

July 2023 Quebec Life Coalition

Building a Christian society that defends faith, family, and the human person, from conception to natural death.

The Pro-Life Flag



The Pro-Life Flag is highly symbolic of both unborn children and their mothers. Depicting two feet (representing the child), two hands (representing the mother), two stripes, and two main colors, it emphasizes the TWO lives present in a pregnancy and the love that the pro-life movement shows to both.

The Project - The Pro-Life Flag was created by the members of the pro-life movement, to provide a unifying, freely reproducible symbol for the pro-life cause. Through a public design contest and a movement-wide vote, this flag was created *by* pro-lifers *for* pro-lifers.

The Response - Since the Project's completion, numerous news outlets have written about the international Pro-Life Flag, and at least one US state has formally declared it a state-recognized symbol of life.



Smithers, B.C. - The Pro-Life Society of Smithers decided to use the town's rainbow crosswalk as an opportunity to ask the council to fly the pro-life flag and paint a pro-life crosswalk too. Pro-lifer Jessica Vandergaag commented, "If council should decide not to approve the flag and/or crosswalk, then we respectfully submit that the town should cease from elevating one group above another through the motion of groups, ideologically identifying the symbol."

(Text drawn from both the "Pro-Life Flag Project" and Campaign Life Coalition.)

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Pilgrimage for Life In the Footsteps of Mother Rosalie



In addition to the **40 Days for Life** prayer vigil for the end of abortion and the daily downtown prayer presence, know as **Vigil 365**, the Quebec Life Coalition publicly promotes a culture of life in varied ways.

One such activity is the **Pilgrimage in the City** series which began in 2017 and this year was done this past June 17, 2023, its eighth edition.

This year's theme was "Walking in the Footsteps of Rosalie," referring to the 19th century woman – Rosalie Cadron-Jetté (1794-1864), who, along with dedicated colleagues, came to the aid of the unwed mothers of Montreal.



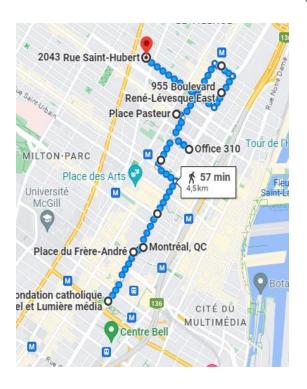
As in previous years, participants were invited to begin the day with a mass at Montreal's Mary, Queen of the World cathedral from where the walk would begin.

After the mass and prior beginning the walk, and in keeping with this year's theme, a rare privilege awaited the pilgrims – the opportunity to pray near the tomb of the holy woman, as her tomb is stored in a usually inaccessible area of the cathedral.

Leaving the tomb of Venerable Rosalie, pilgrims began their 5-km walk which would bring them to both shrines and abortion facilities and locations in downtown Montreal central to the mission of Mother Rosalie, who was deservedly referred to in her lifetime as Mother of the Nativity for the care she administered to the young pregnant women and their infants. (See the itinerary followed at the top of the next page.)

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Pilgrimage for Life In the Footsteps of Mother Rosalie



Included among the shrines visited were Place Frère André, St. Patrick's Basilica, and Old St. Jacques the Elder Cathedral.

The abortion facilities outside of which we prayed included the CLSC Faubourg where late-term abortions are performed, the CHUM, and the Clinique médicale Femina. The old site of the Morgentaler facility was also pointed out.

The pilgrims also stopped and prayed at the locations where Rosalie had welcomed and cared for the unwed mothers.

For instances, not far from the intersection of René-Lévesque Blvd. and Jeanne-Mance (which in Rosalie's time were named Dorchester and St. Simon Streets respectively), was the home of one of her sons.

There, in the attic, in May 1845 Rosalie began caring for the women. She and a helper welcomed the first women into the lodging with another two arriving before the end of the month.

These quarters became inadequate as other helpers and boarders, the term given to the unwed mothers, joined in and within a year a move to a larger dwelling on Wolfe Street was made.

Within a year, a second move was required not for lack of space, which was a growing concern, but because the proprietor of the building experienced a change in heart about the work Mother Rosalie was doing, a view shared by many nineteenth century Montrealers..

Fortunately, a Montreal entrepreneur stepped in, offering one of his buildings on Saint-André Street, near Saint-Catherine Street. In time, these quarters too became inadequate for the growing community, and new quarters were built close by on Dorchester Street. These latter buildings remain erect today and are pictured below. The pilgrimage ended at this point.



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The Struggle between Good and Evil



Over the past month, we have been on the front lines of the battle defending the unborn and helping their mothers.

No fewer than five occurrences can be cited.

On Thursday, June 22, 2023, we received the good news that a woman whom we have been supporting since coming to our attention this past March gave birth to a little girl. Both mother and daughter are doing well.

This good news was tempered by several heartbreaks. First there was a protracted battle to help a single mother, a refuge to our country, who decided to abort her child. Despite the offer of assistance by many - the child's father, the woman's twelve-year-old daughter, a dear friend, and us at the Quebec Life Coalition, the woman opted for an abortion.

A less protracted incident occurred one Saturday afternoon resulting in a identical tragedy. A caller to our pregnancy support phone line asked whether we offered abortion services. Explaining to the woman that we do not but would like to accompany both her and her child, during the pregnancy and afterwards, the caller hung up.

The final caller, a gentleman, shared about his abortion experiences. In his early fifties, he explained

that he was involved in three abortion episodes, each with different women. Particularly painful was the last one for which he was calling and seeking psychological/emotional and spiritual support.

Upcoming Events

- Pilgrimages July/August 2023.
- Corn-on-the-Cob Saturday, August 12, 2023
- Conservative Party of Canada National Congress, Quebec City, Sep 6, 7, & 8, 2023
- 40 Days for Life prayer vigil for the end of abortion Sept 27 to Nov. 5, 2023.
- Life Chain Sunday, October 1, 2023.
- CQV Congress October 2023 Quebec City.

Call the office at 514 344-2686 for details.

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