



Archdiocese
of Toronto

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MEDIA ADVISORY – For Immediate Release

Love is in the Air: 12,000 Years of Marriage Under One Roof

More than 300 Couples to Gather on February 11 for a “Celebration of Marriage”

TORONTO, ON (February 9, 2024) – With St. Valentine’s Day just around the corner, more than 300 couples with a collective 12,000 years of marriage will gather this Sunday to celebrate milestone anniversaries at St. Michael’s Cathedral Basilica in downtown Toronto. The “Celebration of Marriage” Mass presided by the Most Reverend Francis Leo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto, will honour those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2024, the highlight of the Archdiocese of Toronto’s annual “Marriage Sunday” celebrations. In attendance this year will be two couples who were married in 1954 and are set to celebrate 70 years of marriage this year.

1,200 people, including families and friends of the couples being celebrated, are expected to attend the event, organized by the archdiocese’s Office of Formation for Discipleship in conjunction with various local marriage enrichment movements. Couples will renew their vows and milestone anniversary celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing.

For those unable to attend in person, the Mass will be streamed live on the St. Michael’s Cathedral Basilica website: <https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/>.

When: Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 3 p.m.

Where: St. Michael’s Cathedral Basilica, 65 Bond Street, Toronto

What: Marriage Sunday Mass; couples renewing vows and receiving a special blessing; group photo of milestone anniversary celebrants

Who:

- More than 300 married couples from close to 120 Catholic churches across the Archdiocese of Toronto celebrating 25, 40, 50 or 60+ years of marriage in 2024
- The Most Reverend Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto will preside and preach at Mass
- 138 couples will be celebrating 50+ years of marriage (married in 1974 or earlier), including 16 couples celebrating 60 years of marriage (married in 1964), and two couples celebrating 70 years of marriage (married in 1954)
- Couples celebrating milestone anniversaries will be available for interviews

The Archdiocese of Toronto is Canada’s largest diocese, stretching from Toronto north to Georgian Bay and from Oshawa to Mississauga. It is home to 2 million Catholics and 225 churches, with Mass celebrated in more than 30 languages each week.

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