

Montreal, September 29, 2026

Dear Bishops,

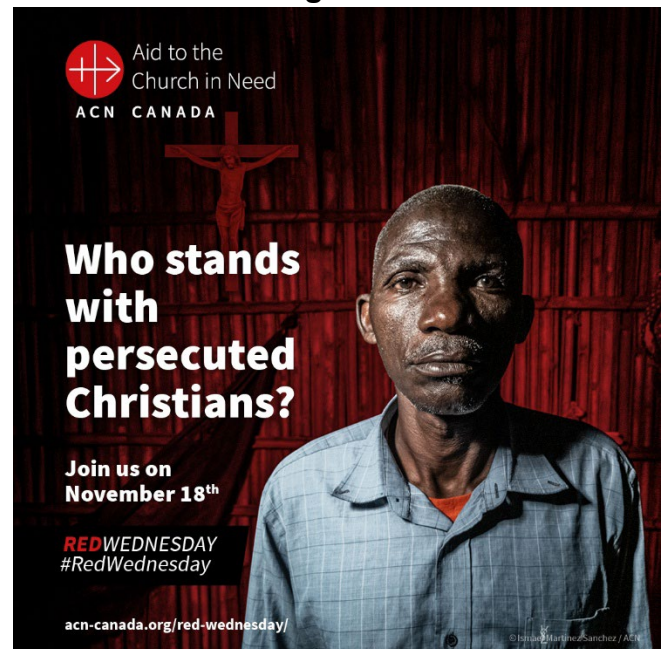
I hope this message finds you well and that you had a wonderful summer.

As in previous years, I would like to invite you to participate in **Red Wednesday**, an annual event organized by **Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)** that aims to raise awareness about the persecution suffered by our brothers and sisters in the faith. Currently, **413 million Christians live in countries where religious freedom is severely violated.**

Of these, approximately **220 million live in countries where they are directly exposed to persecution.**

It is estimated that **75% of religiously motivated violence is perpetrated against Christians.**

This year, **Red Wednesday** will take place on **November 18, 2026**. We invite dioceses—which can in turn invite their parishes—to participate in every way possible. Suggested activities include organizing a Mass, a vigil, or a Rosary to pray for **persecuted Christians**. You will find attached a document with further details.



Please also visit our new dedicated webpage at
www.acn-canada.org/red-wednesday/

There you will find all the relevant information and resources related to this national and international initiative to help support your diocese and parishes in their participation. You can also register directly on the page, whether as an individual or a group (diocese, parish, religious community, parish group, etc.).

Your involvement—large or small—will bring hope and spiritual support to our project partners who are suffering for their faith.

Their strength lies in our prayers.

Let us remain united in prayer for our persecuted brothers and sisters.

With my deepest gratitude,



Marie-Claude Lalonde
National Director

P.S.: Don't forget to sign our international petition calling for the protection of religious freedom around the world: <https://acn-canada.org/rfr/>

Please note our new address:

1070-180 Place Juge-Desnoyers
Laval, QC H7G 1A4