

SMbulletin

Friday, 18 March 2022

A MARIST BISHOP FOR OTTAWA—CORNWALL



On 17 March the Vatican announced that Pope Francis has appointed our confrere, Fr Yvan Mathieu s.m., as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall, Canada.

Yvan was born in Québec in 1961. He attended the Marist High School in Québec City. He entered the Marist novitiate in Washington DC and made his first vows in 1980. He was ordained to the priesthood on August 15, 1987.

Yvan studied Theology and Sacred Scriptures in Canada and in Rome, and obtained a doctorate at the Faculty of Theology of St Paul University in Ottawa with a dissertation “The Portrait of Peter in Luke – Acts”. At

the same faculty Yvan has been teaching Old Testament and Biblical Languages, and he became Dean of the Faculty of Theology in 2014.

Yvan has served in parishes, preached retreats and collaborated with several homiletical reviews. Since 1 January 2019 he has been the Provincial of Canada.

In his letter to the Canadian confreres the Superior General wrote “I wish to thank and congratulate Bishop Yvan for generously agreeing to take up this new responsibility in response to the request from our Holy Father, Pope Francis. (...) Bishop Yvan’s Marist life has prepared him well to assume leadership to address the many new missionary challenges in Ottawa-Cornwall.”

OTTAWA

The Catholic Archdiocese of Ottawa–Cornwall was created in 2020 by Pope Francis when he united the Archdiocese of Ottawa and the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall. It has 130 parishes and missions, and more than 500.000 Catholics, which is approximately half of the population.

Ottawa, which is the capital of Canada, has a large French-speaking population and is one of the biggest cities of Canada.

A CHURCH FOR OUR PARISH IN DAKAR

In 2002 the Archdiocese of Dakar entrusted the pastoral care of the people from two municipalities around Dakar to the Marists in Senegal. They used the chapel of the marist *Cours Sainte Marie* school in Hann. Recently, it was decided to build a church to serve this parish of Sainte Josephine Bakhita. During a festive ceremony, the foundation stone of the church was laid in the presence of the Archbishop of Dakar, Mgr Benjamin Ndiaye and of the major superior of the District of Africa, Fr Albert Kabala. The leader of the local Muslim community, the mayor and many parishioners were also present.

