



## **NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **POPE BENEDICT XVI APPOINTS TWO AUXILIARY BISHOPS FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO**

TORONTO (6 November 2009) - The Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has appointed Father Vincent Nguyen of the Archdiocese of Toronto and Father William McGrattan of the Diocese of London as Auxiliary Bishops for the Archdiocese of Toronto.

His Grace, Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, responded to the news with the following statement:

“We thank the Holy Father for blessing us with two new shepherds to assist the people of the Archdiocese of Toronto as we grow together in faith. I have worked closely with both Father Nguyen and Father McGrattan; as bishops, they will bring a love of the church and an abundance of gifts to their new roles. I look forward to collaborating extensively with them in the days ahead.”

Bishop-elect Nguyen spoke of the announcement: “I am humbled to have been asked by the Holy Father to serve the people of the Archdiocese of Toronto as Auxiliary Bishop. To the faithful of the Archdiocese, please pray for me as I embark upon this new ministry as I will pray for you. I will do all I can to assist Archbishop Collins as we strive to strengthen and nurture the diverse faith community of the Archdiocese.”

Bishop-elect McGrattan commented on the Holy Father’s appointment: “I am blessed to have served the people of the Diocese of London for the last 22 years. While it will be most difficult to leave the wonderful family I have come to know so well, I eagerly await the opportunity to meet the faithful of the Archdiocese of Toronto. Please pray that I will be faithful in this challenging ministry. I hope that as I come to know the priests, deacons and lay leaders, we will be able to share the blessings of pastoral ministry which I experienced in London.”

Father Vincent Nguyen was born in Viet Nam in 1966, the sixth in a family of seven boys and two girls. He came to Canada in 1984, entering St. Augustine’s Seminary in 1993. Ordained a priest in 1998, he has served in parish ministry in Mississauga and Toronto while also providing pastoral leadership for Vietnamese Catholics in the Archdiocese of Toronto. Father Nguyen traveled to Rome for studies in 2005 and was awarded a Licentiate in Canon Law from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome in 2008. He returned to Toronto and was appointed as Vice-Chancellor of Spiritual Affairs in August 2008. In September 2009, he was appointed as Chancellor of Spiritual Affairs and Moderator of the Curia.

Father William McGrattan was born in London, Ontario in 1956, the oldest of two children. He entered St. Peter's Seminary in 1982 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1987, serving in parish ministry in Chatham, Ontario. Father McGrattan studied in Rome and earned his Licentiate in Fundamental Moral Theology from the Pontificio Universita Gregoriana, Rome in 1992. He returned to London, joining the faculty of St. Peter's Seminary, teaching theology courses and eventually serving as Vice Rector and Dean of Theology. Since 1997, he has served as Rector of St. Peter's Seminary in addition to serving on numerous boards and committees.

As one of the most diverse dioceses in the world, the Archdiocese of Toronto is home to 1.9 million Catholics who celebrate Mass each week in over 30 different languages. More than 800 diocesan and religious priests serve the Catholic community in 225 parishes across the Archdiocese.

Photos and biographical information regarding the Archdiocese of Toronto's newest bishops can be found online: [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Neil MacCarthy – Director, Public Relations & Communications  
Archdiocese of Toronto  
Phone (416) 934-3400 x 552 Cell: (416) 879-2846  
[neilm@archtoronto.org](mailto:neilm@archtoronto.org) [www.archtoronto.org](http://www.archtoronto.org)