



ANGLICAN ORDINARIATE FOR THE CANADIAN FORCES

Bulletin/Volume 9, No 2

Summer Season of Pentecost 2012

BISHOP ORDINARY TO THE FORCES
The Right Reverend Peter Coffin STB, MA, DD

ANGLICAN MILITARY CHAPLAINS IN THE WAR OF 1812

by Padre Mike Peterson

Only a handful of Anglican parishes dotted Upper Canada when hostilities between Britain and the United States commenced in 1812, but the fledgling Church in Canada was there to serve the defending troops, settlers, and First Nations. While some churches were physically destroyed and their congregations scattered, the Church as a whole served and endured. As we remember the War of 1812 in this bicentennial year, we as an Ordinariate can look back and see some of the earliest beginnings of Anglican military chaplaincy in Canada.



Chief Tecumseh and General Sir Isaac Brock meeting to unite in fighting the American Forces just prior to their combined defeat of Fort Detroit.

ARCHDEACONS

Col the Ven J. Fletcher, CD

BGen the Ven Dr K. R. McLean, CD, HCQ

CANONS

Cdr the Rev'd Canon B. D. Park, CD
CANON RECRUITER

Col the Rev'd Canon N. Shaw, CD
CANON TREASURER

Maj the Rev'd M. L. Staples, CD
CANON RECRUITER

LCol the Rev'd Canon G. Thorne,
MMM, CD CANON RESERVIST

Cdr the Rev'd Canon J. Wilcox, CD
CANON SECRETARY

LCdr the Rev'd Canon D. M. Greenwood, CD
HONORARY CANON

Maj the Rev'd Canon R. Gilbert, CD
HONORARY CANON



Before the War of 1812, the status of the Anglican Church in the Canadian colonies can best be described as favoured but not exclusively privileged. Despite the arguments of Anglican churchman such as Upper Canada's John Strachan and Montreal's Bishop Jacob Mountain that the Anglican Church's "union, discipline, and order" would serve the government well and protect its sovereignty from "the levelling opinions" of "inferior [Protestant] sects" such as Methodists, whose preachers often came from the US and were politically as well as theologically suspect. Mindful of the French and Catholic majority in Lower Canada, and of the diverse Protestant settlement in Atlantic and Upper Canada, the Crown was never swayed by these prelates and refused to grant Established status to the Anglican Church in Canada. The Anglican Church flourished as best it could in Upper Canada, always short of trained clergy and much dependent on funding from the missionary societies.

Whereas the Crown's representatives in Canada kept Church and State separate, the British military of the day upheld the Established Church of England and only accepted Anglican clergy as chaplains. However, due to abuses and lax performance, the office of regimental chaplain had been abolished by the British Army in 1796, replaced *(continued on page 4...)*

This Bulletin, for the Anglican Ordinariate of the Canadian Forces, is an informal document for the members of the Clericus. Its purpose is to provide the membership a means of communication and an expression of our fellowship. It is issued under the jurisdiction of the Bishop Ordinary for the Canadian Forces (Anglican). To submit an article please email text to: dmcag1@msn.com.

A word from our Archdeacon...

“Keeping the flame of faith burning bright?”

As we begin this summer season, we find ourselves in between the twin London celebrations of 2012: the “Diamond Jubilee”, which was celebrated in June, and the XXXth Olympiad that will be celebrated in July. It causes me to wonder what it might have been like to have been in

Jerusalem in between the great twin harvest celebrations of Passover and Pentecost: wondering, perhaps, how much excitement one city, a nation or even the world can handle. In particular I think of those first followers of Jesus in between Easter and Pentecost. They were impacted and changed, yet still longing and waiting;

they were looking back with gratefulness and wonder, but also looking ahead with excitement and anticipation.



*Colonel the Venerable John Fletcher
Archdeacon of the Canadian Forces.*

Posting seasons are like that too. We are a people on the move, living, working and being, amongst a people on the move. New chaplain recruits are leaving lives and experiences behind them, and entering – sometimes, albeit, hesitantly – into these new beginnings in our midst. Some, who have served with us for many years -- and still cherishing all that this military ministry with us, has been for them -- are moving on toward what will be next on life’s journey. Even those who stay are on the go. For some there are postings, or promotions. For others there are new assignments, or new team-mates. We are all in transition, in a sense: post-deployment, pre-deployment; post-Easter, pre-Advent. It is the season of the Spirit: a wonderful -- sometimes daunting season -- but somehow a season that is also always refreshing and renewing.

