

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On January 27, 1826, the Diocese of Kingston came into existence through the signing of a Papal Bull by Pope Leo XII. We officially opened our 200th anniversary celebration on our Patronal Feast Day, December 8, 2025, blessed with a beautiful but chilly late fall day. It was a joyous occasion in the newly renovated Cathedral. I am grateful to all who were able to participate in person and those who offered spiritual support from afar. The Icon, written for the anniversary theme, “to Know Christ and the power of His resurrection” (Phil 3:10), was consecrated during the liturgy and is now displayed at the Cathedral for veneration.



Patronal Feast of the Archdiocese of Kingston, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2025

I invite you to spend a moment in prayer for the faithful of the archdioceses, past, present and future. We, as all generations of Christians before us, share St. Paul's thirst “to know Christ and the power of His resurrection”(Phil. 3:10). As we enter the Lenten season and the winter weather gives way to milder temperatures and better conditions for travel, I encourage you to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament in your own parish or at another church or chapel within the archdiocese. To truly know Christ, we need to spend time with Him, opening our hearts to listen to Him and receive His love and mercy. Christ's holy presence in the Eucharist is our greatest gift and the source of our salvation.

The archdiocese will host a workshop for representatives from all parishes interested in supporting, organizing, and strengthening Eucharistic Adoration in their parishes. The workshop will be facilitated by leaders from the Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration and will take place on the afternoon of August 15th at St. Joseph's parish hall, Kingston. Further information will be forthcoming later this spring.



Consecration of the Icon, "To know Christ and the power of His resurrection" (Phil 3:10)

We have received from the Apostolic Nunciature of the Vatican a decree of Indulgence for the faithful celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Archdiocese of Kingston. Throughout 2026, a plenary indulgence will be available to those who visit any of the five dedicated pilgrimage churches of the archdiocese, pray the 200th Anniversary Prayer, and meet the standard terms of receiving indulgences (receive Holy Communion, pray at least two prayers for the intentions of Pope Leo XIV, receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation within 21 days, and be detached from sin).

The five Pilgrimage Churches of the Archdiocese are: St. Michael the Archangel, Belleville, St. Joseph, Kingston, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral, Kingston, St. Francis Xavier, Brockville, and St. John the Baptist, Perth. Information about Mass schedules and hours of operations may be found on each parish website. It is edifying to experience the faithful holding up the archdiocese in prayer throughout this anniversary year, and it is a great sign of our unity.

We have much to be grateful for and look forward to the renewal our anniversary celebrations will inspire in the weeks and months ahead. Be assured of my continued prayers for you as well.



200th Anniversary Plenary Indulgence document issued from the Vatican

In Christ,

Michael Mulhall
Archbishop of Kingston