



November 18, 2008 - Closing Mass of the Bicentennial Year - Sunday, November 23rd, 2:00PM

As the Archdiocese of Boston prepares to celebrate the Closing Mass of the Bicentennial Year on Sunday, November 23, 2008 at 2:00PM, Cardinal Seán wishes to extend his invitation to all persons in the Archdiocese to participate in this historic event.

The Cardinal also wishes to announce that on the occasion of this Mass an apostolic blessing with a plenary indulgence will be given to all who have fulfilled the normal conditions for receiving this indulgence*.

The Closing Mass of the Bicentennial Year will reflect the cultural diversity of our Archdiocese, including ethnic choirs and groups represented in our local Church.

At the close of the Mass, Cardinal Seán will bestow the inaugural Archbishop Cheverus Award to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding Christian leadership and service at the parishes, agencies, and schools of our Archdiocese.

In order to accommodate the large numbers expected for the Mass, additional parking has been made available at Jacobson's Floral Design, 500 Albany Street, just one block from the Cathedral. We look forward to your being with us at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross at 2:00 PM on Sunday, November 23rd as we observe the Archdiocesan Bicentennial and continue to Journey Together in Christ.

***What is an indulgence?**

In the Code of Canon Law (can. 992) and in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (n. 1471) an indulgence is defined as: "A remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints". What are the requirements for receiving the plenary indulgence? In addition to being in the state of grace, one must:

- have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin;
- have sacramentally confessed their sins;
- receive the Holy Eucharist
- pray for the intentions of the Pope.