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**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Ottawa, August 23, 2019

**ARCHBISHOP PRENDERGAST TO PRESIDE  
AT A GOLD MASS  
ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17**

*The Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast, SJ, Archbishop of Ottawa will preside at a bilingual Gold Mass on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 5PM at Notre Dame Cathedral Basilica, 385 Sussex Drive, Ottawa. All are welcome to attend. A special invitation goes out to scientists, engineers, and mathematicians, and well as educators and students in these disciplines.*

“I am privileged to remind our scientists in this Mass that they are part of a long tradition of scientific enquiry encouraged by the Church and compelled by faith. From the very foundation of the scientific method to the most recent discoveries in astrophysics, Catholics have been called by God to play a key role in expanding human knowledge of His glorious creation. Faith and reason are not only compatible, they are co-essential,” said Archbishop Terrence Prendergast.

The Gold Mass follows in the tradition of special Masses for members of particular professions. The oldest, the Red Mass for lawyers and lawmakers, was introduced in the 13th century. The Gold Mass seeks to create spiritual fellowship among Catholic scientists and science educators. One of the first Gold Masses was held in Boston on November 15, 2016.

Local science teachers as well as members of the scientific community at the University of Ottawa, Carleton University, the National Research Council, and other research institutions have been invited to the Mass.

A reception will follow in the Cathedral Hall.

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