



**Catholic Action  
Montreal**

Sharing our gifts  
to serve our neighbour



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## Catholic Action Montreal

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## TO OUR MEMBERS

*Message from the Chair  
AGM 2022*

*Dearest Members,*

*I hope and pray that this message finds you well.*

*Well, here we are again, planning our 3rd Virtual AGM via Zoom. What a ride this pandemic has been. We chose this method once again because we wanted to provide the safest possible way for us to gather, allowing the greatest number of people to participate.*

*We do feel we are getting closer and closer to the possibility of an in-person gathering which we hope to be able to have some time in the near future.*

*Catholic Action has had another wonderful, interesting year of growth, collaboration, and service. We have had the privilege of helping initiatives to grow and expand, and of collaborating on new initiatives to help them get off the ground. All these initiatives are to help serve an expressed need in the community and are led by passionate, gifted members of the community. You will see and hear more about these exciting activities further on in the Annual Report.*

*Our call to our membership and the community at large to contribute to specific needs was responded to very generously. We are grateful and proud of the customary open-hearted and generous response from our members and beyond.*

*Your Board of Directors team was quite busy this past year. After last year's efforts with our Thrivability process, we were primed this year to launch into our Visioning process, where together we developed a Vision Story for Catholic Action. We explored our hopes and dreams for Catholic Action, identified what areas we would like to grow and described what it will look like once those goals are achieved. It was an inspiring process led by our very own Paul Donovan.*

*Once this was accomplished, we were ready to partner with Accent on the Community (AOTC) – an initiative that matches students from Montreal-based universities with local Non-Profit Organizations to undertake pro-bono consulting projects. Our project was to develop our Strategic Plan. These young, very talented individuals guided us through a 7-week process which resulted in a Strategic Plan that we are excited to share with you a little later.*



*Our hope and dream is to continue to invite and involve more and more of you, our membership and our community, to help us to achieve our goals and to bring your unique gifts to Catholic Action in a way that helps create sustainability and growth, and that truly collaborates with the greatest number of individuals and organizations to best serve the identified needs in the community.*

*I want to take this opportunity to thank each member of your Board of Directors – a very thoughtful, experienced, service-minded group of people who do so much to support and grow the mission of Catholic Action, and whose collective counsel and wisdom I am so grateful for. I am equally grateful to those who have served on the Board in the past, and those who will be moving on – for all their efforts in helping to lay the foundation of Catholic Action and bringing us to where we are today. We excitedly look forward to new participation (new blood) on our Board of Directors moving forward. The future is bright, indeed!*

*As always, a huge debt of gratitude goes out to our Executive Director, Judy Wong, whose passion, faith, commitment, and boundless energy and compassion have been such a blessing and has had a tremendous impact on the growth of Catholic Action and on the lives of so many. She truly is a driving force in bringing Catholic Action's goals and values to fruition. Thank you, Judy!*

*And lastly, but most importantly, on behalf of our Board of Directors, I want to thank each of you for your continued support, input, and involvement as we - united and guided by faith - strive to serve, care for, and bring hope to others with humility, compassion and respect. We are always happy to hear from our members, who we represent and serve. Please do not hesitate to contact Judy, myself, or any of your board members to share your thoughts, suggestions, feedback, and/or what you are doing to serve others in your community. We want to know about and celebrate what you do, so please do share your stories with us! We continue to look forward to collaborating with you in exciting ways in response to our baptismal call to put our faith into action. Be assured of our prayers for you and may God Bless you and keep you.*

*Anna Graham, Chair of the Board of Directors – Catholic Action Montreal*

#### **Board of Directors:**

**Executive board:** Anna Graham, Fr. Robert Assaly (Spiritual Director),  
Patrick Gillespie (Treasurer), Cathie Macaulay (Secretary), Paul Donovan,

**Board:** Archbishop Christian Lépine, Jeremy Bieman, Kathleen-Rose Kennedy Chevalier,  
Jessica-Anne Jalea, Arnel Javier.

