



EPARCHY  
OF ST. MARON  
CANADA

## NOTICE

### Subject: Mr. Ziad Rahal

(Montreal, Tuesday January 5, 2021) On Sunday December 27, 2020, Mr. Ziad RAHAL, formerly candidate for the priesthood for the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Montreal in Canada (where he did not meet the necessary requirements); then a seminarian for the diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil (where he was also unable to meet the necessary requirements), was ordained a priest for the Traditional Catholic Christian Church (also known as: *Mission Vieille-Catholique*).

This Church is not affiliated to the Roman Catholic Church. In fact, **it is not in full communion** neither with the Bishop of Rome, Pope Francis, nor with the bishops of the Latin Catholic dioceses of Canada, nor with me, as bishop of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Montreal in Canada.

**THE ORDINATION OF MR RAHAL IS NOT THEREFORE RECOGNIZED BY THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, NOR BY OUR MARONITE CHURCH.**

The differences between the Catholic Church and the communities which are not in communion with her often touch either the structure of the Church, or the doctrinal or the disciplinary matters. These inconsistencies form serious “obstacles” to ecclesial communion.

To this end, the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Montreal in Canada, in accordance with the canonical provisions of the Universal Church, does not allow its faithful to use the services of Mr. Rahal and other ministers of this community known as the *Traditional Catholic Christian Church*, for the celebration of the sacraments. **It is certain that the sacraments received in this community are illicit in the Maronite Church.**

I invite you, clergy and concerned laity in the parishes, to discern all relations with Mr. Rahal related to pastoral and spiritual matters and / or with a Christian community that is not in full communion with the Catholic church, be it Roman or Maronite. Please consult the Chancery office for any additional related questions or any other dreadful ecclesial circumstance.

+Paul-Marwan Tabet  
Bishop