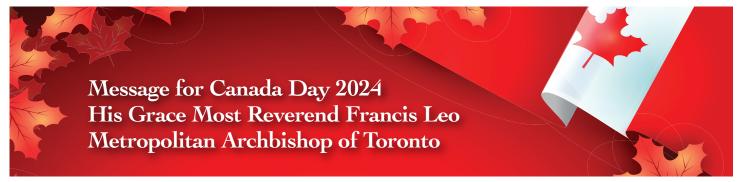


NEWMAN CENTRE CATHOLIC MISSION

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO'S ST. GEORGE CAMPUS

Monthly Newsletter | Cor Ad Cor Loquitor | July 2024



Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Canada Day to all. As we celebrate Canada's founding in 1867, we welcome the opportunity to give thanks to God for His abundant blessings from sea to sea and pray that He continues to bless, protect, and guide us.

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for our Canada Day Liturgy acknowledges God's reign in our country and His care for us¹, reminding us that God not only creates, but He also sustains (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church/CCC 301). It is through the very act of creation that God reveals Himself to us, giving us access through the "natural light of reason" to come to know, love and serve Him faithfully and fruitfully. ²

The Collect continues, praying for "wisdom to those who govern... respect for human life and dignity to every citizens," it ends with the desire for justice, unity, and peace in our country. Contained within these two triplets-wisdom, respect and dignity, justice, unity, and peace there is an important insight into Catholic Social Doctrine; namely the close connection between life ethics and social ethics. For justice, unity and peace to exist, good governance, respect for life and the dignity of Canadians is necessary; this is a foundational principal of the Church's social teaching. Pope Francis puts it succinctly writing: "Issues relating to life are intrinsically connected to social questions. When we defend the right to life, we do so in order that each life from conception to its natural end-may be a dignified life, one free from the scourge of hunger and poverty, of violence and persecution." 5

The interconnectedness of issues surrounding life and the complexity of social ills can never be separated. Historically the denial of human rights and dignities has led to social upheavals and in some cases the catastrophic loss of human life.

As a community of faith, we strive to build up the Kingdom of God, and we are reminded of the passage from St. Matthew, "Whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (Mt 25:40; cf. Mt 25:31-46). This is more than a moral axiom to be applied in desperate situations and circumstances; it is a profound Christological truth that points first to the Lordship of Jesus Christ; second to the reality that

we are created in the image and likeness of God; and third, the responsibility to care for one another. When we reflect on the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, we are struck by the love of God which moved Him to humble Himself, to embrace the poverty of the human condition so that He might raise us up and we might participate in His divine life (cf. CCC 460). The mandatum in St. John's Gospel to love one another as He has loved us (cf. Jn. 13:34-35), is an invitation to abide in the love of God and extend His communion to all we meet.

In my Pastoral Letter, "Seeking the Kingdom of God Above and Beyond all Other Things," I invited the faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto to take concrete measures to make the Kingdom present and undo some of the modern-day distortions we experience daily. I proposed a list of twelve efforts, one for each month. During the month of July, I suggested that we seek out opportunities to spread and strengthen the Kingdom of God by working intentionally for truth and life, holiness and grace, justice, love and peace. I would like to take this opportunity to renew that invitation and pray that we take seriously our baptismal call to holiness and service as a Church.

On this Canada Day we celebrate with joy the founding of our country and acknowledge with humility the mission we have been given by Our Lord himself. As citizens of God's Kingdom and of this world as well, we recognize the abundant blessings we have been given here in Canada and strive to extend those blessings to others. Let us never tire of seeking God's glory, of desiring to fulfill His holy will, of embracing His purpose for our lives and for our world, of reaching out and making a difference in the lives of our fellow Canadians. May God bless you and your families and friends on this Canada Day. St. Joseph, Patron Saint of Canada, pray for us.

¹ Roman Missal, Opening Prayer for Canada Day.

² Vatican I, Dei Filius, Can.2, #1.

³ Roman Missal, Opening Prayer for Canada Day.

⁴ Pope Benedict XVI, Caritas in Veritate, 15.

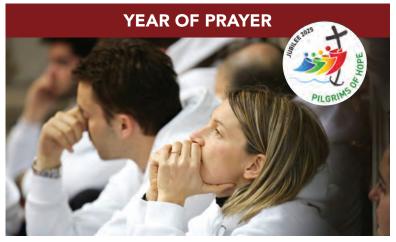
⁵ Pope Francis, Message on The Occasion of The International Conference "Women and The Post-2015 Development Agenda: The Challenges of The Sustainable Development Goals?", 22 May 2015.

A LOOK BACK AT SOME OF OUR RECENT SUMMER EVENTS









On January 21, 2024, Pope Francis inaugurated a Year of Prayer ahead of the 2025 Jubilee, calling on the faithful "to pray more fervently to prepare ourselves to live properly this grace-filled event and to experience the power of hope in God."

The Year of Prayer, the Holy Father explained, is dedicated "to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world."

For more information and resources on the Year of Prayer, please scan the QR Code below or visit: www.archtoronto.org/prayer



"May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel."

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JULY AT A GLANCE



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
June 30 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Canada Day Centre Closed Daily Mass at 9:30 am	02 2nd Summer Session Begins Tabling	03 St. Thomas Tabling	04 Tabling & BBQ	05 First Friday Adoration	O6 St. Maria Goretti First Saturday
07 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time	08	09	10 Student Social	11 St. Benedict	12	13
14 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time	15 St. Bonaventure	16 Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Lunchtime Drop-in at 12:45 pm Date Night Event at 6:00 pm	18	19	20
21 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	22 St. Mary Magdalene	23	24 Lunchtime Drop-in at 12:45 pm	25 St. James	26 St. Anne & St. Joachim	27
28 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly	29 Sts. Mary, Martha & Lazarus	30	31 St. Igantius of Loyola Lunchtime Drop-in at 12:45 pm	The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of July For pastoral care of the sick: We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.		



Are you a graduate of the University of Toronto? If you answered YES, we would like to hear from you!

Please scan the QR Code to complete the Google Form and stay up-to-date on all our Alumni related news and events OR contact us at: newmancentreTO@archtoronto.org

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