



Office of the Bishop

## DIOCESE OF SAINT JOHN

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February 27, 2015

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

I have the pleasure to invite all of you to the Chrism Mass, a unique celebration in the Liturgical Year.

Where? Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Saint John

When? Tuesday, March 31, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.

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

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 will be 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