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MEDIA ADVISORY – For Immediate Release

Love is in the Air - 11,476 Years of Marriage Under One Roof

More than 300 Couples to Gather on February 9 for a "Celebration of Marriage"

TORONTO, ON (February 7, 2025) – With St. Valentine's Day just around the corner, more than 300 couples with close to 12,000 years of marriage will gather this Sunday to celebrate milestone anniversaries at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica in downtown Toronto. The "Celebration of Marriage" Mass presided by the Most Rev. Ivan Camilleri, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Toronto, will honour those celebrating 25th, 40th, 50th and 60+ wedding anniversaries in 2025, the highlight of the Archdiocese of Toronto's annual "Marriage Sunday" celebrations. Of special note will be the presence of a couple celebrating 69 years since their wedding day in 1956.

More than 1,000 people, including family and friends of the anniversary couples, are expected to attend the event, organized by the archdiocese's Office of Formation for Discipleship in conjunction with various local marriage enrichment movements. Couples will renew their vows and milestone celebrants will be honoured with a special blessing.

For those unable to attend in person, the Mass will be streamed live on the St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica website: <u>https://www.stmichaelscathedral.com/live/</u>.

When:	Sunday, February 9, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.	
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- Where: St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, 65 Bond Street, Toronto
- What:Marriage Sunday Mass; couples renewing vows and receiving a special blessing; group
photo of milestone anniversary celebrants

Who:

- More than 300 married couples from 100+ Catholic churches across the Archdiocese of Toronto celebrating 25, 40, 50 or 60+ years of marriage in 2025.
- Most Rev. Ivan Camilleri, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Toronto to preside.
- Couples present include 83 couples who will be celebrating 50 years of marriage (married in 1975), 26 couples celebrating 60 or more years of marriage.
- Couples celebrating milestone anniversaries will be available for interviews.

The Archdiocese of Toronto is Canada's largest diocese, stretching from Toronto north to Georgian Bay and from Oshawa to Mississauga. It is home to 2 million Catholics and 225 churches, with Mass celebrated in more than 30 languages each week.

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