

New Bishop Appointed for the Diocese of Antigonish Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick to be 10th bishop of the Diocese of Antigonish

**From Archbishop Brian Dunn
December 18, 2019**

I am pleased to inform you that our Holy Father Pope Francis has announced that he has appointed **Bishop Wayne Joseph Kirkpatrick**, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Toronto, as the tenth bishop of the Diocese of Antigonish.

Bishop Kirkpatrick was born on June 5, 1957 in St. Catharines, Ontario, the fourth of five children. He studied at the University of Waterloo, St. Jerome's College, earning a Bachelor of Arts (Philosophy) before entering St. Augustine's Seminary in 1980. He completed a Masters of Divinity and was ordained to the priesthood on September 1, 1984. He received a Licentiate (Masters) in Canon Law in June 1990 from St. Paul University, Ottawa.



Bishop Kirkpatrick served the Diocese of St. Catharines in diverse roles since his ordination, including 22 years in diocesan administration, concurrently serving in parish ministry as a pastor for 17 years. He served on the Diocesan Finance Council for 17 years and was elected as chair of the Council of Priests for three terms. He was Diocesan Administrator for the Diocese of St. Catharines from April to November 2010.

In May 2012, Pope Benedict XVI appointed him as Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Toronto. At the time of his appointment, he was serving as Moderator of the Curia, Chancellor and Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of St. Catharines, Rector of the Cathedral and President of the Canadian Canon Law Society. Bishop Kirkpatrick's episcopal ordination took place at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria in St. Catharines, Ontario on July 25, 2012. As Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Toronto, Bishop Kirkpatrick has overseen the care of the pastoral needs of the

Northern Pastoral Region. He has also served as Episcopal Vicar for Religious institutes of men and women in the Archdiocese and Episcopal Vicar for the Francophone community. Since 2014, he has been the President of St. Augustine's Seminary as well as a Member of the Toronto School of Theology Board of Trustees. He brings with him a tremendous amount of pastoral experience serving in the parish and being involved in the administration of a diocese.

Please keep Bishop Wayne in your prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,

**Brian Joseph Dunn
Apostolic Administrator of Antigonish**