

**The 2020 Archdiocese of St. John's Chrism Mass**  
**Thursday October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 a.m.**

The Mass of Chrism is one of the most solemn and important diocesan celebrations of the liturgical year. The Mass is a celebration of the institution of the ministerial priesthood and is a sign of the unity and communion of the Priests with their Bishop. The Mass takes its name from the blessing of the Holy Oils used in the sacraments throughout the year, which are then given to the priests to take back to their parishes.

Usually the Chrism Mass is celebrated near the end of Lent, just before the celebration of the Sacred Triduum, and people from all the parishes of the Archdiocese are invited to attend. This year, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Chrism Mass was postponed.

In consultation with the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council, the 2020 Chrism Mass is now scheduled to be celebrated at the Basilica-Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on Thursday October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

Due to the ongoing pandemic restrictions and concerns, only the clergy and those laity involved in the liturgy (i.e. musicians, sacristans, ushers etc.) will be physically in attendance at the Mass. However, all are invited to participate virtually and spiritually either via live stream on the Basilica Heritage Foundation website ([www.thebasilica.net](http://www.thebasilica.net)) or the Basilica Parish website ([www.thebasilica.church](http://www.thebasilica.church)) or by viewing the celebration when it is posted on the Archdiocese's website ([www.rcsj.org](http://www.rcsj.org)).