**Executive Director:** JudyWong



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions regarding the Financial Statement, please email  
[jwong@catholicaction.ca](mailto:jwong@catholicaction.ca)

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2022-05-31

Accrual Basis

### Action Catholique Montréal Catholic Action Montreal Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison January through December 2021

|  | Jan - Dec 21      | Jan - Dec 20     | \$ Change         | % Change      |
|--|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| <b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>             |                   |                  |                   |               |
| <b>Income</b>                              |                   |                  |                   |               |
| <b>Amts rec'd from Federal Gov't</b>       |                   |                  |                   |               |
| CEWS                                       | 24,974.26         | 24,807.72        | 166.54            | 0.7%          |
| Amts rec'd from Federal Gov't - Other      | 0.00              | 23,000.00        | -23,000.00        | -100.0%       |
| <b>Total Amts rec'd from Federal Gov't</b> | <b>24,974.26</b>  | <b>47,807.72</b> | <b>-22,833.46</b> | <b>-47.8%</b> |
| Gifts rec' from other charities            | 0.00              | 17,000.00        | -17,000.00        | -100.0%       |
| Investments                                | 23,266.77         | 0.00             | 23,266.77         | 100.0%        |
| Late Sunday Mass collections               | 5,230.00          | 6,130.00         | -900.00           | -14.7%        |
| Membership Fees                            | 2,040.49          | 230.00           | 1,810.49          | 787.2%        |
| Other gifts - not receipted                | 555.10            | 127.82           | 427.28            | 334.3%        |
| Tax-receipted gifts                        | 52,468.48         | 13,800.98        | 38,667.50         | 280.2%        |
| <b>Total Income</b>                        | <b>108,535.10</b> | <b>85,096.52</b> | <b>23,438.58</b>  | <b>27.5%</b>  |
| <b>Expense</b>                             |                   |                  |                   |               |
| Bank Service Charges                       | 336.94            | 296.49           | 40.45             | 13.6%         |
| insurance D&O                              | 817.50            | 0.00             | 817.50            | 100.0%        |
| Office Supplies                            | 784.23            | 324.95           | 459.28            | 141.3%        |
| Outside Services                           | 1,176.20          | 625.00           | 551.20            | 88.2%         |
| Payroll Expenses                           | 57,435.68         | 57,383.05        | 52.63             | 0.1%          |
| Professional Fees                          | 6,417.96          | 0.00             | 6,417.96          | 100.0%        |
| Rent Expense                               | 6,682.52          | 6,628.86         | 53.66             | 0.8%          |
| Transportation expense                     | 4,650.51          | 259.01           | 4,391.50          | 1,695.5%      |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                       | <b>78,301.54</b>  | <b>65,517.36</b> | <b>12,784.18</b>  | <b>19.5%</b>  |
| <b>Net Ordinary Income</b>                 | <b>30,233.56</b>  | <b>19,579.16</b> | <b>10,654.40</b>  | <b>54.4%</b>  |
| <b>Net Income</b>                          | <b>30,233.56</b>  | <b>19,579.16</b> | <b>10,654.40</b>  | <b>54.4%</b>  |



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1:38 PM  
2022-06-06  
Accrual Basis

## Action Catholique Montréal Catholic Action Montreal Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison As of 31 December 2021

