

CARDINAL ANNOUNCEMENT
NOVEMBER 2024 ON-LINE NEWSLETTER
Ontario Provincial Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada



Pope Francis announced on October 6, 2024, that he will create 21 new cardinals on December 8, 20 of whom will be eligible to vote for a new pope. Among them are Archbishop Frank Leo, archbishop of Toronto.

At the time of the announcement there were 235 members of the College of Cardinals from all continents. Only 122 of these cardinals are currently under the age of 80 and eligible to vote in the next conclave.

By the time of the December 8 consistory, one cardinal will have turned 80 and lost the right to vote, leaving 121 electors—one more than the limited of 120 set by Pope Paul VI and upheld by his successors. With the addition of 20 new electors on December 8, Pope Francis will bring the total number of cardinals with the right to vote in a papal conclave to 14.

Archbishop Frank Leo: "I am humbled and honoured to receive this appointment from the Holy Father. I pray and rely on the prayers of the faithful in Toronto that I will be a worthy servant of the Lord Jesus in fulfilling my responsibilities as a member of the College of Cardinals and to continue in my primary role as shepherd of the faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto. I entrust to the Blessed Mother Mary, myself and this new ministry of service to the Universal Church and to the Successor of St. Peter, the Pope."

Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop Emeritus of Toronto, remains a Cardinal elector until January of 2027. Other Cardinal-electors from Canada include Cardinal Gérald Lacroix of the Archdiocese of Quebec and Cardinal Michael Czerny, SJ, Prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. Retired Cardinal Marc Ouellet reached the age of 80 earlier this year.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Dear Lord God, we thank you for inspiring our Holy Father, Pope Francis to name Archbishop Leo a Cardinal of the Church. Continue to pour Your grace upon the Archbishop as he prepares to receive this honour in Rome on December 8.

We ask that you abundantly bless our newly created Cardinal and that You grant him inspiration and Your loving guidance, as he tends to the spiritual and temporal needs of the faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto and as he assists in the government of the Universal Church throughout the world. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.