



Wednesday, February 25, 2014

Dear Friends in Christ,

November 6, 2014 marks the 225th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Baltimore as the nation's first Catholic diocese. The Archdiocese has been celebrating this special anniversary throughout the year. As we approach this special date, I write to extend a personal invitation to you to join our family of faith at a few very special upcoming events.

October 17 at 8 p.m., Baltimore Basilica

Heavenly Mozart

The Concert Artists of Baltimore will perform [an all-Mozart concert](#) at America's First Cathedral in honor of our 225th anniversary. The concert will feature the Overture to The Marriage of Figaro, Exsultate jubilate, and the Grand Mass in C Minor "The Great". Under the direction of Maestro Edward Polochick, Soprano Ah Young Hong and the Concert Artists will be joined by a special guest: Friar Alessandro, a young Franciscan friar visiting Baltimore from Assisi, who will perform Panis Angelicus and Sancta Maria. Tickets are \$20 and are available at www.cabmusic.org.

November 2 at 3 p.m., Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, Baltimore

Mass of Thanksgiving, Principal celebration of the 225th anniversary

The Archdiocese of Baltimore will come together for an [Archdiocesan-wide Mass](#) to celebrate this special day in the life of the Church. We are fortunate to be joined by Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, Cardinal Edwin O'Brien of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem and Archbishop Emeritus of Baltimore, Cardinal Seán O'Malley of Boston, Cardinal James Stafford, and Cardinal Donald Wuerl of Washington. Several other archbishops and bishops will join our Archdiocesan priests and deacons, as well as women and men in consecrated life, principals, teachers, and parishioners from throughout the Archdiocese as we give thanks to God for the gift of this local Church.

November 8 at 5:30 p.m., Baltimore Basilica

Mass and Dedication

[Edwin Cardinal O'Brien](#) served as 15th Archbishop of Baltimore from 2007-2012. In that time, he provided generous and extraordinary leadership to our beloved Archdiocese. On November 8, we will welcome him home for a [Mass of Thanksgiving](#) and for a brief service after Mass, during which we will dedicate a privately-funded bust and portrait, which will join those of his predecessors on permanent display in the Basilica.

A [complete list of anniversary events](#) can be found on the website of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

I pray you and your family and friends will be able to join us for these culminating events of our 225th anniversary year as we celebrate the gift of our Catholic faith and the ability to serve others in God's holy name.

Sincerely yours,

+ William E. Lori

Most Reverend William E. Lori
Archbishop of Baltimore



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