

Blessing of the Pallium for Most Rev. Francis Leo



On June 29, 2023, the Holy Father welcomed 32 Metropolitan Archbishops to Rome, representing dioceses from around the world who have been appointed over the past year. The Mass, held on the Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul included the presence of the Most Rev. Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto.

In his homily to those assembled, Pope Francis "Today, a number of our brother Archbishops receive the Pallium, a sign of communion with the Church of Rome. To them I would say: Be apostles like Peter and Paul. Be disciples in following and apostles in preaching. Bring the beauty of the Gospel everywhere, together with all the People of God."

"The pallium is a stole-like, vestment, worn on top of the chasuble of metropolitan archbishops when celebrating Mass. Traditionally, they are made from white wool from two lambs blessed each year by the Holy Father on the feast of St. Agnes (January 21). They are approximately two inches wide and are worn on the shoulders." Archdiocese of Toronto Website

Joining Archbishop Leo in Rome was a small delegation from the Archdiocese of Toronto. Among those in attendance were Msgr. Patrick O'Dea, former Toronto Diocesan Spiritual Advisor and CWL member Christine Way-Skinner (St. John Chrysostom Parish) who some of you may recall gave the virtual Advent Retreat last November. Christine is in Rome furthering her PhD studies for the summer



The Toronto Diocesan Council continues to offer our prayers and best wishes to Archbishop Leo on this special day.

Photos: courtesy of Msgr. Patrick O'Dea

Additional information and photos can be found on the Archdiocese of Toronto website.

<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/outreach/news/archdiocesan/pope-francis--blessing-of-the-pallium-for-new-metropolitan-archbishops--including-most-rev.-francis-leo/>