|  | 31 Dec 21         | 31 Dec 20         | \$ Change        | % Change     |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                          |                   |                   |                  |              |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                  |                   |                   |                  |              |
| <b>Chequing/Savings</b>                |                   |                   |                  |              |
| Claret                                 | 23,266.77         | 0.00              | 23,266.77        | 100.0%       |
| Royal Bank                             | 123,368.11        | 82,481.92         | 40,886.19        | 49.6%        |
| <b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>          | 146,634.88        | 82,481.92         | 64,152.96        | 77.8%        |
| <b>Accounts Receivable</b>             |                   |                   |                  |              |
| Accounts Receivable                    | 0.00              | 24,852.15         | -24,852.15       | -100.0%      |
| <b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>       | 0.00              | 24,852.15         | -24,852.15       | -100.0%      |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>            | 146,634.88        | 107,334.07        | 39,300.81        | 36.6%        |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                    | <u>146,634.88</u> | <u>107,334.07</u> | <u>39,300.81</u> | <u>36.6%</u> |
| <b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>        |                   |                   |                  |              |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                     |                   |                   |                  |              |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>             |                   |                   |                  |              |
| <b>Accounts Payable</b>                |                   |                   |                  |              |
| Accounts Payable                       | 6,450.74          | 1,614.16          | 4,836.58         | 299.6%       |
| <b>Total Accounts Payable</b>          | 6,450.74          | 1,614.16          | 4,836.58         | 299.6%       |
| <b>Other Current Liabilities</b>       |                   |                   |                  |              |
| CEBA                                   | 40,000.00         | 40,000.00         | 0.00             | 0.0%         |
| GST/HST Payable                        | -1,089.55         | -693.69           | -395.86          | -57.1%       |
| GST/QST Payable                        | -1,769.53         | -5,061.05         | 3,291.52         | 65.0%        |
| Payroll Liabilities                    | 3,377.44          | 2,042.43          | 1,335.01         | 65.4%        |
| <b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b> | 40,518.36         | 36,287.69         | 4,230.67         | 11.7%        |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>       | 46,969.10         | 37,901.85         | 9,067.25         | 23.9%        |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>               | 46,969.10         | 37,901.85         | 9,067.25         | 23.9%        |
| <b>Equity</b>                          |                   |                   |                  |              |
| Unrestricted Net Assets                | 69,432.22         | 49,853.06         | 19,579.16        | 39.3%        |
| Net Income                             | 30,233.56         | 19,579.16         | 10,654.40        | 54.4%        |
| <b>Total Equity</b>                    | 99,665.78         | 69,432.22         | 30,233.56        | 43.5%        |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>  | <u>146,634.88</u> | <u>107,334.07</u> | <u>39,300.81</u> | <u>36.6%</u> |

## THE YEAR IN HIGHLIGHTS – 2021-2022

### Pivot, adapt and adjust again!



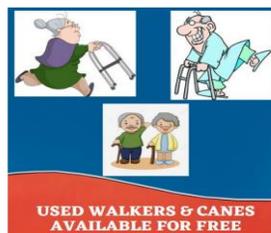
We continue to support different organizations with specific needs. In conversation with Father Claude Paradis about his ministry, Notre-Dame-de-la-rue (Our Lady of the Street), which reaches out to homeless people, bringing them comfort and a Christian presence, he is incredibly satisfied with the continued volunteer support he gets. However, he was adamant there weren't enough beds to support this community, especially during our sub-zero winters. With our new partner, St. Kateri of Centreville, we were introduced to Resilience Montreal and reached out with a request for sleeping bags and blankets to help our homeless people get through these cold, windy days. Our blanket and sleeping bag drive, supporting this underserved community, was successful to assist our homeless friends. Thanks to all our volunteers and donors!

The wheels on the bus go round and round: We have slowly begun



We assisted the LaSalle D & D 50+ club with the design of their new banner proudly displaying their acceptance as an official "Wellness Centre" by the CHSSN.

We delivered walkers, wheelchairs, and shower chairs to Arc, St. Columba House, Seniors Respite Monteregie and Arthritis Rive Sud, LaSalle D & D 50+. This project allows these important groups to have options for those in need and who cannot afford these core needs.



talking senior groups on outings. The St. Antione Senior Group went on a staff retreat in July, check out these smiles! Their executive director was quick to send a note of "thanks", "*Thank you Judy, we had an amazing time and the staff was thrilled with Eric!!!*" Thanks to volunteer driver Eric for the trip and the photo.

We also took a group from Nazareth House to Camp Kinkora, they were equally thrilled with their experience. **This bus really helps to break isolation for many.**

## Isolated Minority Language Seniors

Our One Voice Group is a great example of why Catholic Action exists. This group started with the English-Speaking Senior Centres, that were partially funded by the Father Dowd Foundation. It was apparent, early on, that there was no means for these important groups to share their best practices, collaborate on innovation and collectively represent the interests of the diverse and multicultural English-speaking seniors in the Greater Montreal region. At the behest of the Father Dowd Foundation, Catholic Action partnered with ESCC to create the "One Voice" coalition to serve the needs of the underserved, English-Speaking Senior. Our ultimate goal was to reduce isolation.



