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## APPOINTMENTS 2003

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Since the bishop must ensure the exercise of particular functions in the Church, and since the time has come to proceed with appointments for the 2003-2004 pastoral year, I do so with confidence, trusting in the grace of God. These appointments come as the end-result of a long series of consultations with the persons and milieus in question. I believe that this prayer from the [French] Liturgy of the Hours is most appropriate, here: "For the good of all and for your glory, Lord, you have willed that every member of your people serve You according to his or her grace and the call of the Spirit: grant to each one the strength to fully carry out his or her appointed task in the Church, so as to build up, with his or her brothers and sisters, the Body of Jesus Christ."

### THE BODY OF CHRIST

Helping build up the Body of Christ is one of the most beautiful missions given to a human being on earth, whether that mission be in the family, the home, a committee, a parish, or the diocesan Church. Thanks to the constant presence of the Spirit at the very core of our humanity, every action of ours can serve to build up the Body of Christ. This is the object of the religious education of our children and adults, of family and youth ministry, of every kind of recruiting for service to the Church, and of the training and formation of pastoral aids and agents. Through faith education, through our prayers and celebrations, through our good deeds and the evangelical transformation of our milieu, we help build up the Body of Christ. I want to thank all those who have accepted to journey with us, in 2003-2004. My deep gratitude goes to those who shared in the pastoral task during the year 2002-2003 and who, for various reasons, cannot continue: may they in other ways contribute to the life of the Church through their witness and prayer. On behalf of the entire diocesan Church, I thank Mrs. Fernande Albert for her work in diocesan pastoral ministry, Sister Teri O'Brien, S.M., for her work on the Vocation Committee, Mr. Jean-Louis Gervais, who was a member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, Mrs. Fernande Lang, who was a member of the Diocesan Commission on Liturgy and Culture, Mrs. Gilberte Daigle, Mrs. Pierrette Landry, Mr. Bertin Gervais, Mrs. Nicole Babineau, Mrs. Jeannette Bouchard, Mrs. Nathalie Cyr-Fortin, Mrs. Margaret M<sup>c</sup>Carthy, and Mrs. Jacqueline Van Kessel, for their involvement in pastoral ministry. I also wish to express my gratitude to the members of « Famille Marie-Jeunesse, who have for the past eight years been residing in the diocese and working with our young people. Unfortunately, for financial reasons, they must close their residence, for the time being. It is with joy that I welcome Father Roland Poitras, I.V.D., a native of Saint-André, among us. He was ordained in 1969 and for the last twenty years was on the animation team of Le Cénacle Spiritual Renewal Centre, in Cacouna, Québec; he has ministered in our diocese before, and he also facilitated several charismatic renewal weekends. As a member of the Saint-Quentin and Saint-Martin pastoral team, he will contribute to the spiritual growth of the Christian communities in that part of the Restigouche Deanery.

### DIOCESAN DUTIES

I renew for a three-year period beginning on August 15, 2003, the following mandates: Bishop Emeritus Gérard Dionne, judicial vicar and judge at the Marriage Tribunal, Father Roger Dionne, vicar general of the Diocese, Mrs. Ghislaine Clavet, diocesan coordinator of pastoral ministry, Sister Viola Côté, F.M.A., assistant coordinator for diocesan pastoral ministry, Mrs. Jeannette Pelletier, diocesan services' personnel director, Fr. Gérald Montminy, S.M., Cursillo Movement diocesan chaplain, and Fr. Laurent Nadeau, chaplain of the Edmundston Regional Hospital. I appoint Fr. Leo Grégoire, I.V.D., vice chancellor of the Diocese and

replacement priest for English celebrations. I renew for one year the mandate of the Diocesan Seminary formation team: Fr. Roger Dionne, V.G., coordinator, Fr. Pierre Thibodeau, Sr. Lucie Gagnon, D.W., Mr. Paul Albert. I also renew for one year the mandate of Fr. Gaëtan Bernier as diocesan chaplain of the Charismatic Renewal and the mandate of Mrs. Joyce Shannon as coordinator for Adult Religious Education Program. I appoint Sr. Claire Lafrance, F.M.A., to a one-year term as diocesan director of ongoing formation of pastoral agents and I appoint Sr. Thérèse Daigle, F.M.A., to the Diocesan Youth Commission and the Missions office.

## **PARISH RESPONSIBILITIES**

Since August 15, 1999, all the parishes are under the responsibility of a pastoral team. I give thanks to God for all the marvellous pastoral tasks that they accomplished so generously. During the year 2003-2004, we shall specify more and more the particular functions and responsibilities of the members and also pursue our structuring pastoral plan.

I appoint the following to a one-year term beginning on August 15, 2003, as members of parish pastoral teams:

### **Southern Victoria Deanery:**

The team ministering in the following parishes: St. Theresa, Anderson Road, Assumption, Blue Bell, St. Thomas Aquinas, Plaster Rock, and St. Joseph, Tilley:

Fr. Pierre Thibodeau, moderator and coordinator, Mrs. Ann Campbell, Mrs. Georgine Rioux, and Mr. Harold Short-Evans, pastoral agents; Mrs. Rose Jeppesen, Mrs. Pat Rossignol, Mrs. Judy St. Peter and Mrs. Rose St. Peter.

