to those who fear him, and glory will dwell in our land. Love and truth meet; justice and peace embrace; truth will spring from the earth, and justice will look down from heaven. The Lord will bestow his blessings, and our land will yield its fruit. Justice will go before him, and his footsteps will mark the way.” (Ps 84:10–14)

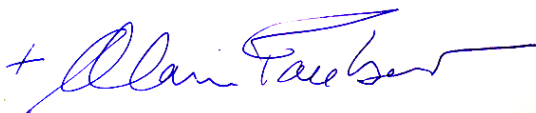
We believe that this promise of the Lord, spoken through the psalmist, is fulfilled among us by Jesus. He is the glory of God who has come to dwell on our earth; he is the justice that has reached down from heaven to us;

he is the truth that has sprung from the earth in the womb of the Virgin Mary. And his footsteps on our earth mark out for us the path to true happiness.

Once again this year, we open our hands to welcome the Lord Jesus, who says to us, “I am with you!” and to receive the peace he gives us. But our hands are also invited to open—along with our hearts and arms—to take part in God’s great plan: “Let justice and peace embrace each other.” To spread the peace that comes from the Resurrection, but also to plow the furrows of justice where this peace can take root and grow. Because it is clear: there is no peace without justice!

The theme for the 2026–2027 pastoral year in our Diocese of Valleyfield is therefore: “I am with you so that justice and peace may embrace.” Let us therefore take this opportunity, brothers and sisters, to live as people of justice—that is, as men and women attuned to God’s will for life and happiness for all of creation. In this jubilee year marking the 800th anniversary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi, let us also take this opportunity to be, like him, instruments of justice and peace in our midst. A justice filled with love and mercy. What a blessing! We have been given an entire year to discover, in our efforts to love and in our struggles for greater justice and peace, the presence of the One who is with us—alive, active, and victorious!

On behalf of the entire diocesan team, I wish you, brothers and sisters, a fruitful pastoral year 2026–2027! May Christ, the Sun of Righteousness (Mal 4:2), shine upon you and radiate through you!



+Alain Faubert
Bishop of Valleyfield