

***Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon***  
**CATHOLIC PASTORAL CENTRE**

100 - 5<sup>th</sup> Ave N  
Saskatoon SK S7K 2N7  
www.saskatoonrcdiocese.com

Phone: 306.242.1500  
Fax: 306.244.6010  
Toll free: 877.661.5005



***NEWS RELEASE – Monday, Dec. 21, 2009***

## **Msgr. Don Bolen of Regina named 7<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Saskatoon**

SASKATOON – Monsignor Donald Bolen, a priest from the Archdiocese of Regina has been named 7th bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon.

News of the appointment by Pope Benedict XVI came from Rome Dec. 21.

Bolen, 48, will replace former Saskatoon Bishop Albert LeGatt who was installed as Archbishop of St. Boniface, Manitoba on Sept. 21, 2009.

The date for the ordination of Mgr. Bolen as bishop has not yet been decided.

Msgr. Bolen is presently serving as Vicar-General of the Archdiocese of Regina, and pastor of St. Joseph Parish at Balgonie, St. Agnes Parish at Pilot Butte, and St. Peter's Colony Kronau. He has taught at Campion College at the University of Regina and is presently the chair of the Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission. He served for seven years in Rome on the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity from 2001 to 2008. In November 2008 Bolen was awarded the Cross of Saint Augustine by the Archbishop of Canterbury for his service to relations between the Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion.

"In choosing Msgr. Don Bolen to be Bishop of Saskatoon, the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has selected a fine man as candidate for this Office," said Most. Rev. Daniel Bohan, Archbishop of Regina. "Msgr. Bolen has been truly generous in his service to the Church both in his home Archdiocese of Regina and at the level of the Universal Church in his years with the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity in Rome. He is a gracious and deeply spiritual leader who, I am confident, will be welcomed gladly by the people of the Diocese of Saskatoon. He will leave Regina with our warm congratulations and prayers."

Saskatoon Diocesan Administrator Rev. Ron Beechinor expressed the Saskatoon diocese's joy at the announcement. "We are very fortunate. It's a wonderful appointment.," Beechinor said.

Bolen noted that while being asked to serve as bishop is a bit overwhelming, he was profoundly grateful for the confidence placed in him, and for the opportunity to minister in the diocese of Saskatoon. "Everything I've witnessed and heard about the diocese has been very positive and encouraging: that it is a vibrant faith community, deeply committed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to bringing that Gospel into dialogue with contemporary culture. Trusting always in the Holy Spirit, I hope we can continue down that path, and I very much look forward to the challenges that lie ahead."

*(CV attached)*

-30-

*For more information contact Kiply Yaworski, coordinator of communications:  
Catholic Pastoral Centre 242-1500 or home office 651-3935*

***Msgr. Donald BOLEN***  
***Priest of the Archdiocese of Regina***  
Curriculum Vitae

He was born in Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan on February 7, 1961, the son of the late Joseph (+1968) and Rose (+2006) Bolen.

Upon completion of his High School education he undertook studies in English and Religious Studies at the University of Regina, completing a B.A. Honours.

He entered Saint Paul Seminary in Ottawa for the Archdiocese of Regina in 1986, eventually completing a B.Th., M.Th. and L.Th. through Saint Paul University.

He was ordained to the priesthood on October 12, 1991.

In the years following his ordination his ministry assignments have included:

- 1991-93 Associate Pastor, Estevan;
- 1993-94 Post-Graduate Studies, Saint Paul University, Ottawa; Priest Moderator at Church of Our Lady, Moose Jaw;
- 1994-97 Post-Graduate Studies, University of Oxford;
- 1997-99 Faculty, Dept. of Religious Studies, Campion College, University of Regina; Priest Moderator, Milestone and Lang Parishes; Administrator, Paroisse St. Jean Baptiste, Regina; Chair of Ecumenical Commission, Archdiocese of Regina;
- 1999-2000 Sabbatical to work on Doctoral Dissertation;
- 2000-2001 Faculty, Campion College; and Priest Moderator, St. Jean-Baptiste, Regina; Chair of Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission;
- 2001-2006 Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, Rome – relations with Anglican Communion and World Methodist Council (five year term);
- 2006-2008 Renewal of permission to continue working with the Pontifical Council;
- 2009 (Jan-May) Nash Chair in Religion, Campion College;
- 2009 (August-present) Vicar general of the Archdiocese of Regina; Pastor of St. Joseph, Balgonie, St. Agnes, Pilot Butte, and St. Peter's Colony, Kronau; Chair of Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission;

He is an Associate Priest of the Madonna House Apostolate, and an Oblate of St. Peter's Benedictine Abbey in Muenster, Saskatchewan.

In November, 2008 he was awarded the Cross of Saint Augustine by the Archbishop of Canterbury for his service to relations between the Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion.