

to them on earth; liberty, property, and often life itself, rather than fail in their duty of handing down the faith pure and undefiled to their children. This is the precious legacy we have received from them, a legacy endeared to us by their sufferings and tears, and we shall be recreant to our duty as Christians, and base and degenerate as their children, if we make not every sacrifice to pass down this treasure, pure as gold, that is fire-tried to our descendants.

The foregoing, dearly beloved brethren, are the instructions we have thought fit to address you on the occasion of our promulgating in this diocese the decrees of the First Provincial Council of Toronto. We trust you will receive them and the decrees themselves with that docility and obedience that become true and faithful members of our Holy Church. The First Council of Toronto will be fruitful in immense good to souls, and to the interests of our holy faith if its decrees and recommendations be faithfully executed by those whom they concern. We have every confidence that in this diocese these decrees and recommendations will be honestly and faithfully carried out and that in consequence, they will produce in our midst the most happy and beneficent results. God grant that this may be so, and that He may enable us all to work earnestly and zealously together for his greater glory, the extension of His Holy Church, and for the salvation of souls. In conclusion, let us exhort you to be zealous in well-doing, and in the cultivation of virtue and of piety of life, and in laboring to make "your vocation election sure."

Our lives should be the exact expressions of the faith we hold and believe—they should be as mirrors, reflecting beauty and holiness. And this living faith should not be a mere latent conviction of the soul, but should manifest itself externally in good works and holiness of life. "Faith without good works is dead, even as the body is dead