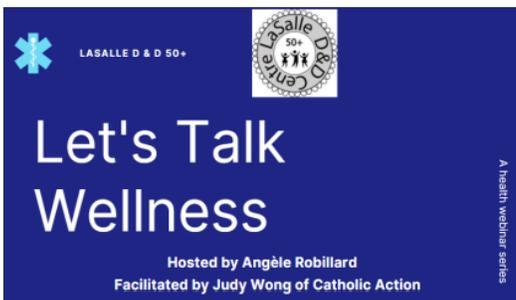
The Covid environment highlighted the importance of the work of this group. In the four years of our existence, the coalition, has evolved and now includes groups like, Seniors Action Quebec, SASMAD, ARC, QCGN, CHSSN, Concordia EngAGE and TIP-O-A from the Jewish General Hospital. This cross section of expertise, coupled with the leadership of the centres themselves, has evolved to a powerhouse team working to improve the inadequate service currently available to our English-speaking seniors. For example:

- Seniors Action Quebec has taken a leadership role and has hired someone to take the group to the next level by creating a website of relevant information. [Seniors Action Quebec | Services Map Welcome - Carte de services Accueil](#)
  - ESCC is collaborating with CHSSN to create a document regarding, "Access to Health and Social Services" for English speaking seniors. The executive summary will be available on our website when it is complete.
- All of these resources are free and represented by experienced community leaders supporting the health and well-being of anglophone seniors. We are very grateful for their offers of assistance.

## Breaking Isolation - Minority Language Seniors

In support of our seniors, our volunteers, using a minibus took them on grocery runs, dollar store and lunch outings. We visited Chinese buffets, Pizza Hut, Walmart, the Atwater Market and assisted a SASMAD project carrying members to a retreat. Sadly, like many services, this came to an abrupt pandemic halt at the end of 2021. Fortunately, we started our trips up again in February of this year, with local shopping trips. Some groups enjoyed a theatre outing and a couple ventured out to a Cabane À Sucre. The seniors are always so grateful for the opportunities.

Catholic Action facilitated "visiting chats" for seniors, using call-in and or zoom conversations, on a weekly basis.



We hosted monthly wellness zoom gatherings for seniors with content provided by CHSSN.

We celebrated Black History month with a senior group that opened up the emotional conversation, the group was very grateful for the opportunity to share.



**These events positively affected hundreds of seniors and we received many notes of appreciation.**

## Catholic Action in the Community



With the recent overpowering of the Taliban, women in Afghanistan have been forced to give up all rights of education, work, and other freedoms.

Makai Aref, president of the Afghan Women of Montreal, a partner and friend of Catholic Action was featured in the Gazette earlier this month: [As hope wanes for Afghan women, activists in Montreal issue call for help | Montreal Gazette](#)

Catholic Action has been helping this group to reach out to parliament to obtain sponsorship recognition to help these women immigrate to Canada.

Roger Twance, director of "Saint Kateri Downtown" reached out to Catholic Action to help them host a Christmas concert for "Resilience Montreal" a homeless shelter for the indigenous community.

**About their Logo: The blue circle represents the two rivers that surround the island of Montreal, the St-Lawrence River, and the rivière-des-Prairies. It also represents the coat of Mary who protects us. The circle with the traditional colours represents the presence of the Indigenous peoples on the island of Montreal. The Sacred Heart represents the Gesù church in downtown Montreal. The crown of thorns is made up of two fishes that meet like two peoples meeting in our Lord Jesus-Christ. Designed by Roger Twance**

<https://www.facebook.com/saintekateriv>



## Catholic Action in the Community (continued)

Commented [JW1]:



Dear Judy,

I hope you are well :)

Thank you for all your help over the past few months. You and Catholic Action are doing such amazing work to help the community!