As we have opportunity to glimpse the images of the Olympic torch relay presently underway in the United Kingdom (a journey that will pass through a thousand communities, covering a distance of 8000 miles, and involving 8000 torch-bearers), we are mindful of the torch-bearers along our own journey: the saints who have gone before us; and those whose nurture for the road ahead, has been entrusted to our care. We are reminded of the light that has been shared with us by family and friends; and of the light we are called to be for our neighbours, both near and far. We give thanks for our colleagues and forbearers; and we strive to be, and to leave, a legacy of loving service for those who will join us, and indeed follow us, in this ministry we share.

As we move, this summer, from Jubilee excitement to Olympic competition -- from one great celebration to the next -- we also reflect on the transitions and movements in our own lives: from mountaintop to mountaintop; from glory to glory; and all along the deep, dark, winding pathways in between. In this season of the Spirit, we look back with gratefulness and wonder; and we look ahead with excitement and anticipation. And, in this in between time; this refreshing, renewing summertime of transition and change, I invite you to reflect on how teamwork has been, and will be, important for you? What have been, and what will be, your own moments to shine? In what ways have you been encouraged, or have you encouraged others to keep the flame of faith and hope alive and burning bright? I wish you all a blessed summer and I thank God for the blessings you have been, and will continue to be.



God Bless,

John+ Colonel J. M. Fletcher, Archdeacon, Anglican Military Ordinariate

A WORD FROM OUR BISHOP

“COME HOLY SPIRIT, COME”

Pentecost Season 2012

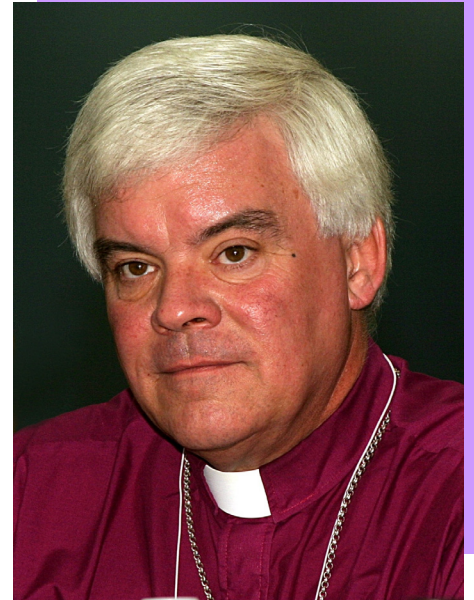
Recently we celebrated the great Feast of Pentecost. We read the story of how the disciples, who had been waiting in Jerusalem as Jesus instructed, experienced a mystical empowerment ‘from on high’. In wind and flame the promised Holy Spirit came upon them and within them was the Spirit of the risen Jesus empowering them to be the Church, a testimony of holiness of life and action. (*Acts 2:1-13*)

There is another story of the giving of the promised Holy Spirit. It was the evening of the resurrection when Jesus appeared amongst them as they were hiding somewhere in Jerusalem. “He said to them, ‘Peace be with you’. When he said this he showed them his hands and his side...Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me so I send you.’ And when he had said this he breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’. If you forgive the sins of any they are forgiven, if you retain the sins of any they are retained’. (*John 20:19-23*)

There is so much grace in these events. Jesus had promised that they would be ‘clothed with power from on high’ (*Luke 24:49*) so we are literally enveloped with this grace. Speaking of the coming of this power Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as ‘the Counsellor’ or ‘the Comforter’. The Greek is ‘parakletos’ (Paraclete) which means ‘called to one’s side’. (*John 14: 16,26*) It is an affirmation that He is indeed with us always even to the close of the age. (*Matthew 28:20*) There is indeed comfort in knowing that we are embraced by God and walking with Jesus, His word and presence ‘a lamp to our feet and a light to our path’ (*Psalms 119:105*) and ‘our rock and our fortress in uncertainty and adversity’. (*Psalms 71:3*)

As He commissioned those early disciples He commissions and sends us to do what the Father sent Him to do – to proclaim by word and action ‘the good news of the Kingdom of

God’. (*Luke 2:43*). Not only will He be with us on the journey but He is within us. That wind, on the Day of Pentecost and that breath on the eve of the resurrection is the Spirit of God – the Spirit that moved over the face of creation at the beginning and made Adam and Eve living souls. (*Genesis 1:2; 2:7*) I love the hymn ‘Breathe on Me Breath of God’ and it has become a prayer for me as I think on these things.



