



31 December 2022 **Saint Sylvester 1, Pope**

My dear faithful of the Archdiocese of Kingston,

The death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI on Saturday, December 31, 2022, has brought his earthly pilgrimage to an end. I ask the faithful of the Archdiocese to join with me in prayer to the Father of Mercy for the repose of his soul. May the Lord grant to him the peace and refreshment of a faithful servant.

On the day of his election as Pope, Benedict described himself as a simple, humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord. This beautiful image remained attached to him during the years of his Petrine ministry. Even after his retirement from the Office of the Bishop of Rome, this image of a simple, humble worker could be applied to his ministry of prayer for the Church.

I ask that we express a prayer of thanksgiving to the Father for the graces of his earthly life and let us continue to pray for his soul and the souls of all the departed.

With prayerful best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Michael Mulhall Archbishop of Kingston