



6 May 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

*May Jesus and Mary be in your hearts.*

At the outset of this Marian month, I would like to express my deep gratitude for all that you do to strengthen the faith of our Catholic community in the Archdiocese of Toronto.

As you know, the Eucharist is the source and summit of our life as Christians. We participate in the Paschal Mystery of Christ in a real and tangible way when we celebrate the most sacred mysteries. We receive Jesus, true God and true man, Son of God and Son of Mary, each and every time we advance to the altar of sacrifice and partake of the Bread of Angels. We worship the only and true God, the Most High Lord when we lovingly come before the Blessed Sacrament through Eucharistic Adoration. We foster community living & engagement and build up the Mystical Body of Christ when we gather as God's People to offer up the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. All of this, and much, much more, points to the faith of Holy Mother Church with respect to the Sacrament of love and spurs us on with even greater Eucharistic faith, devotion and zeal to nurture our personal and ecclesial relationship with Christ Jesus through prayer, thoughtful reflection and celebration.

It is a blessing that already a number of parishes in the archdiocese have a tradition of Corpus Christi processions, a powerful manifestation of our devotion as well as an opportunity to evangelize and offer a public witness outside the doors of our parish churches.

The Office of Formation for Discipleship has developed the enclosed resources to assist you in better understanding this beautiful Catholic devotion. The resources consist of three documents: (i) **A Eucharistic Triduum** (three-day preparation before Corpus Christi Sunday); (ii) **A Eucharistic Procession ritual** for pastors and parish liturgical teams; (iii) **A Resource document** with more information, FAQs and links to related readings and prayers. The three documents are provided in both PDF and Word versions so as to facilitate your planning and celebration.

While many parishioners participate in local parish Mass and processions, if this is not the case for you, I would like to extend a warm invitation to you to join our **2024 Corpus Christi Mass and procession at Saint Michael's Cathedral Basilica on Sunday, June 2, 2024**. The Eucharistic procession will take place following the Noon Holy Mass and we anticipate the route in the immediate vicinity of the cathedral to take approximately 30-45 minutes.

Besides the parishes, I am extending a special invitation to the various lay movements, associations organizations and religious communities to join us for these great liturgical and faith-filled events of faith. Please consult the enclosed material for further logistical information.



Given this is our first time undertaking a major Corpus Christi procession at the cathedral in recent years, I would kindly ask that you limit participation from your group to no more than 10 people so that we can accommodate all persons inside the cathedral and to ensure the safety of participants on the procession route. **Please RSVP your anticipated attendance by clicking on the following link: <https://bit.ly/CorpusChristiRSVP> by Friday, May 24, 2024.**

Once again, thank you wholeheartedly for your labour of love in this our archdiocesan family. The Church of God in Toronto is so very blessed to have such a rich array of diverse vocations, charisms, ministries and apostolates which reflect the beauty and holiness of God and our unity of faith contributing to the splendour of the Church, Bride of Christ. May Our Lady intercede graces of joy and consolation upon you all. I hope that you will be able to join us on Sunday, June 2, 2024 in worship, prayer, devotion and fellowship.

Sincerely Yours in Jesus with Mary,

Most Rev. Francis Leo  
Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto

Encl.