

THE CHURCH OF
Philadelphia

CELEBRATES BICENTENNIAL AS A DIOCESE
1808-2008



Lent 2008

Pardon and Peace

Confession + Every Church + Every Wednesday

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.



Special Bicentennial Service Program -
extending from the Feast of Saint John Neumann -
January 5, 2008 to the Feast of Saint Katharine
Drexel - March 3, 2008

To help celebrate our 200-year history we will recommit ourselves to serving all God's people. Every parish, school and institution will join together in some act or program of "service." Service opportunities will be provided. For more information www.archphila.org.

World Day of the Sick – February 11, 2008
Immaculate Mary Nursing Home-10:30 a.m.

Our Archdiocese will join the universal Church in the 16th Anniversary of World Day of the Sick in prayers for those who are ill and those who care for them. During the Mass, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be administered. We will highlight the Catholic teaching on the value and function of suffering.

Lenten Reconciliation – Pardon and Peace

Our Bicentennial year will be a time for spiritual renewal and reparation. During the holy season of Lent we will have a special effort to highlight the importance of the Sacrament of Penance.

Confessions will be heard in Every Church,
Every Wednesday from 7:00p.m- 8:30p.m.

Migration Mass - March 2, 2008- 2:30 p.m.
Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul

From its beginnings, the Catholic Church in the United States has been made up of immigrants. Join us as we celebrate our immigrant roots of the past and present, and the unity of our faith in the diversity of our cultures.

Saint Patrick's Day Parade and Mass- Sunday,
March 9, 2008 – 8:45 a.m. Cathedral Basilica of
SS. Peter and Paul

The Philadelphia Irish American community will honor the contributions of their ancestors and all that the Irish have contributed to our Archdiocese. This annual Mass will take place at the Cathedral. The 238th St. Patrick's Day parade will follow the mass and has as its theme "St Patrick, Bless all those serving the People of God."

Celebration of the Diaconate - March 15, 2008
10:30 a.m.- St. Charles Seminary

The Second Vatican Council restored Deacons as a permanent order within the Church. This day will allow our Diaconate community to gather and recommit themselves to serving the people of God in its three-fold ministry of the word, of the altar and of charity.

Holy Thursday - Chrism Mass –
Celebration of the Priesthood - March 20, 2008
10:00 a.m.- Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul

The Church in Philadelphia has benefited from the lives, witness and priesthood of countless priests and bishops over the last 200 years. This Mass is where the priests of the Archdiocese gather with their bishop to renew their promises and the Bishop consecrates the holy chrism and blesses the other oils. This celebration invites us all to pray for our priests and to ask God to bless the Church of Philadelphia with more priestly vocations in the years to come.

Chronicle of Faith: A Conference Celebrating a
200 Year Legacy- April 4, 2008

Immaculata University will host a historical conference with paper presentations from academic scholars addressing Church History, and significant contributions of the Church of Philadelphia including; Religious Orders, Nativeism, Church in Public Policy, and Philadelphia Saints. For information :www.immaculata.edu/chronicleoffaith

Actual Bicentennial Anniversary - April 8, 2008

Special celebrations are being planned for our actual anniversary date. It is our hope to involve all the school children and parishes in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Closing Mass – April 13, 2008
Villanova Pavilion- 4:00 p.m.

The entire Archdiocesan Family will be invited to a special Eucharistic celebration to close our Bicentennial Year where we will highlight the importance of the family. It will be an opportunity for our Church to gather in thanksgiving to God for all that has been accomplished and to recommit ourselves to service to God and to the Church.