Conference on "Nostra Aetate at 40" to be held in Montreal, November 2, 2005

10.10.2005 | Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Montreal

Christian Jewish Dialogue of Montreal

Nostra Aetate at 40 :

Achievements and Challenges

in Christian-Jewish Relations

The Christian Jewish Dialogue of Montreal offers to the clergy, ministers, pastoral personnel, and students a day of learning and sharing on "*Nostra Aetate* at 40 : Achievements and challenges in Christian-Jewish Relations". This colloquium will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2005, from 13:00h to 21:30h at the Institut de formation théologique de Montréal, 2065, Sherbrooke St. West, Montreal. The evening lecture (19:30h), will be open to the general public.

Proclaimed on October 28, 1965, during the last session of the Second Vatican Council, the declaration *Nostra Aetate* on the relation of the Church to non Christian religions has been a turning point in the relations between Christians and Jews. Moving away from centuries of "*teaching of contempt*" (Jules Isaac), the participants to the Council acknowledged the great "*spiritual patrimony common to Christians and Jews*". They invited both groups to develop "*mutual understanding and respect, which is the fruit, above all, of biblical and theological studies as well as of fraternal dialogues*" (N.A. par. 4). 40 years after *Nostra Aetate*, what are the achievements of the dialogue between Christians and Jews, internationally and locally? What are the challenges still ahead of us? During this day of study in common, a few of those who have lived and witnessed this fabulous venture will help us to assess the situation.

The main lecturers will be Dr. Gérald Caron, author of *L'antisémitisme chrétien, une question pour les Églises* (2002), Dr. Adele Reinhartz, professor of religious studies at the University of Ottawa, and Rev. John Pawlikowski, President of the International Council for Christians and Jews. Three Past Presidents of the Christian Jewish Dialogue of Montreal will respond to their presentations. The participants will also be invited to share their experiences of dialogue and to express their views about the challenges still awaiting them.

The Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Montreal is composed of representatives of various sponsoring organizations who come together to build and strengthen mutual understanding and support

between Christian and Jewish communities, without any attempt to conversion. The Dialogue sets up or promotes, in the larger Montreal area, activities which foster better relations among Christians, Jews, and all people of good will.

Source : Adèle Brodeur, CJDM Secretary

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Program details