



# Fabrice Ouandji

Although FABRICE OUANDJI was confirmed only recently, he quickly became an active volunteer and parishioner.

His primary volunteer roles are as a Hospitality Minister (usher) and as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (Eucharistic Minister). “I knew I enjoyed relating to people,” Fabrice explains, “so the Hospitality Ministry naturally appealed to me. As a Minister of Hospitality, I feel I have to make everyone feel welcome at the Basilica. Engaging people is something that comes naturally to me, and I use this skill to glorify God. There is no telling what can make someone come back to The Basilica: it could be a particular song, the rituals, or just the way they are greeted on their way in.”

He began serving as a Eucharistic Minister after his confirmation in 2008. “I felt that being confirmed allowed me to fully serve the church,” Fabrice says. And he takes his role very seriously. “It comes with an extraordinary level of responsibilities: you are giving the Body and Blood of Christ!” he exclaims. Serving communion has deepened his own faith. “Serving communion reaffirms my belief that God loves me enough to let me serve communion to my brothers and sisters in Christ,” Fabrice explains. “Every time I serve communion, I keep thinking of how blessed I am, and also of my responsibility towards God and the Basilica community.”

Although he tried a few other ministries, he has found fulfillment in using his gifts in his current roles. “Both roles have definitely enhanced my spiritual life,” he shares. “I am serving God, which brings me great joy!”