The Right Reverend Peter Coffin, DD.

*Breathe on me breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love,
And do what thou wouldst do.
Breathe on me breath of God,
Till I am wholly thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with thy fire divine.*

Saint John Chrysostom said that the Holy Spirit was like rain. It waters the earth and becomes blue in the violet, white in the lily and red in the rose. As I enjoy the garden it is so clear to me that God’s grace is manifested in so many expressions of beauty and so it is with God’s Holy Spirit in the life of His people. There are gifts to be embraced and used for the kingdom and fruit of the Spirit to be borne which says that while the Kingdom is not here in its fullness it has touch the earth – indeed it is within. What grace!

May you have a blessed summer and to those who are on move during this posting season may your farewells include fond memories and your arrival at your new home be smooth and may you find welcome.

+Peter

Anglican Bishop Ordinary

(The Right Reverend Peter Coffin was appointed by the Primate to the position of Bishop Ordinary (Anglican) to the Canadian Forces in November 2004.)

1812 REMEMBERED... in 1809 by Brigade Chaplains, who received the King's Commission and were under military discipline, each responsible for several thousand soldiers and their families. With few exceptions, only Church of England clergy, unencumbered by a parish or "the cure of souls" as it was called, were appointed, provided that they were approved by their bishops and were judged fit "for the fatigues and duties of their employment". As many army units, and particularly those in Canada at the outbreak of the war, lacked military chaplains, provision was made to employ local "Clergymen of Good Character ... on the spot", to serve troops stationed locally.

In Upper Canada, where most of the fighting occurred, there were only a handful of Anglican clergy available to support the military. They included the Revs. G.O. Stuart (Kingston), John Strachan (York/Toronto), Robert Addison (Fort George/Niagara), and Richard Pollard (Sandwich/Windsor/Amherstburg). Later they would be joined by military chaplains from Great Britain, but for the first desperate year of the war these clergy were literally and solely "on the spot". Besides their parish responsibilities, they were called on to perform the many onerous duties asked of them by an army in wartime.

Besides presiding at Divine Service at compulsory church parades, according to the Book of Common Prayer, hospital visits consumed much time, especially given the indifferent medicine of the age. As British soldiers were accompanied by dependents and camp followers, chaplains were also expected to minister to families, baptize children, and administer the regimental schools established "For the Management and Education of a Certain Number of Orphan and other Children ... of the Army". Clergy were also expected to raise the moral tone of the army, preaching "earnestly", "railing" against drunkenness, and teaching in a manner "suited to the habits, Moral and Intellectual of the Soldier". As clergy were expected to minister to far flung detachments and garrisons, and were indifferently compensated for their time and travel expenses, men such as Addison and Pollard spent much time in correspondence fighting for moneys owed to them.

Many of the Anglican clergy in Upper Canada were directly touched by the war. Several saw their parishes destroyed and their congregations scattered. Robert Addison's St. Mark's Church in Niagara was burned by American troops in 1813, but was compensated by a share of the prize money when British troops captured Old Fort Niagara and Buffalo that year. Richard Pollard, who as a young man had already weathered one American invasion as a defender of Quebec City against Benedict Arnold in 1775, was driven out of his parish of St. John's, Sandwich (now Windsor) when the Americans crossed the Detroit Frontier in Oct 1813, and was captured and detained in the subsequent British defeat at Moraviantown, where Chief Tecumseh was killed. Pollard returned to St. John's only to see it burned weeks later, and spent the rest of the war at York. John Strachan, the Garrison Chaplain of York, is well known for his role after the fort and town of York fell in April 1813. After the British retreated, he negotiated the



Padre John Strachan, hero of Upper Canada and later, as pictured here, Bishop of Toronto.

terms of surrender with US General Dearborn and insisted that they be honoured; fearlessly scolding the Americans for plundering his parishioners' property. When the Americans raided again that July, he even demanded successfully from US Commodore Chauncey that books stolen in the first raid be returned.