Thank you again for your partnership and support.

Talitha  
Executive Director Momentum: Catholic Single Mothers

[www.momentummothers.org](http://www.momentummothers.org)



Catholic Action assisted this new ministry. During her own battle with cancer, we met Debbie through our Kingdom Mindset community. Realizing there was a need for a similar group for people living with, caring for, recovering from cancer, Debbie has started this very important work. This is her message; please share with anyone you think might benefit.

"Catholic Cancer Connection is here for you. Please join us on Facebook where you can post messages, share feelings, ask questions and offer prayers for each other. Social interaction via Zoom will also offer great spiritual support and comfort by experiencing peace and love found through different topics such as nature and art." If you don't have internet, phone chats are always welcome. "For any inquiries, please call Debbie 514-674-1233 Email [catholiccancerconnection@gmail.com](mailto:catholiccancerconnection@gmail.com)

Note: The artwork of the people under the umbrella's is Debbie's original and sits in the Cancer ward at the Glen.

## Catholic Action in the Community (continued )

 **loyolamontreal**



Liked by  **piccirelli4** and **234 others**

**loyolamontreal** Our Secondary 2 students took part in a recycling event organized by Catholic Action Montreal over Thanksgiving weekend as part of Loyola's Christian Service Program.



Thanks to Father Peter at St. Thomas a Becket for supporting our summer family activity.



Father Joy of Holy Name of Jesus  
 Father Francis of Jesus Light of the World  
 Father Bertrand of St. Luke's  
 Father Fred of St. Veronica's  
 Parish and Catholic Action Volunteers

Thank you again for allowing us to use your space and promoting our project as we collected items for families in need.

The event created a spirit of community as the young men from Loyola assisted us and interacted with your parishioners and visitors.

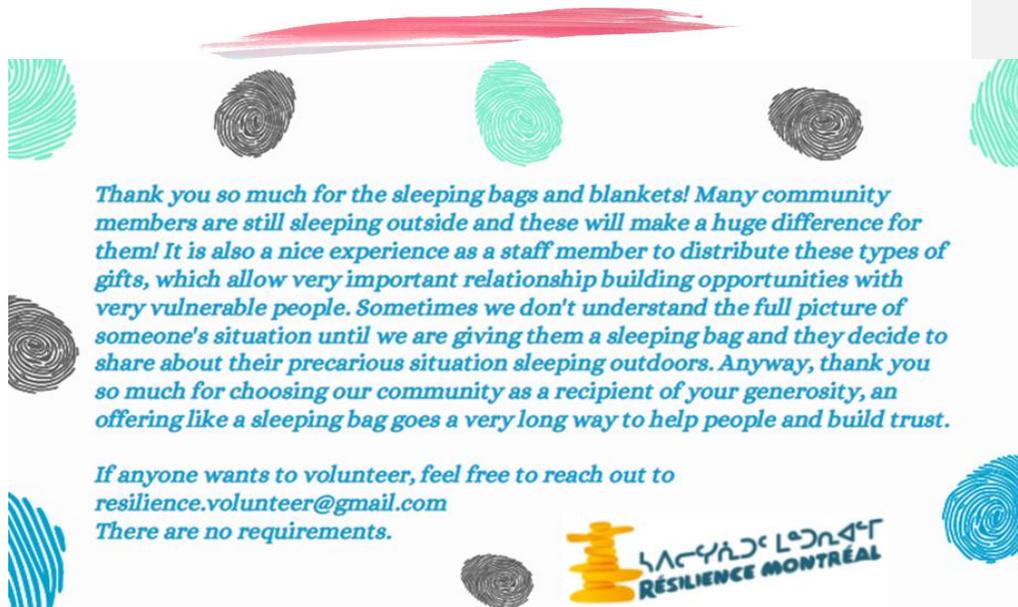
Without your support this would not have been the success that it was.

We are truly grateful, thank you again!

