



Infifax



Feasts of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha and Nativity of the Blessed Virgin

In the context of the centennial of the diocese, I underline two events that will be taking place shortly.

1- Gathering of First Nations People, July 14, 2016

Our First Nations brothers and sisters are very present in the Diocese of Timmins, whether they reside on the Beaver House, Matachewan or Wagoshig Reserves or in different municipalities.

To express our fraternity in the same faith, we will celebrate a votive mass in honour of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, the first Amerindian saint, on Thursday, July 14th at St. Anthony of Padua Cathedral at 7:00 p.m. Our First Nations brothers and sisters will play an important part there, especially through liturgical animation. This mainly English celebration will also include elements of the Cree language.

After mass there will be a fraternal gathering of the participants around a light snack. Everyone is invited.

2- Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, September 8

The celebration of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin on September 8th is one of three great diocesan gatherings, along with the Chrism mass and the Feast of St. Anthony. For a few years now, the diocese has been accustomed to highlighting the particular commitment of certain people in the Church. So it was that in 2014 and 2015 we honoured people who work in the area of faith education in our Catholic schools.

In this Holy Year of Mercy, in connection with my Fall 2015 Pastoral Letter that contemplated the figure of the Good Samaritan, we want to highlight people who devote themselves to their brothers and sisters who are ill.

Also invited in a particular way are:

- People who care for a family member affected by an illness, a handicap or even old age;
- Staff who are devoted to the service of the sick in hospitals or specialized residences;
- People involved in Horizon Timmins, for example: palliative care;
- Volunteers in our parishes who visit the sick or elderly, who look after their daily needs, bringing to them the comfort of prayer and Holy Communion.

It would be good if each parish, from Ramore to Timmins, has representatives at this celebration. In September 2017, a similar celebration will take place for the parishes in the southern part of the diocese.

Let us place these two events in our agenda books: July 14th to meet with our First Nations brothers and sisters and September 8th to meet people involved in supporting their brothers and sisters stricken with illness.

With my blessing.



✠ Serge Poitras
Bishop of Timmins