While these Anglican clergy generally did good and sometimes brave service, their work was neither representative of the religious complexity of the war, nor was it always appreciated by others. A Methodist soldier recovering in a British hospital heard Strachan preach "the marrow of Calvinism" and was unimpressed, writing in his journal that "God save us from such spiritual guides". Methodist soldiers sought ministry from their own, and may even have been better served by their "saddlebag brigade" of circuit preachers. A considerable number of Roman Catholics also served in the Canadian militia and in British regiments raised in Ireland. On the American side, the war, largely initiated by southern politicians, had initially been opposed by the New England clergy as being immoral. A 2012 study of the few Regular and many militia chaplains in US service in the War of 1812 shows that very few were Episcopalians; the majority were Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian.

Like clergy of all denominations, Anglican chaplains faced daunting challenges in the War of 1812. They did the difficult work of pastoral ministry in border regions riven with religious strife and suspicion; among neighbours who were recent immigrants from the US whose loyalties were sometimes violently doubted. They managed as best they could to lead their parishes through war and chaos, and sometimes literally rebuilt them. They comforted the sick and wounded in primitive military hospitals and in the wake of the horrific conditions of Napoleonic warfare. They did all of this work without any of the professional training, equipment, and support that we as chaplains take for granted, and they did it because of their faith in the gospel and their confidence in the gifts and durability of the Anglican tradition. If the Anglicanism of men like Strachan seems intolerant and even chauvinistic to us today, we should bear in mind that it is in part because of the devotion and resilience of these early clergy and chaplains that there is an Anglican Church of Canada today.

With thanks to the Rev. Dr. John Brinsfield, US Army Chaplain Corps Historian (retd.).

Padre Mike Peterson is the Base Chaplain at CFB Suffield. He blogs at www.madpadre.blogspot.com



HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN COMMEMORATES BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC *by Padre John Hounsell-Drover*

On the morning of May 6, over two-thirds of the crew of HMCS Charlottetown gathered on her flight deck to commemorate Battle of the Atlantic Sunday while sailing in the Arabian Sea.

Despite the fact that the day was very hot and humid, almost every member of the ship's company not on duty volunteered to take part in the event. All departments and all ranks played a role in the preparation for and execution of the morning's commemoration.

During the ceremony, respects were paid to six former sailors whose ashes had travelled with Charlottetown from Halifax to the Arabian Sea. Those whose remains were reverently committed to the sea included Able Seaman Robert Gordon Boehk; Petty Officer 2nd Class Garth Trevor Crawford; LSRP2 Edward Cameron McLean; Petty Officer 1st Class/Acting Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Norbert Joseph Steele; Lieutenant Charles Edward Vennall; and Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class Paul Walker.

Following naval tradition, the names of each of the 24 Royal Canadian ships lost during the Battle of the Atlantic were read out, followed by the ringing of the ship's bell. It is worth noting that a former Charlottetown is included among that number.

There was a palpable sense of peace and reverence amongst those gathered, especially during the moments of silence which solemnly punctuated the ceremony. However, in those very same moments, below decks, HMCS Charlottetown was alive with activity as OSPREY (the codename for her Sea King helicopter) and the operations room continued to search the seas in support of Combined Task Force-150.



Padre John Hounsell-Drover leading the Battle of Atlantic worship service while deployed onboard HMCS Charlottetown.

While taking time to remember the past, Charlottetown's crew was also actively undertaking her current mission to help set the conditions for security and stability in the Arabian Sea, while complementing the counter-terrorism and security efforts of regional nations to build a better future.

Military life in general and naval life in particular unfolds in a constant tension of innovation and tradition – present and past. Canada's military members proudly serve and proudly remember. In the midst of a mission that fulfills the role "to be a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions" – which is a quote from the Naval Prayer – Charlottetown also took time to pay her respects to those who fought and died in the Battle of the Atlantic and bear witness to the passing of six proud members of the Royal Canadian Navy.

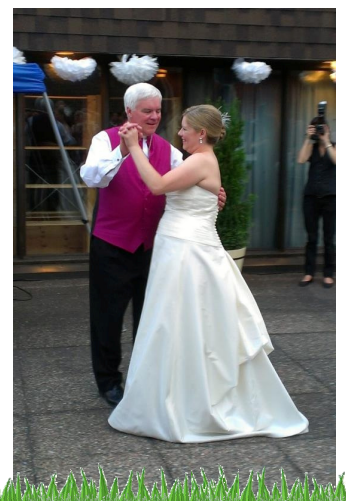


COFFIN LEBLANC WEDDING

It is not uncommon for our bishop to celebrate at various worship services, but on 30 June 2012, Bishop Peter Coffin and Mrs Deborah Creighton-Coffin attended and participated in the nuptial service of their daughter, Erin Coffin to Mr. Jeremy LeBlanc. The service took place at the Parish of Christ Church Bells Corners in Ottawa.