## Catholic Action in the Community (continued )

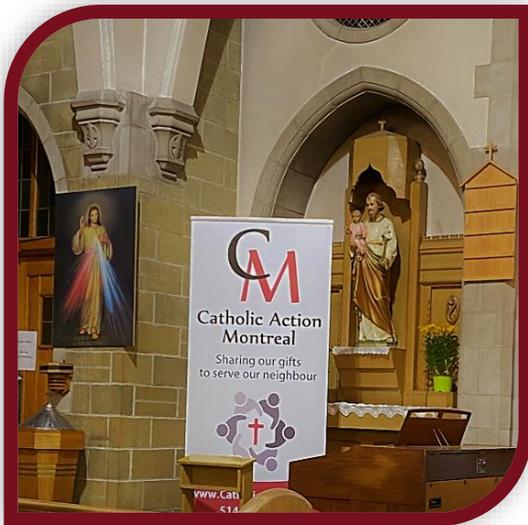


Father Kelly, the executive director of The Ignatian Spirituality Centre, has been quoted saying, ***“If you offer people a space of trust, if you give people the confidence that their story is worth something and should be shared if you foster that kind of environment, then you begin to recognize God working in those spaces.”*** He is working tirelessly with his team to plan the move from Villa St. Martin to their new location as well as establishing a new branch of the Ignatian Spirituality Project. Catholic Action has been assisting the team in connecting to potential partners in the community i.e., Nazareth House, potential funding strategists, and volunteers to assist with their ISP retreats. We have seen the new vision prepared by the architects and look forward to the progress over the next 3-4 years.



## Late Sunday Mass

As with many activities in 2021 the Late Sunday mass suffered and had the double



impact of the curfew, since our "Late Sunday Mass" was traditionally a 7:00 start our masses were stopped altogether.

This is our major source of annual income, making it important to have the consistency people count on. We look forward to growing the community once again. It is a very solemn mass, where participants have said they feel close to God during the service. We

are thrilled that Father Thomas Delorme has joined our team. As always Father Gilles Surprenant takes the lead in managing the celebrants for us and hosts the sacrament of reconciliation. We remain grateful to Father Jason Piper for the rental of the church for our faith community and Boris Polanski who has been with us from the beginning, welcoming the community, seating, sterilizing, etc. It is a beautiful team that shares this celebration. Please consider joining us on a Sunday evening at 7:00 at our Lady of Fatima Parish: 875 Marcel Laurin Blvd, Saint Laurent QC H4M 2M8



## Catholic Action in the Community (continued)



This ministry continues to serve the community, led by lay Minister Adam Paterno, we share with those who deal with anxiety, praying, meditating and simply sharing together. Learning to "let go and let God"

**New this year is training for**



**Exciting new Project for Youth Ministers** – In collaboration with Mission Jeunesse, Dr. Tabitha Pineda (PHD and Family psychologist) and youth minister Chantal Messier – we are developing resources to assist youth ministers in the event they are faced with a situation and need to work within the boundaries of pastoral care.



In response to the request of Father Raymond Lafontaine, Episcopal Vicar for the English-speaking faithful and Director of the Office for English Pastoral Services (O.E.P.S.), we gathered as a community, Catholic Action hosted the zoom meeting. Looking around the group, we have been fortunate to collaborate with each group. Going forward we will be meeting on a quarterly basis with the intention of further collaboration to serve you, our community best!

## Catholic Action Strategic Plan



We are pleased to announce that we have completed our Strategic Plan. Using our vision story, developed during a board of directors' workshop and a foundation of Faith, Stewardship and Service, we developed our "Strategic Plan." We partnered with the non-profit division of Accenture, AOTC, "Accent on The Community".

