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|  | **“Passing the Torch”**  **Assuming our responsibility for memory, hope, and the future**  **46th Christian Commemoration of the Shoah** |  |

*Montreal, April 9, 2025.* The Christian Jewish Dialogue of Montreal (CJDM) will hold its 46th annual Christian Commemoration of the Shoah on Sunday, April 27 2025 at 3:00 p.m. The theme this year is “Passing the Torch – Assuming our responsibility for memory, hope, and the future”.

The commemoration, in French and English, will in take place in person at the Church of the Gesù (1200 de Bleury St., Montreal Qc, H3B 3J3 Square Victoria).

This special service will bring together Jews, Christians, and others to commemorate the six million Jews and one million other victims of the Holocaust, also known as the *Shoah* (“the annihilation” in Hebrew), during World War II.

Co-presided by Fr. André Gagnon S.J. and Rabbi Adam Rubin, the commemoration will include testimonies by Holocaust survivors Liba and Rivka Augenfeld. A Christian reflection will be offered by Lucas Magnus, representative of the Focolare movement. There will be a candle-lighting ceremony in remembrance of all the victims of the Holocaust. The musical part will be performed by Sara Schabas, soprano, accompanied by pianist Cecilia Nguyen Tran. A short kosher reception will follow.

To take part in the commemoration, registration is required by Thursday, April 24 at the latest, by completing the following form: [https://forms.gle/wNSSmWkRHRXFPGrg6](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.gle%2FwNSSmWkRHRXFPGrg6&data=05%7C02%7Cjean.duhaime%40umontreal.ca%7C6378e83016544f33605f08dd6e0f867b%7Cd27eefec2a474be7981e0f8977fa31d8%7C1%7C0%7C638787735529770829%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dRtLqsi51T5I3jhtGx2dTj3vnZBGaztHYq66i1aJWI4%3D&reserved=0).

Other Christian communities in Quebec and elsewhere are invited to commemorate the Shoah during their own religious services on April 27th. The CJDM has prepared resources which can be integrated into both in person or online worship. The resources are available on the website of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism: (<http://www.oikoumene.ca/>).

Yom Hashoah (“the Day of the Shoah”) was established in 1951. In Montreal, the first Christian Commemoration of the Shoah took place at Christ Church Cathedral in 1979. Since then, different Christian churches have engaged with members of the Jewish community in a shared act of remembrance on the Sunday closest to Yom Hashoah. In 1999, the National Assembly officially recognized the observance of Yom Hashoah and invited Quebec citizens to share in the memories and mourning of the Jewish community and to ponder the lessons learned from the Shoah.

Founded in 1971, the Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Montreal is composed of representatives of sponsoring organizations who come together on a regular basis in order to build and strengthen mutual understanding and support between Christian and Jewish communities.

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**Information :** <https://www.facebook.com/ChristianJewishDialogueOfMontreal>

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