



From A Bishop's Journal (719)

Gratitude to the Pastoral Teams

After announcing the new nominations regarding our priest-moderators, last June, I am pleased today to give you the names of those forming the twelve pastoral teams working in the twelve pastoral units grouping the diocese's thirty-two parishes. However, in order to understand what is a pastoral unit, it is necessary to have a good understanding of the Church's mission in the world today.

The Church's Mission

The Church carries on the mission of Christ, it is sent into the world of today as a sign and instrument of the Kingdom of God. Practically speaking, the Church's mission is expressed in the four facets of the Christian life as expressed in the Acts of the Apostles: The first Christians "devoted themselves to the apostles' instruction and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers... Those who believed shared all things in common; they would sell their property and goods, dividing everything on the basis of each one's need." These aspects indicate the triple function of Christ the Priest, Prophet, and King, to which everyone is associated through baptism.

Pastoral Team, and Composition

A pastoral team is composed of people mandated by the bishop to share in the pastoral charge of several parishes joined together into a pastoral unit. The pastoral team is at the service of the parish communities, it helps the Christian communities better carry out their mission and witness to the Gospel. The pastoral team is composed of four (4) to eight (8) persons, and includes one or several priests, one of whom is the "moderator;" the others are collaborators, pastoral agents, and other lay people who see to the proper functioning of pastoral activities, in order to live out the mission of Jesus and witness to the Gospel. Each member of the team is assigned to a particular aspect of the mission: faith education, fellowship, commitment, and celebration. These aspects are interrelated, for example, the proclamation of faith also involves one's prayer life. Collaboration between the team members is therefore necessary. It is important to note that the team members must not do everything themselves, though they must ensure that everything is done. Their main concern is to get people involved, and they are jointly responsible for the unit as a whole. To highlight the fact that their service is to the community, members of the pastoral team are presented each year to the community, at the Sunday celebration.

Members of the Pastoral Unit of the Upper Madawaska Zone

Baker Brook, St-Hilaire, and Lac-Baker Pastoral unit: Fr. Whalen Bossé, I.V.D., moderator; Mrs. Diane Bolduc, Mrs. Ghislaine Bouchard, Mrs. Luce Boutot, Mrs. Gemma Dumont, Mrs. Lucille Lagacé, Mrs.

Huguette Laplante, Mr. Marcel Pelletier, and Mrs. Rinette Pelletier.

Clair, Connors, and Saint-François Pastoral Unit: Fr. Ivan Thériault, moderator; Mrs. Louise Albert, Mr. Armand Bernier, Mr. Guildas Boucher, Mr. Yvon Morneau, and Mr. Donat Veilleux.

Members of the Pastoral Unit of the Edmundston Pastoral Zone

Immaculate Conception and Notre-Dame-des-Sept-Douleurs: Fr. Roger Dionne, V.G., moderator, Fr. Ghislain Rémillard, collaborator; Sister Alberte Gallant, F.M.A., pastoral agent, Mrs. Mona Albert, Mrs. Louise Boucher, Mrs. Huguette Murphy, Mr. Jean Pilote, and Mr. Edgar Savoie.

Saint-Basile Pastoral Unit: Fr. Jacques Thériault, moderator, Sister Elmona Thibodeau, R.H.S.J., pastoral agent, Mr. Alonzo Desjardins, Mrs. Marie-Noëlla Desjardins, Mrs. Louise Doucette, and Mr. Roger Roy.

Saint-Jacques and Saint-Joseph Pastoral Unit: Fr. Claude Côté, C.J.M., moderator; Mrs. Rina Bossé, Mr. François Cyr, Mrs. Rina Lavoie, Mrs. Antoinette Levesque, Mrs. Céline Boucher-Martin, and Mr. Jean-Charles Ouellette.

Rivière-Verte and Sainte-Anne Pastoral Unit: Fr. Joseph Numbi Phaku Mavambu, F.D., moderator; Sister Florida Lavoie, S.M., Mrs. Alice Lavoie, Mr. Martial Leclerc, Mrs. Stella Martin, Mrs. Nicole Mazerolle, and Mrs. Rollande Thibodeau.

Members of the Grand Falls Pastoral Unit

Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes, Saint-Léonard-Parent, and Saint-Léonard Pastoral Unit: Fr. Roland Poitras, I.V.D., moderator, Sister Réjeanne Fortin, S.G.M., pastoral agent, Mr. Lee Akerley, pastoral agent, Mrs. Fabienne Albert, Mrs. Victorine Cyr, Mrs. Victoire Daigle, Mrs. Lucille Pineault, and Mr. Paul Roy.

Drummond, Assumption, Saint-Georges, and Saint-André Pastoral Unit: Fr. William Rice, moderator, Fr. Frédéric Poitras and Fr. Pierre Thibodeau, collaborators; Sister Jeannine Cormier, N.D.S.C., Sister Mavis McCluskey, N.D.S.C. and Mrs. Gisèle McCue, pastoral agents, Mrs. Suzanne Desrosiers, Mr. Réal Dionne, Mrs. Anne-Marie Laforest, Mr. Guildor Poitras, and Mrs. Liza Poitras.

Members of the Restigouche Pastoral Unit

Kedgwick and Saint-Jean-Baptiste Pastoral Unit: Fr. Ernest Dumaresq, C.J.M., moderator; Sister Viola Côté, F.M.A., Mrs. Claudette Babineau, pastoral agent, Mrs. Bernadette Beaulieu, Mrs. Marie-Ange Bernatchez, Mrs. Rosa Borris, Mrs. Albertine Normand, and Mrs. Solange Tremblay.

Saint-Martin and Saint-Quentin Pastoral Unit: Fr. Guy Loisel, C.J.M., moderator; Mrs. Claudette Joubert-Arpin, Mrs. Pauline Aubut, Mrs. Noëlla Castonguay, and Mrs. Blanche Michaud-Leclerc.

Members of the Southern Victoria Pastoral Unit

Aroostook, Limestone Siding, Tobique First Nation, and Perth-Andover Pastoral Unit: Fr. Leo Grégoire, I.V.D., moderator; Rev. Mr. Gilbert Doddatto, I.V.D., Deacon, Mr. Andrew P. Mayer, I.V.D., pastoral intern, Sister Ann Russell, R.H.S.J., Mrs. Lynn Crawford and Mrs. Shirley Gamblin.

Anderson Road, Blue Bell, Plaster Rock, and Tilley Pastoral Unit: Fr. Curtis Sappier, moderator, Mr. Harold Short-Evans, Mrs. Ann Campbell, Mrs. Georgine Rioux, and Mrs. Judy St. Peter, pastoral agents, Mrs. Rita Baker, and Mrs. Patricia Rossignol.

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

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