Mrs Deborah Creighton-Coffin and Bishop Peter Coffin smile as proud parents.

Bishop Peter Coffin, father of the bride and Erin Coffin take the first dance at the outside reception at Christ Church Bells Corners.



ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY RETIRES! LETTER FROM THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

2 April 2012



Dear Members of the Anglican Communion,

You will be aware that the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, is stepping down as Archbishop at the end of the year. Already the process for the appointment of a successor has begun.

The Archbishop of Canterbury exercises many roles: he is Bishop of the Diocese of Canterbury, Primate of the Church of England, and Focus of Unity for the Anglican Communion.

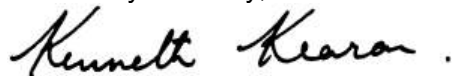
The process of seeking the next Archbishop is led by the Crown Nominations Commission of the Church of England and extensive consultations within the UK have begun with various representatives of the Church of England, other Christian denominations, other faiths and wider church life. Members of the Church of England have also been invited to participate in this process.

The Commission wishes to offer the same opportunity to other members of the Anglican Communion. It is seeking your views on the priorities for the ministry of the next Archbishop in order that the members of the Commission have as rich a picture as possible as they carry out their work.

You may send your views to The Crown Nominations Commission via the Anglican Communion website, www.anglicancommunion.org, or by post to the Crown Nominations Commission, c/o The Anglican Communion Office, St Andrew's House, 16 Tavistock Crescent, London W11 1AP, UK.

Please do pray for all involved in this process: for the members of the Crown Nominations Commission in their work, for the candidates, and also for Archbishop Rowan and his family at this time of transition.

Yours very sincerely,



The Revd Canon Dr Kenneth Kearon
Secretary General of the Anglican Communion

ANGLICAN PRIMATE VISITS NATIONAL DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS

On 25 May 2012, Brigadier-General the Venerable Karl McLean, Canadian Forces Chaplain General, delighted in welcoming Archbishop Fred Hiltz to Ottawa. The purpose of the primate's visit was to express the support of the Anglican Church of Canada for the members of the Canadian Forces and their families, and to meet with some of the military's senior leadership. The Chaplain General introduced the primate to Vice-Admiral Bruce Donaldson, Vice Chief of the Defence Staff and Rear-Admiral Andrew Smith, Chief of Military Personnel. His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada also welcomed the Primate and the Chaplain General to Rideau Hall. The discussions with these key leaders centred on the work of the chaplaincy and the provision of religious and spiritual support to military members and their families.



Archdeacon Karl McLean (Chaplain General, the Most Reverend Fred Hiltz (Primate) and Rear-Admiral Andrew Smith (Chief of Military Personnel)

Archbishop Hiltz also attended a briefing by the Chaplain General's three directors explaining the work of the Strategic Headquarters. He was the guest of honour at a dinner at the Chaplain General's residence attended by Bishop Coffin, RAdm Smith and the directors. He attended Padre John Organ's retirement lunch and brought greetings from the Anglican Church of Canada. The Primate also participated in a guided tour of the Canadian War Museum.

TWO ORDINARIATE ORDINATIONS

On Saturday afternoon 16 June at Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton a worship service was held to ordain a few deacons, install a few canons and collate a diocesan archdeacon. One of the new deacons was a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, Lieutenant Kent Greer. Kent joined the Reserves as an Admin Clerk in 1981 to serve with the 89th battery, 3 Royal Canadian Artillery (Woodstock, NB). In 1988 he completed a Component Transfer into the Regular Force as an RMS Clerk and was posted to Toronto, CFB Edmonton, LFCA Battle School in Meaford, ON and 2 RCR Gagetown, NB. In 2009 he left to study theology under a Special Commissioning Plan and he graduated with an MDiv (honours) from the Atlantic School of Theology this spring. After a busy summer as chaplain to Camp Brookwood (Bristol, NB) one of the Diocese of Fredericton's two youth camps, he will serve as deacon-in-charge in the Parish of Denmark to complete two years pastoral experience in a parish prior to rolling back into the Canadian Forces and joining us in the Ordinariate.

