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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MEDIA ADVISORY:

Cross-checking encouraged: Catholic youth take over historic hockey shrine

Inaugural Steubenville conference draws thousands

TORONTO (July 4, 2014)

Over 2,000 high-school age youth are converging upon the Mattamy Athletic Centre in downtown Toronto, formerly known as Maple Leaf Gardens.

From July 4-6, 2014, high-school age youth from across Ontario and beyond will be introduced to the richness of Catholic faith through prayer, praise and reflection. Steubenville Toronto represents the largest Catholic youth gathering in Canada since World Youth Day 2002. The inaugural Toronto event is one of 20 Steubenville youth conferences taking place annually across North America.

The gathering begins Friday with lively worship music, continues Saturday with inspiring talks and a stirring Eucharistic procession, and concludes Sunday with a jubilant Mass led by <u>Cardinal Thomas Collins</u>, Archbishop of Toronto.

The team of presenters at the conference have spoken to tens of thousands of youth around the world. They include dynamic host <u>Bob Rice</u>, soulful worship music leader <u>Ike Ndolo</u>, and popular speaker <u>Jackie Francois</u>.

Over 220 volunteers are contributing hundreds of hours of service at the event, which is sponsored by the <u>Archdiocese of Toronto</u> and the <u>Office of Catholic</u> <u>Youth</u>. For more details, visit <u>SteubenvilleToronto.com</u>.

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 1.9 million Catholics and 225 churches, with Mass celebrated in more than 30 languages each week.

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