



## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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March 16, 2008

To the brother Priests of the Diocese of Nelson,

Dear brothers,

There are a number of changes which I wish to bring to your attention.

We were unable to find a pastor for Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Nakusp with its mission Churches of St. Mary (Slocan), St. Anthony (New Denver), and St. John the Baptist (Fauquier). The following interim arrangements have been made. Sunday Mass has been temporarily suspended in the three Mission Churches. Sunday Mass in Nakusp has been changed to 5:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Father Patrick Monette has agreed to coordinate Sunday assistance in Nakusp and to arrange for sacramental assistance to the sick and other spiritual needs of the people of Nakusp and its missions. We are grateful that Father Don Wilson will reside in Nakusp during Holy Week and provide normal Holy Week and Easter liturgies to Nakusp and its missions.

Father José Joaquin left our diocese on February 25, 2008 at the completion of three years of service as stipulated in our agreement with his home diocese. I am happy to announce that Father Benet Britto-Prabhu is appointed interim pastor (March – June, 2008) of Holy Cross Parish, Creston and Most Holy redeemer Mission in Riondel. It is a great joy that Father Benet's health permits him to undertake this additional service to the Diocese.

Father Garry Igot will leave our diocese on April 6, 2008 at the completion of a three-year agreement with his home diocese. I thank Father Garry for his excellent and zealous service to Christ the King Parish (Oliver) and Our Lady of Lourdes Mission (Okanagan Falls). Effective April 6, 2008, Father Rex Velmonte is appointed interim Pastor of Christ the King Parish (Oliver) and Our Lady of Lourdes Mission (Okanagan Falls). He will, of course, continue to serve as Pastor of St. Anne Parish (Osoyoos) and Our Lady of Lourdes Mission (Chopaka Native Reserve). We are grateful that Father F. Wagner Natlitan will arrive in our Diocese on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Father Wagner comes from the Diocese of Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines. He will remain with us for three years. He is appointed interim assistant pastor to the parishes of Osoyoos and Oliver. He will work together with Father Rex.

All of these appointments will be reviewed in June 2008.

Sincerely in Christ,

*+ John, OFMcap.*

John Corriveau, OFMCap.  
Bishop of Nelson