The team ministering in the following parishes: Our Lady of Mercy, Aroostook, St. Patrick, Limestone Siding, St. Ann, Maliseet, and St. Mary of the Angels, Perth-Andover:

Fr. Curtis Sappier, moderator and coordinator, Sr. Évangéline Poirier, R.H.S.J., Brother Germain Cantin, F.M.S., Mrs. Shirley Gamblin, Mrs. Elizabeth Hudson, Mrs. Debbie Looman and Mr. Herman Van Kessel.

### **Restigouche Deanery:**

The team ministering in the following parishes: Très-Saint-Sacrement, St-Quentin and Notre-Dame-de-la-Paix, St-Martin:

Fr. Bertrand Ouellet, moderator and coordinator, Fr. Roland Poitras, I.V.D., Sr. Yvette Morneau, F.M.A., Mrs. Pauline Aubut, Mrs. Hélène Bernier-Cyr, Mrs. Blanche Michaud-Leclerc and Mrs. Josette Ross.

The team ministering in the following parishes: Notre-Dame-des-Prodiges, Kedgwick, and St-Jean-Baptiste:

Fr. Ivan Thériault, moderator and coordinator, Mrs. Claudette Babineau, pastoral agent; Mrs. Bernadette Beaulieu, Mrs. Marie-Ange Bernatchez, Mrs. Pierrette Bossé, Mrs. Albertine Normand, and Mrs. Solange Tremblay.

### **Upper Madawaska Deanery:**

The team ministering in the following parishes: St-François d'Assise, Clair, St-François Xavier, St-François, and Notre-Dame-du-Rosaire, Connors:

Fr. Claude Côté , C.J.M., moderator and coordinator, Sr. Denise Hébert, D.W., Sr. Nicole Rousse, D.W., pastoral agents; Mrs. Gaëtane Duval, Mr. Réналd F. Landry, Mrs. Fernande Lang, and Mr. Maurice Pelletier.

The team ministering in the parish of St-Thomas d'Aquin, Lac Baker:

Fr. Jean-Marie Martin, moderator and coordinator, Mr. Robert Boutot and Mr. Marcel Pelletier.

The team ministering in the parishes of St-Hilaire and St-Cœur de Marie, Baker Brook:

Fr. Jacques Thériault, moderator and coordinator, Sr. Elmona Thibodeau, R.H.S.J., pastoral agent; Mrs. Ghislaine Bouchard, Mrs. Rinette Côté, Mrs. Lucille Lagacé and Mrs. Huguette Laplante.

### **Grand Falls Deanery:**

The team ministering in the following parishes: Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes, St-Léonard, and St-Léonard-Parent:

Fr. Ernest Dumaresq, C.J.M., moderator and coordinator, Sr. Réjeanne Fortin, S.G.M., and Mrs. Victoire Poitras-Daigle, pastoral agents; Mrs. Cécile Bellefleur, Mrs. Victorine Cyr and Mrs. Yvette Labonté.

The team ministering in the following parishes: Assumption, Grand Falls, St-Georges, Grand Falls, St-André, and St-Michel, Drummond:

Fr. William Rice, moderator and coordinator, Fr. Normand Godbout, Fr. Frédéric Poitras, Fr. Ghislain Rémillard, Sr. Jeannine Cormier, N.D.S.C., Sr. Mavis M<sup>c</sup>Cluskey, N.D.S.C., Mrs. Patricia Cyr, and Mrs. Gisèle M<sup>c</sup>Cue, pastoral agents; Mrs. Suzanne Desrosiers and Mr. Gildard Lavoie.

### **Edmundston Deanery:**

The team ministering in Immaculate Conception Parish:

Fr. Roger Dionne, V.G., moderator and coordinator, Fr. Gérald Montminy, S.M., Sr. Constance Gervais, S.M. and Mrs. Mona Albert.

The team ministering in Notre-Dame-des-Sept-Douleurs Parish:

Fr. Gaëtan Côté, moderator and coordinator, Sr. Albert Gallant, F.M.A., pastoral agent; Mrs. Huguette Losier, Mr. Jean-François Pelletier, Mr. Donald Thériault and Mrs. Liette Thibault.

The team ministering in the parish of St-Joseph-de-Madawaska:

Fr. Claude Clavet, moderator and coordinator, Mrs. Brigitte Bossé-Babineau, Mr. Donald Couturier, Mrs. Linda Deschênes and Mrs. Louise Ruest.

The team ministering in the parish of St-Jacques:

Fr. Rino Thériault, moderator and coordinator, Mrs. Sophie Roy-Couturier, Mr. Jean-Louis Lang, Mrs. Ginette Bossé-Losier and Mr. Léonide Roussel.

The team ministering in the parishes of Sacré-Cœur, Rivière-Verte and Ste-Anne-de-Madawaska:

Fr. Joseph Numbi Phaku Mavambu, F.D., moderator and coordinator, Sr. Florida Lavoie, S.M., Mr. Yvon Cyr, Mrs. Nicole Mazerolle and Mrs. Rollande Thibodeau.

The St-Basile Parish pastoral team appointed to a two-year term in 2002, continues in its mandate. The team is composed of Fr. Romain Trépanier, S.M., moderator and coordinator, Sr. Claudette Therrien, R.H.S.J., Mrs. Béatrice Beaulieu, Mr. Gérald Lévesque and Mrs. Rolande Martin.

In this Year of the Rosary, may the Virgin Mary to whom I entrust these appointments, shower us with countless blessings, and may she help us develop further in faith education, fellowship, the evangelical transformation of our world, and our prayer life.

*+ François Thibodeau*

+ François Thibodeau, C.J.M.  
Bishop of Edmundston

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