
**MEDIA ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Ottawa, September 5, 2013

ARCHBISHOP PRENDERGAST INVITES CATHOLICS TO PRAY FOR PEACE IN SYRIA AND TO GIVE GENEROUSLY TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE SUFFERING

This Saturday, September 7, the faithful are invited to join the Most Reverend Terrence Prendergast, SJ, Archbishop of Ottawa in prayer at St. Patrick's Basilica, 281 Nepean Street, Ottawa, beginning at 1 pm with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary and other devotions. Confessors will also be available from 3:30 pm on. This special period of prayer will conclude with Benediction and be followed by Eucharist, to be presided by the Archbishop, beginning at 4:30 pm.

Last Sunday, Pope Francis requested that the faithful fast and pray for peace in Syria this Saturday, September 7, uniting ourselves with him as he prays from 7 to 11 pm (Rome time) in St. Peter's Square.

Archbishop Prendergast is inviting the faithful to join him this Saturday, September 7th, in a day of fasting and prayer at home, in churches and oratories, and especially at St. Patrick's Basilica for special intercessions for Syria.

The faithful are also asked to give generously during a special collection at all Masses this weekend for those suffering in Syria or seeking refuge in neighbouring countries.

The Archdiocese of Ottawa is home to more than 394,500 Roman Catholics and serves more than 100 parishes.

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