



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Pope Francis names new bishop for Victoria

Whitehorse Bishop, former Vancouver priest, Gary Gordon to assume vacancy

VANCOUVER, June 14, 2014 - Pope Francis has named Whitehorse Bishop Gary Gordon as the new bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, which has been without a bishop since last fall.

Bishop Gordon became the spiritual head of the Diocese of Whitehorse in 2006. Prior to his appointment to the Yukon post by Pope Benedict XVI he was pastor of St. Mary's Parish, Chilliwack.

Bishop Gordon was born June 10, 1957 in Burnaby, B.C. He studied at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission; at St. Jerome College, University of Waterloo; and at St. Peter's Seminary in London, Ont. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1982 for the Archdiocese of Vancouver.

The Diocese of Victoria has been vacant since Bishop Richard Gagnon, also a former priest of the Archdiocese of Vancouver, was named Archbishop of Winnipeg last fall.

Vancouver Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB, congratulated the Diocese of Victoria, saying the Vancouver Island faithful will benefit from Bishop Gordon's strong spirituality and devotion to the Church. "Bishop Gary will be the answer to their prayers as he brings to the diocese his compassionate manner, his faithful zeal, and his concern for and involvement with the marginalized," Archbishop Miller said.

"I pray that they receive each other in the same confidence with which Pope Francis has entrusted this wise choice."

The date of Bishop Gordon's installation in Victoria has not been set yet.

-30-

More information:

Communications Director Paul Schratz

communications@rcav.org

604-505-9411