

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR BISHOP

May 29, 1975

My Dear Friends:

I should like to share with a host of friends of the Parish of Apsley in wishing you a most happy 100th Birthday. A century is a long period in the history of a parish and I trust that your celebrations will be highly successful. You may look with gratitude and pride at the story of 100 years.

It is difficult to imagine the beginning of the Church a Century ago, in a frontier area of our Province, but the courage and faith of those early pioneers created the Church you have inherited: "They laboured and we have entered into that labour", as the psalmist reminds us.

However, the great joy of an anniversary is not simply looking back into the past, but of finding new directions for the present and the future. The Parish of Apsley continues to minister and to witness as a loyal and faithful people constantly concerned about the life of the Church and the proclamation of the gospel.

To all of you who share in this task I send my deepest thanks. There was never a time when the Church was more needed in our society, nor had a message of greater relevance to share. This is not simply the task of the clergy for all of us are involved in the ministry of the Church by the witness of our words and lives. May your Anniversary be a time of renewal and strengthening for the tasks ahead.

Your friend and bishop,
Lewis Gainsworthy