

**SOW HOPE,
SOW THE WORD**

LETTER FROM THE HONORARY CHAIRMAN

**I love *Le Verbe*
(in English: the Word)!**

Quebec City, March 25, 2022
On the feast of the Annunciation.
When the Word became flesh!

Dear friends of *Le Verbe*,

Peace be with you!

I cannot hide it; I love *Le Verbe* (the Word)! I love the Word because the Word is Christ and I love all those who desire to make Him known.

If today's means of communication were available to the Apostles 2000 years ago, I'm sure they would have used them because the Good News must be shared everywhere and by everyone.

With all its projects (magazine, web, video, radio and social networks), *Le Verbe médias* makes the Incarnate Word known to hundreds of thousands of people in our country.

That's why this *missionary* media organization is good news for us!

I like *Le Verbe* because it is a media organization that reaches out to the "peripheries". I like the tone it uses which, without diluting anything of our faith, knows how to enter into dialogue with today's world. I like that it is always seeking novel ways to speak to young people and to all those who seek God.

I love the fragrance of hope that it spreads and the profound questions it raises. I love the beauty, truth and goodness that guide all of its productions.

I also love its young, daring and creative team who always finds an original way to make us reflect and smile.

Yes, I love and I believe in *Le Verbe / the Word*!

And that's why I'm happy to support its fundraising campaign. Please join me in generously supporting *Le Verbe médias* so that faith and hope may be sown in our country for many years to come.

This is our most urgent and important mission!

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† Gérald C. Card. Lacroix
Archbishop of Quebec

5 questions for Anne Leahy

Professor, diplomat and *Le Verbe médias* Campaign Patron, Anne Leahy, took our pop quiz!

1 Why did you agree to be the patron of the *Le Verbe médias*' fundraising campaign?

I couldn't resist! *Le Verbe* brings together all the best. I especially like the quality and variety of the topics covered, always in excellent French, in an accessible and yet intelligent manner. I believe that it demonstrates how Catholicism can be lived in a concrete way which is useful to the people around us. Finally, I like its mission which consists in witnessing to hope by combining faith and culture.

2 Why is this mission so important to you?

It is very important because culture opens us up to be more receptive and leads us to something greater than ourselves. It creates wonder. Artificial intelligence will never be able to experience wonder! The human species will always be distinguished by its capacity to be connected to a higher force, by its openness to spirituality.

Father Couturier, a great artist and art theorist, said that he liked vibrant art from an atheist a hundred times better than the conformist, not to say mediocre, art he saw everywhere in churches at that time. He thought it was too conventional and did not arouse any feelings. For him, it didn't matter if the artist was a believer or not, as long as it was beautiful and raised people to something greater than themselves.

Beauty has always opened us up to transcendence, because it pushes us to look beyond what we see. I therefore believe that culture is a path by which one can arrive at faith, or rather at the free choice to believe, because faith always involves a personal decision.

3 Is it still possible in these troubled times to witness to hope?

Yes, and it is even more essential than it has ever been! Especially, precisely, in a context of crisis. And I am thinking first of all of the crises within the Church.

But I believe that we must begin by defining hope. It is really something broader than wishing for some kind of gift that would correspond to my whims. First of all, we don't hope only for ourselves, but for everyone. And what we hope for is mostly in the next life.

When we bear witness, it should always be in response to a question. The best way is to act in such a way that the person observing us asks, "Why do you think or act like this?" This is the opposite of lecturing someone who has not asked us anything.

4 Can the Church still be a source or a sign of hope for our world?

Of course it can! But who is the Church? Are we talking only about the temporal institution whose headquarters are in Rome? Are we talking about all the faithful who follow an incarnate God? If we are talking about the institution that is not temporal but divine, I have no fear whatsoever.

5 Why should we give to support *Le Verbe*?

Simply because we believe in it!