



Office of the Bishop

DIOCESE OF SAINT JOHN
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April 30, 2015

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Please join me in Fredericton for the **March for Life** on Thursday, May 14, 2015. This year's theme: *Every Life Matters*.

10:00 am	I will preside a concelebrated Mass in St. Dunstan's Church
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	The Rally will follow in front of the Provincial Legislature
1:00 pm	March, through downtown Fredericton

In our society, where life is threatened in so many ways, we need to affirm without hesitation and with conviction, that life is sacred. In fact, "every person from conception to natural death, in whatever state or condition they are found, has an inalienable right to life." (CCC 2273). When God creates, from the first moment of conception, God loves every human person into being. It is said that life has its origin in God and life finds its destiny in God. All human life is a gift of God created for eternity.

Pope Francis continues to teach and affirm by word and action that the child in the womb, the disabled, the needy, the poor, the elderly, the refugee, the enslaved, the impoverished, the hungry, those whose lives are most defenceless... all are our sisters and brothers, all members of the human family and we have responsibility for them and for one another.

Saint John Paul II has encouraged us to "speak on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves" (*Evangelium Vitae*). As Catholic Christians, we are called to be "people of life and for life," sent to be witnesses and diffusers of a "culture of life".

I look forward to welcoming you on May 14 as the Lord blesses us and blesses our commitment to life.

Sincerely,

✠ Robert Harris
Bishop of Saint John