

Pastoral Appointments announced by Bishop Donald Bolen for diocese of Saskatoon: effective July 2, 2011

By Kiply Lukan Yaworski

SASKATOON – A number of pastoral appointments effective July 2 were announced by Saskatoon Bishop Donald Bolen May 17, with more appointments still to come in the weeks ahead.

Rev. Gerard Cooper, presently the pastor of Unity and Tramping Lake, is appointed pastor at the parishes of Kindersley, Dodsland and Marengo as of July 2. Present pastor Rev. Phong Pham will begin a one-year sabbatical, after which he will receive a new pastoral assignment.

Rev. Johny Mangalath, VC, has been appointed pastor of Unity and Tramping Lake. Over the past year, Mangalath has provided Sunday ministry to the parishes at Middle Lake, Marysburg and Burr, and served as associate pastor at St. Paul's Cathedral in Saskatoon. A Priest Moderator for Middle Lake, Marysburg and Burr parishes will be announced in the coming weeks.

In the Wadena pastoral region, which includes parishes at Fosston, Kelvington, Lintlaw, St. Front, Quill Lake, Rose Valley and Wadena, Rev. Fred Caylan will serve as associate pastor, working alongside pastor Rev. Clement Amofah. Ordained in 1985, Caylan is from the Philippines.

Msgr. Matthew Tuffuor-Amoah, who was serving as associate pastor in the Wadena region, is appointed pastor of the parishes at Watrous, Imperial, Liberty and Young.

Rev. Augustine Ebido, OP, is appointed priest administrator of the parishes at Macklin, Denzil and St. Donatus. A Dominican priest who comes from Nigeria, Ebido is currently working on a doctoral dissertation.

Rev. Marvin Lishchynsky, who was serving as pastor in the Macklin, Denzil and St. Donatus parishes, will now be appointed Priest Moderator at St. John Bosco parish in Saskatoon, with Theresa Winterhalt continuing as Parish Life Director. Lishchynsky will also begin Canon Law studies.

St. John Bosco's present Priest Moderator, Rev. Ron Beechinor, has been appointed as pastor of St. Philip Neri parish in Saskatoon. Matthew Ramsay, who will be ordained to the priesthood June 10, will be appointed as associate pastor at St. Philip Neri.

St. Philip Parish Life Director Patrick Clarke will be joining the staff at Holy Family parish in Saskatoon as executive assistant to Rev. David Tumback.

Geoffrey Young, who will be ordained to the priesthood June 10, will be appointed associate pastor of Holy Spirit parish in Saskatoon, serving with pastor Rev. Ken Beck.

Rev. Emmanuel Banahene will serve as priest administrator of the parishes of Asquith, Delisle and Vanscoy as of July 2. Louise Brecht (Asquith), Sylvie Francoeur (Vanscoy), and Clare Pattison and Rose-Anne Kielo (Delisle) will continue as Parish Life Directors.

Rev. Bill Bernard, CSsR, is moving to St. Joseph's parish in Grande Prairie, Alberta after eight years as a member of the Redemptorist community at St. Mary's parish in Saskatoon, where he served as Priest Moderator for parishes at Asquith, Delisle and Vanscoy, as well as at Our Lady of Guadalupe parish in Saskatoon. Bernard also coordinated outreach ministries in the St. Mary's neighbourhood, and provided part-time chaplaincy services at St. Paul's Hospital and at E.D. Feehan and Bethlehem Catholic high schools.

Mary Jacobi will continue as Parish Life Director at Our Lady of Guadalupe parish, now serving with Rev. Mick Fleming, CSsR, as Priest Moderator. Coming to the diocese from Toronto, Fleming will also be involved in outreach ministries as a member of the Redemptorist community at St. Mary's parish.

Rev. Jon Hansen, CSsR, will continue as pastor at St. Mary's in Saskatoon, but associate pastor Rev. Tony Bidgood, CSsR, will be moving to St. John's, Newfoundland, after three years in Saskatoon, where he was also part-time chaplain to E.D. Feehan and Bethlehem high schools and St. Maria Goretti elementary school.

Rev. Babu Mathew, CSsR, who has been serving in the Redemptorist outreach ministries in Saskatoon and as part-time chaplain at St. Paul's Hospital, is also leaving St. Mary's parish this summer. He is currently waiting his next assignment from his religious order.

Rev. Ciro Perez, CSsR, is appointed associate pastor at St. Mary's parish, and he will also continue his ministry to the Hispanic Catholic community of Saskatoon.

Rev. Steve Morrissey, CSsR, is also appointed associate pastor at St. Mary's in Saskatoon, as well as serving in outreach ministries in the city's core neighbourhoods. Ordained in 1996, Morrissey most recently served in a parish in St. John's Newfoundland, as well as working in hospital chaplaincy.

Effective Sept. 3, Rev. Peter Cobbina will be appointed pastor of Saints-Martyrs-Canadiens in Saskatoon. Ordained in 1986, Cobbina comes from the Ivory Coast, Africa. The Francophone parish's previous pastor, Rev. Rhéal Bussière, is currently in full-time hospital chaplaincy ministry.

Rev. André Poilièvre is currently providing weekend ministry at Saints-Martyrs-Canadiens. Poilièvre and Rev. Bernard de Margerie will provide ministry during July and August, said the bishop, expressing "profound thanks" for their ministry and the ministry of all those who have served in the diocese over the past year.

“I wish to express my gratitude to all those who will be assuming new responsibilities. They have responded to the needs of the diocese with generous spirits. I ask the people in parishes where changes are taking place to warmly welcome their new pastoral leader into their midst,” said Bolen.

A number of other pastoral appointments for the diocese will be announced in the near future.