



Infifax



1- Collection for the Philippines

In November the Philippines was hit by Typhoon Haiyan. People from all over were mobilized to come to the aid of this population in distress. As people did throughout Canada, the faithful of our diocese concretely expressed their solidarity, such that we collected nearly \$22,000 that has been sent to Development and Peace. I thank you for this generosity.

2- First anniversary of Episcopate

December 27th, the feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist, will mark the first anniversary of my ordination as Bishop of Timmins. I will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral at 9 :00 a.m.

3- New Year's Day Wishes

I will be present at the December 31st and January 1st masses at the Cathedral to greet the faithful and to present my wishes for the New Year.

In order to greet the faithful of the southern region as well, I will travel to New Liskeard on January 4th and 5th. I will celebrate the Mass of the Epiphany at *Sacré-Coeur* Parish and will also participate in the masses of *Our Mother of Perpetual Help* Parish.

4- Solemnity of Saint Anthony of Padua

With the aim of entrusting to Saint Anthony of Padua, patron of the Diocese and of the Cathedral, the mission of the New Evangelization that we want to promote, I have elevated his liturgical celebration from the level of feast to that of solemnity. I am pleased to announce that the Holy See has welcomed this initiative. Consequently, I invite you to deepen your attachment to Saint Anthony, to be inspired by his example and to count on his intercession with the challenges of Evangelization.

5- Prayer Intentions

For some time now the Holy Father has been proposing monthly general and missionary prayer intentions. We find them in the liturgical *Ordo* and each month the *Contents* page of the *Living with*

Christ directs us to the appropriate page where they may be found. In order to be more united with the Holy Father and to be in communion with his concern for the universal Church, I ask parishes to include the two intentions recommended by the Pope in the prayers of the faithful each Sunday.

6- Missionary Appeal

Bishop Gilles Côté S.M.M., a Montfort confrère of the late Bishop Paul Marchand, my predecessor, recently sent me a request for support for the Diocese of Daru-Kiunga, in Papua New Guinea, that has been entrusted to him. « *In order to continue the work of evangelization and human development after the departure of Canadian missionaries, we have started a small sandalwood plantation and hope to continue the solidarity fund that we call the Canada-Papua Fund. This fund is an initiative of Canadian Montfort missionaries, under the responsibility of our Provincial administration in Canada* ». Those who wish to support this work can send their contribution to: *Procure des Missions*, 4000 Bossuet Street, Montréal QC H1M 2M2. You can consult the site: missionfrontier.org. or write to Bishop Côté : gcotesmm@gmail.com.

7- Pontifical Society of Saint Peter the Apostle

The goal of this Society is to support the formation of seminarians in mission countries: they number 72,000, divided into 770 minor and major seminaries. People interested in supporting this important work can contact: Pontifical Society of Saint Peter the Apostle, 175 Sherbrooke Street East, Montréal QC H2X 1C7 (514-844-1929; Toll free : 1-866-844-1929) or donate on-line : www.opmcanada.ca.

8- Secular Branch of Carmel

The secular branch of Carmel gathers together men and women, living in the world, who are single, married or widowed. They endeavour to participate in the Eucharist several times a week. At home, they celebrate part of the Liturgy of the Hours and pray for half an hour each day. Being lay people, they participate fully in the life of the world while living according to the spirituality of Carmel. For further details, you may contact Mrs. Linda Audette, 705-235-3195.

I wish each one of the faithful of the Diocese of Timmins a Merry Christmas, filled with the presence of the Lord. May he accompany you with my blessing on the paths of your life during the year 2014.

✠ Serge Poitras
Bishop of Timmins