



ARCHDIOCESE *of* KINGSTON

21 April, 2025
Monday in the Octave of Easter

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with deep sorrow and profound faith in the promise of the Resurrection that we heard the news of the death of our beloved Holy Father, Pope Francis, who entered eternal life early this morning, during this sacred time of the Easter Octave.

As the Church celebrates Christ's triumph over death, we now commend to the mercy of God the soul of our Holy Father, who has faithfully guided the Barque of Peter with humility, tenderness and courage. Jorge Mario Bergoglio made history as the first pope from the Americas, the first Jesuit to hold the Petrine office and the first to take the name Francis, when he was elected the 266th successor of St Peter on 13 March, 2013. In taking the name of Francis, he signalled to us the deep concern for the poor, the environment and peace that would mark his pontificate.

Pope Francis called the Church to proclaim the Gospel with joy and to give witness to God's boundless mercy. Most notably, in 2015, he proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, urging all the faithful to rediscover the merciful face of the Father. "The name of God is Mercy", he often reminded us.

Now, in the radiant light of Easter, we entrust him to the Risen Lord, confident in the words of Christ: "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live," (John 11:25).

I invite the faithful of the Archdiocese of Kingston to join me in praying for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis and in giving thanks to God for his faithful service to the Church. At the appropriate time, a memorial Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral. The curia of the Archdiocese will inform you of the arrangements in the coming days.

Sincerely yours in Christ's Peace,

+Michael Mulhall
Archbishop of Kingston