



Infobox



Tribute to the Men and Women Religious of the Diocese

In this year of the centenary of our diocese, we are becoming more aware of the work of our predecessors who, in a particular way since 1916, have built the society and the Church in our region.

In this regard, we recall the extraordinary part played by the men and women religious who established schools, hospitals and innumerable charitable endeavours in response to the needs of the population and in a spirit of Christian charity.

In this context, at the end of the Year of Consecrated Life promulgated by our Holy Father Pope Francis, on February 2nd, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, a day dedicated to the consecrated life, I will meet with the men and women religious in our diocese. After spending some time in sharing about their current involvement in the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, we will have a meal together.

Following this, a celebration of the Holy Mass of the Presentation of the Lord will take place at 7 p.m. at Saint-Dominique-du-Rosaire Parish in Timmins. Everyone who wishes to express their gratitude to the men and women religious for their commitment to the service of the Lord, of his Church and of society, is invited to this mass. This mass will be offered especially for the repose of the soul of Sister Cécile Larocque, a sister of *l'Assomption de la Sainte Vierge* and a member of the diocesan team for the New Evangelization, who passed away January 4th.

Parishes who currently benefit from the presence of men and women religious can also show their gratitude at their Sunday celebrations on January 30-31 or February 6-7.

I thought it useful to publish the names of these consecrated people who live in the diocese.

From *the Congregation of sœurs de l'Assomption de la Sainte Vierge* : in New Liskeard, Sisters Agathe Brochu, Denise Brochu, Paulette Gauvreau, Jeannine Lemire, Jacqueline Robert; in Earlton, Sister Margot Génier; in Timmins, Sister Sherry Lacoursière.

From the community of Filles de la Sagesse in Timmins : Sisters Dolorès Potvin and Claudette St-Onge.

From the community of Notre-Dame-Auxiliatrice, in Timmins : Sisters Marie-Ange Brouillette, Denise Ducharme and Georgette Fortier.

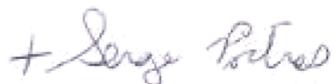
From des frères du Sacré-Cœur, in Timmins : Brothers Raymond Corbeil, Royal Ménard, Roland Saumur and Maurice Vincent.

The diocese also benefits from the priestly ministry of African Fathers. Three Franciscan Fathers: Father Pierre Mafanda Mahuma (*Notre-Dame-de-la-Paix*, Timmins) and Father Stéphane Kazadi Sanga (*Saint-Dominique-du-Rosaire*, Timmins); Father Georges Hazika Nyarubwa (Holtyre, Matheson, Ramore, Val-Gagné, and among the First Nations in Wagoshig). Father Henri Touaboy, Spiritan, works in Kirkland Lake, Larder Lake, Virginiatown and among the First Nations in Matachewan.

I invite you to express your appreciation to these religious in participating at the February 2 mass or during one of your Parish celebration.

We can also keep in our prayers the women and men religious whom we have known and who have accompanied us in our human and spiritual growth.

With my kindest regards in Our Lord.



✠ Serge Poitras
Bishop of Timmins