



The Diocese of Algoma

Call to Prayer for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday September 8th, 2022

Dear friends in Christ,

It is with deep sorrow we acknowledge the death of Her Majesty the Queen today, even as we remember with profound gratitude her life of great devotion and service.

In a letter to the House of Bishops, our Primate Archbishop Linda Nicholls reflected on Queen Elizabeth's life of grace and dignity, noting that: *"She has served with an unstinting faithfulness to her responsibilities and with steady commitment to her faith in her words and actions."*

This year marked the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. With citizens from around the world we rejoiced that she was able to mark this important milestone in her reign and we gave thanks for the faithful and devoted way she has served these seventy years.

A number of parishes in Algoma celebrated the Queen's Jubilee year by planting trees on their church properties. Thank you for marking the Jubilee in this way – a sign of your love for her and for creation as we grow the *Green Canopy* around our Diocese.

Following the tragic events in James Smith Cree Nation this week, the Queen sent her condolences to those who lost loved ones in the horrific attacks, reassuring those who are grieving that she mourns with all Canadians.

As we continue to hold the James Smith Cree Nation and victims of this week's tragic events in our prayers, I ask every parish to remember the Queen with thanksgiving, to pray for King Charles III, and to uphold the Royal family in this time of mourning and transition. While they have the word "Royal" in front of the word *family*, they are like any other family who loved their mother, grandmother, and Queen. I also invite church bells to be tolled as soon as possible, once a minute, for the number of times that mark the Queen's age (96).

Let us pray:

*O God, from whom comes everything that is upright and true:
Accept our thanks for the gifts of heart and mind thou didst bestow
on thy servant Elizabeth,
And which she showed forth among us in her words and deeds;
Deal graciously we pray thee, with those who mourn,
especially the members of the Royal Family,
that casting every care on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

I remain yours in Christ,

† Anne Germond: Algoma

Archbishop of Algoma