

to the integrity of a chaste and holy life. Understand what it is that you do. Imitate that which in your hand you hold, so that celebrating the mystery of the Lord's death you may come even to the mortifying of your own members from all vices and concupiscence. Let your teaching be the healing medicine of God's people; let the odor of your life delight the Church of Christ that by word and by example you may build up the house which is the family of God." It is in this spirit we should live and labour and endeavor to build up the Church of God in this new land; and as an auspicious and powerful aid towards the fulfillment of our task, we hail the promulgation of the decrees of the First Provincial Council of Toronto.

What then is a Provincial Council? In the language of canonists, a Provincial council is the congregation in Synod of the Bishops of some one Province of the Church, called together by him who has the legitimate authority, that is, by the Archbishop or Metropolitan of that Province, to which all those are likewise called, who by right or custom possess the claim to be called.

To the Archbishop belongs the right of convoking a Provincial Synod, of appointing a place in which it is to be held, and of presiding over its deliberations. Whilst the other members of the Synod enjoy the deliberative voice, the bishops alone possess the decisive voice. The object and extent of synodal action are described by the Council of Trent extending to "the regulation of morals and correction of abuses, the settling of controversies and such other purposes as are allowed by the Sacred Canons." When the Bishops meet to deliberate in synod, they begin their proceedings by invoking the light and aid of the Holy Ghost, and to this I recite the following beautiful prayer:

"We are here, O Lord, Holy Spirit; we are here in Thy presence detained, it is true, in the exceedingness of our sins, specially gathered together in Thy name. Do Thou come to us; do Thou be present with us: do Thou vouchsaf