



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

**175 Years of Belonging ~  
Embrace the Grace**

October 13, 2016

Dear Sisters & Brothers:

As a diocese, we came into being on September 30, 1842. With the Inaugural Mass, celebrated on October 2, 2016, at St. Dunstan's in Fredericton, we have begun our anniversary year. I am grateful to Father Bill Brennan and his committee for organizing and hosting the event. A lot of hard work and the involvement of many people contributed to the success of this celebration. Five bishops, sixteen priests and hundreds of people gathered to mark the beginning of our anniversary year.

Next on our calendar of events is November, the month of the Souls. In light of our anniversary and its theme, **175 Years of Belonging ~ Embrace the Grace**, let us remember all those women and men, our predecessors, who have gone before us and have laid the foundation of our diocesan church.

At the service of our diocesan church over the years who have died, are 9 bishops, 245 priests, two deacons and countless numbers of consecrated women and men from 23 *Congregations, Societies of Apostolic Life and Secular Institutes*. Each according to their respective charism have cared for the people of the Diocese of Saint John in pastoral care, health care, education, social service and outreach.

On November 2, All Soul's Day, and throughout the month of November, please remember them.

May the theme of our anniversary year, **175 Years of Belonging ~ Embrace the Grace**, inspire you as you live your life and witness to your faith.

Sincerely in Christ,

✠ Robert Harris  
Bishop of Saint John