



Diocese of Kamloops
BISHOP'S OFFICE

March 6, 2025

Reverend and dear Father,

As we journey together in this Jubilee Year of 2025, a time of renewal and grace, we embrace the call to be *Pilgrims of Hope*. Development & Peace – Caritas Canada (D&P), the charitable arm of the Catholic Bishops of Canada, continues its mission to uphold justice, dignity, and solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the Global South. Inspired by Catholic social teaching, we stand with Caritas Internationalis in the global campaign to “*Turn Debt into Hope*”, echoing the biblical jubilee’s call to restore hope to those burdened by unjust and overwhelming debt.

I am pleased to confirm that, as of September 16, 2024, Raphael Freston has been appointed as the new animator for Development & Peace in the Diocese of Kamloops. In this role, he will support the Kamloops D&P Council, assist in local initiatives, and promote D&P’s mission within our parishes. The Diocese of Kamloops has long been a steadfast supporter of Development & Peace, particularly through the annual *Share Lent* campaign, and I encourage continued participation in this vital work.

I wholeheartedly endorse Raphael as the official local representative of Development & Peace and invite you to welcome and support him, along with the Kamloops team. Your encouragement and collaboration will strengthen our shared commitment to justice and peace.

I also invite all clergy and parishioners to attend the upcoming “*Turn Debt into Hope*” workshops on:
March 9: St. James Catholic Church, Vernon
March 10: St. Joseph’s Catholic Church, Salmon Arm

Additionally, I encourage all parishes to support *Solidarity Sunday*, helping to advance D&P’s mission through prayer, advocacy, and generosity.

With prayerful best wishes and blessings for you and your parish community,

Fraternally yours in Christ,

✠ Joseph Phuong Nguyen
Bishop of Kamloops