

Dear Leaders of the Croatian Catholic Community,

Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The inaugural Spring Gala for Martyrs' Shrine is taking place on **June 12, 2024**, the first time in our history holding one in Toronto. Every year, nearly 100,000 visitors, mainly from the Toronto area come to the shrine for prayer, healing, rest and renewal, and have done so for nearly a hundred years. As our 100th anniversary (2026) approaches, the Shrine is launching a special Gala in support of its centennial campaign of renovation of the shrine church and grounds.

It's going to be a large and happy event, with hundreds of supporters and friends attending. I am happy to announce that Archbishop Francis Leo of Toronto as well as the world-famous St. Michael's Boys Choir will be there. The auction items are extraordinary.

I would like to invite you **to attend the Gala**, and thereby lend your support to Martyrs Shrine. You will find our sponsorship package attached, with a variety of options for contributing to this new and historic occasion. Perhaps you or your community can help make the Shrine a legacy place of pilgrimage for the next hundred years. We will issue charitable tax receipts for all gifts.

All the information, for tickets or sponsoring, is available online at <u>martyrs-shrine.com/spring-gala</u>.

Thank you from the heart for your support of the National Shrine. I have no doubt that St. Jean de Brébeuf and his companions, with the Wendat Martyrs of Huronia, will be looking down in support of this cause. I extend my blessing, and remain,

Sincerely yours,

Fr. John O'Brien, S.J.

Director



Toll-free: 1-855-526-3788