These are their comments on the process:

**Hello, we are members of Accenture's AOTC program, a consulting volunteering initiative that seeks to help not-for-profit organizations in Montreal! We had the pleasure of working alongside Catholic Action Montreal over the past ten weeks. From the very beginning of the project, we understood how unique CAM is in terms of the motivation behind its work and the goals it is trying to achieve. During the length of the project, we worked alongside CAM staff to reformulate its strategic pillars (i.e., mission, vision, values) while determining how to better communicate the organization's identity and strategy to external stakeholders. We all worked very hard and had a lot of fun doing so! On our end, we learned more about CAM's commitment to meaningfully helping the community, which made us admire the work done by CAM even more. We look forward to telling you more about the project and getting to meet the community at this year's AGM!**

## Catholic Action Membership & Partners - Thank you

### OUR PARTNERS

- † Archdiocese of Montreal
  - Office of English Pastoral Services
  - Responsible Pastoral Ministry
  - Social Action
  - SASMAD
  - Le Pont
  - Montreal Catholic Challenge
  - English speaking Parishes (via parish bulletin postings)
  - English speaking Parishes projects with
    - Corpus Christi (donated money and project)
    - Holy Name of Jesus (donated money and project)
    - Jesus Light of the World (donated money and project)
    - St. Edmunds (donated money and project)
    - St. Gabriel's (donated money and project)
    - Transfiguration of Our Lord (donated money and project)
- † Afghan Women's Centre of Montreal
- † Agape Association Inc
- † Aide to the Church in Need
- † Almage
- † AOTC (Accenture)
- † Arc Community Outreach
- † BLG
- † Catholic Women's League
- † Centre for Reproductive Loss
- † CHSSN
- † CIUSSS
- † Concordia Perform Centre
- † Contactivity Centre
- † English Speaking Catholic Council
- † Extra Miles Senior Group
- † Father Dowd Foundation Donated money
- † Foundation of Catholic Community Services
  - Camp Kinkora
- † John Molson School of Business
- † Knights of Columbus
- † LaSalle D & D 50+ Senior Centre
- † LaSalle Multicultural Centre
- † Loyola High School
- † Ndg 50 + café
- † Ndg Senior Center
- † New Hope Senior Citizens Centre
- † Peter McGill Community council
- † Pillars Trust Donated money
- † Promis
- † Quebec Community Groups Network (donated money)
- † Red Feather Forum
- † Respecting Elders Communities Against Abuse
- † Sacred Heart
- † Santa Rita Scalabrini and affiliated churches in the east end re. asylum seekers project
- † Seniors Action Quebec
- † Sisters of Scion – Donation
- † Sisters of Ste. Anne – Donation
- † St. Antoine Senior Centre
- † St. Columba House
- † St. Kateri au Centre-Ville
- † St. Patrick's Foundation Donated money
- † Volunteer West Island
- † Welcome Collective
- † Yellow Door

### CATHOLIC ACTION MEMBERSHIP

Catholic Action's membership remains strong. Sadly, some members have passed, other have moved. We were very limited in our recruitment as we were unable to visit you in your parishes.

Please invite your family and friends to become part of us,

The English-Speaking Catholic team that use our gifts to serve the Lord.

"We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."  
(Thessalonians 1-3)

## Special note of Thanks to our donors & members



## Your opinion matters!

### How can we share our gifts with each other?

The groups we serve all have needs. Can you translate English to French, (all groups), do you have counseling experience (Ignatian Spirituality Project), and can you drive someone in need, meals on wheels, or maybe dabble in website design/update? Can you teach a Yoga class, English, computer? These are a few of the common requests. How about becoming a board member and lending your professional expertise to a team? There are many “time to time” or full-time opportunities throughout the year. You would be surprised how easy it is to help. Is your organization missing a service? Check in with us, we can help. Join our expertise pool and help us help our neighbours – go to the website and click on the “expertise” tab.

**Your opinion matters!** Tell us what you think? As a member what else would you like to see us doing? We'd love to hear your ideas. Drop us a line at [jwong@catholicaction.ca](mailto:jwong@catholicaction.ca)

### *To Our Volunteers*

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO GOD  
FOR YOUR HELP.  
FOR WE REMEMBER HOW YOU  
PUT YOUR FAITH INTO  
PRACTICE,  
HOW YOUR FAITH MOTIVATES  
YOU TO SERVE OTHERS, AND  
HOW UNRELENTING IS YOUR  
HOPE-FILLED PATIENCE IN  
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.