



Office of the Bishop

DIOCESE OF SAINT JOHN
One Bayard Drive
Saint John, NB E2L 3L5
Canada
Tel (506) 653-6802 • Fax (506) 653-6859

March 10, 2014

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Once again this year I have the pleasure to invite all of you to the Chrism Mass.

Where? Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Saint John
When? Tuesday, April 15, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.

You are invited to gather for this unique celebration in the liturgical year.

If you are a regular to this annual celebration, welcome back. If you have never experienced the Chrism Mass, I warmly encourage you to come for the first time. Each year, I regularly meet people who are delighted to have done so.

Over the past few years the numbers in attendance keep growing. It is a pleasure for me to preside this concelebrated Eucharist during which I bless the Holy Oils to be used for the coming year and receive the renewal of promises made by the priests the day of their ordination.

"This Mass, which the bishop concelebrates with his college of presbyters and at which he consecrates the holy chrism and blesses the other oils manifests the communion of the presbyters with their bishop." (GIRM, #157)

"Presbyters ... concelebrate this Mass as witnesses and cooperators with their bishop in the consecration of the chrism because they share in the sacred office of the bishop in building up, sanctifying and ruling the people of God." (Presbyterorum Ordinis #2)

At the end of this Mass, the Holy Oils are distributed to parish representatives; and then, all are invited to a reception in the Cathedral Rectory.

I look forward to welcoming you. Let us pray for each other during this season of grace. Blessings on your lenten journey towards Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

** Robert Harris*

✠ Robert Harris
Bishop of Saint John