At Kent's ordination, our Bishop Ordinary, the Rt. Rev. Peter Coffin and our Archdeacon, Colonel the Venerable John Fletcher, Director of Chaplaincy Strategic Support were in attendance.

Earlier in the year, Archdeacon John Fletcher and our Bishop, Peter Coffin participated in the ordination of another one of our Military Chaplain Training Plan (MCTP) candidates in Ottawa. Captain Michel Gagné was ordained to the diaconate along with three others at Christ Church Cathedral on the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (transferred), Wednesday, 28 March 2012 at 7:00 p.m. The Rt. Rev. John Chapman of the Diocese of Ottawa and our Bishop Coffin both officiated at the ordination with our Bishop Ordinary conducting the laying on of hands for Captain Gagné. The Rev. Gagné is now ministering in the Parish of Pembroke. The Rev Gagné is a former Armoured Corps officer with service in both the Primary Reserve and Regular force. Amongst his many appointments in his former classification, he served as Commanding Officer of the Regiment de Hull.

Ordinations to the Diaconate held at Christ Church Cathedral on 28 March 2012 Michel Gagné, Hilary Murray, Bishop John Chapman, Bishop Peter Coffin, Carolyn Seabrook, Patrick Stephens.



COMMENDATION FOR PADRE BATEMAN

In May, Padre Carole Bateman was presented with a Chief of Defence Staff Commendation during the CDS's visit to Petawawa. As the award notes, "As the Battle Group Chaplain in Afghanistan from May to November 2010, Lieutenant (N) Bateman provided unwavering support and ministry to all members of the unit. Spending the majority of her time at forward locations, her performance under demanding and hazardous conditions was exemplary. A true spiritual leader, Lieutenant (N) Bateman's selfless efforts improved morale, contributed to the operational effectiveness of the Battle Group and enhanced the image of the Canadian Forces."



Canadian Chief Warrant Officer, Chief Petty Officer First Class Robert Cléroux, Padre Carole Bateman and General Walt Natynczyk Chief of Defence Staff during the presentation in Normandy Mess.



HONOURED RETIREES

We have some retirements this year:

Canon Rick Durrett, former Command Chaplain of the Royal Canadian Navy has retired in February to become the Rector of the Church of the Resurrection in Ottawa.

Padre John Organ and Mrs. Irene Organ are going to Jerusalem where John is going to be the Chaplain to the Bishop and do other duties including ministry with the English speaking congregation of Saint George's Cathedral.

Padre Greg Bailey, most recently incremental staff at Canadian Forces Base Borden, has spent a number of years on Class B duties.

Canon Baxter Park will leave later this autumn from his duties as Formation Chaplain in Halifax to take up a ministry as Dean of the Cathedral Parish of St. John the Evangelist in Corner Brook, NL.

Also retiring are **Padre Gordon Moir** of 31 Brigade, the Royal Highland Fusiliers, Cambridge, ON and **Padre Tony Bassett**, of 32 Brigade, 7th Toronto Regiment (RCA). Thank you for many years of exemplary service to God and Country.

HONOUREES

We have received notice of some honours and awards as well:

Padre Don Aitchison of 32 Brigade, the 48th Highlanders (Toronto) has been made a Canon of the Diocese of Toronto.

Canon Reg Gilbert, Deputy Army Command Chaplain, has been made a Canon of both the Diocese of Ontario and the Military Ordinariate.

Padre Brad Smith of 33 Brigade, the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, Belleville, ON has been made Archdeacon of Ontario (Hastings and Quinte) in the Diocese of Ontario.

Canon Michelle Staples has been promoted Lieutenant Colonel and has been appointed by Bishop Coffin as our Ordinariate Canon Recruiter.

Padre Steele Lazerte has been promoted Major and is posted to the Directorate Land Concepts Design, CLS Detachment, Kingston, ON.

CDR PARK RIDES OFF INTO THE SUNSET

After 23 years of military service and 12 years as the Canon Recruiter, Canon Baxter Park has chosen to leave the military. Padre Park and his wife Nancy will return to their roots in NL this Fall. Baxter will be the Rector of St John the Evangelist and the Dean of Western NL. Baxter has enjoyed an exemplary military career, deploying with both the army and the navy and serving as the Command Chaplain of the Navy. His final posting was as the JTFA/MARLANT Formation chaplain where he has enjoyed supervising a whole new generation of chaplains.

