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(St. John's, NL, April 11, 2011)

Archbishop Martin Currie, Metropolitan Archbishop for the ecclesiastical province of Newfoundland and Labrador, is pleased to announce that this evening, Monday, April 11, 2011, Bishop Robert Anthony Daniels will be installed as Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Falls.

Tonight's ceremony signifies a new beginning for the Diocese, and will include many traditions based on Scripture and rich in symbolism, some of them dating to the second and third centuries.

Bishop Daniels will lead a procession to the front doors of Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Grand Falls. He will knock three times on the church doors, a ritual based upon Revelation 3:20, where Christ says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me." The doors of the church will be opened by Fr. William Houlahan, Chancellor of the Diocese of Grand Falls, and Fr. William Hearn, rector of Immaculate Conception Cathedral. Fr. Houlahan will receive from Bishop Daniels the Apostolic mandate from Pope Benedict XVI, by which he is officially appointed Bishop of Grand Falls. Fr. Houlahan will show this to the diocesan consultors. Archbishop Currie will invite Bishop Daniels to enter, formally receiving him into his liturgical home, the place where he will celebrate the Eucharist and other important events.

Once inside the church, Bishop Daniels will be given a container of holy water and a crucifix. He will kiss the crucifix, offering an ancient gesture showing reverence for Christ and Christ's sacrifice on the cross. Bishop Daniels will bless himself with the holy water as a reminder that he enters the Church through the

waters of baptism. He will then sprinkle some of the holy water on the people in the Assembly as a sign that they are brothers and sisters in Christ through baptism.

In another ritual steeped in tradition, Archbishop Currie will lead Bishop Daniels to the Episcopal Chair, called the *cathedra*. It is from this word that our word *cathedral* takes its origin. It is a symbol of his authority and his role as teacher in the tradition of the apostles. Archbishop Currie will also place in Bishop Daniels' hands a crozier, or pastoral staff, a sign of his role as shepherd of the people of the Diocese of Grand Falls.

Representing Pope Benedict XVI at tonight's liturgy will be Archbishop Pedro Lopez Quintana, Papal Nuncio, or representative, to the nation and the Church of Canada. Archbishop Quintana will bring greetings from His Holiness.

Bishop Daniels succeeds Archbishop Martin W. Currie as the 9th Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Falls. Archbishop Currie became Bishop in 2001 and was appointed Archbishop of St. John's on November 30, 2007. He continued to serve as Bishop of Grand Falls until Daniels' appointment on March 1, 2011.

Backgrounder: Bishop Robert Anthony Daniels RobertAnthony Daniels was born June 18, 1957 in Windsor, Ontario. His parents, both deceased, were Robert Daniels and Barbara Fuerth. He was the second in a family of four children. He studied for the priesthood at St. Peter's Seminary, London, which is affiliated with the University of Western Ontario. He received a Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained a priest of the Diocese of London on 7 May, 1983, and served in two parishes. He was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of London on 21 September, 2004, and ordained as Bishop on 9 November, 2004 at St. Peter's Cathedral in London. In 2008, he was the author of *Gather Upthe Fragments: A History of the Diocese of London*. Bishop Daniels was appointed as Bishop of Grand Falls on March 1, 2011.

Background: *The Roman Catholic Church in Newfoundland and Labrador* The Ecclesiastical Province of Newfoundland and Labrador is comprised of three dioceses: The Archdiocese of St. John's, the Diocese of Grand Falls and the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador. St. John's is the *Metropolitan See*, and therefore its bishop holds the rank of Archbishop. The Archbishop of St. John's is Martin W. Currie. He became Archbishop on November 30, 2007, after serving as Bishop of Grand Falls since 2001. From November 28, 2007 to March 1, 2011, Archbishop Currie continued to serve as Bishop of Grand Falls. With the appointment of Bishop Anthony Daniels, Archbishop Currie ceases to serve as Bishop of Grand Falls.

Background: *Diocese of Grand Falls.* The Diocese of Harbour Grace was canonically erected in 1856 by Pope Pius IX. Right Reverend John Dalton, D. D. was named Bishop of the new Diocese, which previously had constituted part of the Diocese of Newfoundland. In 1856, that diocese was divided into the Diocese of Harbour Grace and the Diocese of St. John's. In 1953, under Bishop J. M. O'Neill, the name of the Diocese changed to Harbour Grace-Grand Falls. In 1963 the Seat of the Diocese moved to Grand Falls. The Diocese of Grand Falls is home to 36,895 Roman Catholics in 30 parishes. The Diocese extends from Bay de Verde on the tip of the Avalon Peninsula to Baie Verte in White Bay, and encompasses much of the South Coast. This large geographic territory is served by 27 priests, a number of whom are on loan to the Diocese from other dioceses.