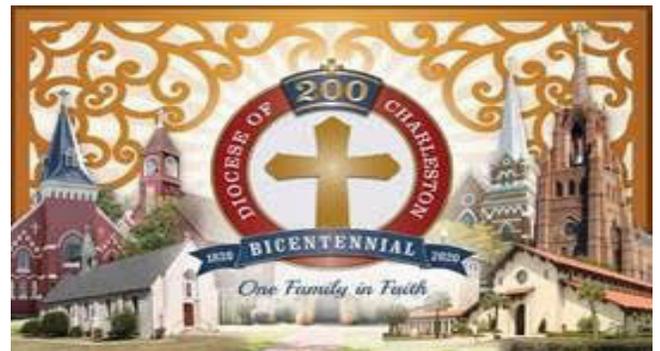


The Diocese of Charleston's Bicentennial year will commence with Solemn Vespers

On July 20, 2020, the Diocese of Charleston will celebrate the 200th anniversary of its historic founding. Pope Pius VII canonically established the diocese on July 11, 1820. Thanks to the foresight of our first bishop, Most. Rev. John England, and his successors, a once scattered flock of only a handful of souls is now a community of believers over 200,000 strong. The clergy, religious women and men, and the laity have cemented the presence of our faith through sacrifice, resilience and hope. We look forward to celebrating the presence of the Catholic Church in South Carolina through deanery and parish events. We will give thanks to God for all that we have been given through our faith, prayer, and values. The Diocese of Charleston's Bicentennial year will commence with Solemn Vespers, celebrated by the Most Rev. Robert E. Guglielmo, 13th Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston, on Thursday, July 11, 2019, at 6 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, 120 Broad Street in Charleston. In addition, the Bishop has asked that each Deanery have an event to mark the beginning of the Diocesan Bicentennial. To mark this important milestone, The Basilica of Saint Peter will celebrate Vespers on Friday July 12, at 6:30 p.m. on behalf of the Columbia Deanery.



SOLEMN VESPERS
*to mark the beginning of the Diocesan
Bicentennial*

Friday, July 12 | 6:30 p.m.
The Basilica of Saint Peter
Columbia, South Carolina

Join the faithful of the Columbia Deanery as we celebrate the beginning of the Bicentennial Year of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston with Solemn Vespers. Learn more about the Bicentennial here:

charlestdiocese.org/bicentennial

Bicentennial Prayer

Heavenly Father, source of all good things, in every generation You gather a people to yourself and endow them with the means to spread Your Gospel. Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, you have formed the parishes and missions of South Carolina into one body working to build your Kingdom across our seven deaneries of Aiken, Beaufort, Charleston, Columbia, Greenville, Myrtle Beach, and Rock Hill. Through Your Holy Spirit, give us generous and sacrificial hearts as our diocese enters its third century. Transform us into good stewards of the blessings You bestow upon each one of us. As one family in faith, we pray that our gifts strengthen our parishes and missions, form Catholics to Believe in the Gospel, and guide us to live your Gospel through social outreach. We ask all of this through our one Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.