

July 26, 2022
Edmonton, AB

Dear Reader:

I'm back from attending mass with the Pope and have been musing about my impressions and some things I've been reading on twitter and from various news feeds. Here's a few observations from an outsider.



I was really impressed by the cohesiveness that Catholic Christians have around liturgy. Everyone, it seemed, knew what to do, what to say, what to sing, when to sit, when to stand, when and what to gesture. This was remarkable to me. The love in that space was tangible.

Amusing to me was overhearing a very young, very stressed priest trying to explain eucharist logistics to some volunteers who would be helping the priests in the stadium. He asked us all, within earshot, to pray he didn't have a heart attack. I did.

I was conscious that many were deeply moved by this time with His Holiness.

I was conscious that for many, His visit and remarks missed the mark.

I came away feeling sad/glad but very hopeful that this immense effort on the part of the Indigenous peoples and the Catholic Church to meet here was maybe not a perfect step forward, but was a significant step forward in healing and reconciliation.

Peace and grace to you, wisdom and hope on your way today.
Colleen