

Invitation to Participate

Celebrating Indigenous Culture/Spirituality

The Diocese of Sault Ste Marie has initiated a process called ***ARISE Together in Christ/DEBOUT Ensemble dans le Christ*** in the English and French parishes. This process commenced in March of 2013 and continues to this day. At present we have completed three of the five seasons

The theme of Season III of ***ARISE Together in Christ*** is **Social Justice**. Participants are encouraged to engage in social justice activities in their communities. This is not restricted to ARISE participants; it is open to everyone in our area..

In consulting with Bishop Plouffe, we discerned that a project involving the Indigenous peoples of our area would be a valuable experience in sharing cultural traditions of spirituality. To this end a steering committee was formed to gather resources for and guide regional committees in planning a special celebration in May of 2015. A multi-lingual committee will be formed in each of the four zones of the Diocese of Sault Ste Marie (Algoma, North Shore, Sudbury, and Nipissing).

The regional committees are beginning to plan their events which will take place in May of 2015. We are most anxious to have participation from your bands in this process. You will be receiving, in the very near future, an invitation to be a part of the proposed celebrations. We hope that you will respond favourably and share with the people of the Diocese, some of your spiritual traditions. Through these celebrations, we hope to build bridges between cultures, build friendships and understanding of the great contributions each culture has made to the life we enjoy in Canada today.

For more information please consult the website noted below which has resources intended to be used in the planning of an event.

<http://arise-ssm.weebly.com/>

Thank you in advance for considering this invitation.

Jean McHarg, Diocesan Coordinator for ***ARISE Together in Christ*** 705-674-2727 Ext. 261

