
**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Ottawa, May 1, 2015

**THIS SUNDAY, 170 COUPLES WILL CELEBRATE THEIR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY AT
NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL BASILICA**

On Sunday, May 3rd at 2:30 pm, approximately 170 couples – nearly the double of last year’s numbers – will renew their wedding vows during a Mass presided by the Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast, SJ, Archbishop of Ottawa, at Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica – 385 Sussex Drive, Ottawa. All are invited.

Couples will come together with their families and friends to celebrate their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 40th, and 50th anniversary. In addition, 13 couples are celebrating 60 years, two couples 61 years, one couple 64 years, three couples 65 years, and one couple 70 years of married life.

After the Mass, each couple will receive a commemorative certificate signed by Archbishop Prendergast.

A special wedding anniversary Mass for couples from our French-speaking parishes was celebrated on April 26th, where 100 couples renewed their wedding vows.

This is an opportunity to celebrate the sanctity of marriage. Archbishop Prendergast said: “Over the years, they (the married couples) have revealed themselves to one another in the daily activities of family life. By this daily fidelity, their love has become deeper, richer and even more sparkling. They have discovered the truth of the teaching of Jesus that ‘it is better to give than to receive’ (Acts 20:35). The generosity of each of them has brought out the generosity of the other.”

“Their joy is our joy,” he added. “On Sunday, we will express this joy at the Table of God’s Word and Sacrament of Love – the Eucharist – where we celebrate together the perfect Act of Thanksgiving.”

Note: photographs are allowed before and after the celebration, however, not during the Mass. A photographer for the Archdiocese of Ottawa will take photos during the celebration.

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***** For interviews on site, please speak with Annmarie Brown, Pastoral Services**