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Press Release

Pope Benedict XVI Appoints New Bishops For Dioceses of Grand Falls and Corner Brook and Labrador

For Immediate Release

(St. John's, NL, March 1, 2011)

Archbishop Martin Currie is pleased to announce that this morning, Tuesday, March 1, 2011, His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI appointed **The Most Reverend Robert Anthony Daniels**, who most recently served as Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of London, Ontario, as Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Falls, Newfoundland and Labrador. Bishop Daniels succeeds Bishop Martin W. Currie as Bishop of Grand Falls. Bishop Currie was appointed Archbishop of St. John's in November, 2007. Archbishop Currie continued to serve as Bishop of Grand Falls until this morning.

Robert Anthony 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 Up the Fragments: A History of the Diocese of London*. Bishop Daniels will be installed as Bishop of Grand Falls on April 11, 2011 at Immaculate Conception Cathedral, Grand Falls-Windsor. Archbishop Martin W. Currie, Archbishop of St. John's, will preside at the liturgy of installation. The Papal Nuncio to Canada, Archbishop Pedro Lopez Quintana, will be present at the installation, and will extend greetings on behalf of His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI.

Also today, March 1, 2011, Pope Benedict XVI appointed **Most Reverend Peter Joseph Hundt**, currently serving as Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese of Toronto as Bishop of the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador. Bishop Hundt was born on a dairy farm in Hanover, Ontario, on August 26, 1956. He attended St. Peter's Seminary in London and was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Hamilton on May 8, 1982. After serving as an associate pastor at St. Eugene Parish in Hamilton from 1982 to 1985, Bishop Hundt completed graduate studies at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome, and in 1987 was awarded a license in canon law. On returning to Canada, he served as Vice-Chancellor of the Hamilton Diocese from 1987 until 1990 and as Chancellor from 1990 to 1994. From 1994 -

2006, Bishop Hundt served as the pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Georgetown, Ont. He was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto by Pope Benedict XVI on February 11, 2006 and his Episcopal ordination was celebrated on April 25, 2006 at the Cathedral of Christ the King, Hamilton, Ontario. Bishop Hundt will be installed as Bishop of the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador on April 13, 2011 at Holy Redeemer Cathedral, Corner Brook. Archbishop Martin W. Currie, Archbishop of St. John's, will preside at the liturgy of installation. The Papal Nuncio to Canada, Archbishop Pedro Lopez Quintana, will be present at the installation, and will extend greetings on behalf of His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI.

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 in November, 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.

Background: Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador.

The Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador was formerly known as the Diocese of St. George's, and was canonically erected as a diocese in 1904. As of September 9, 2007 the Labrador section of the former Diocese of Labrador-Schefferville became part of the new diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador. The diocese comprises the western "slice" of the island of Newfoundland along the Gulf of St. Lawrence. To the east it borders the Diocese of Grand Falls. The 28 parishes and mission in the Diocese are home to 35,140 Roman Catholics. The Diocese is served by 31 priests, 7 of whom are retired.

Background: Installation of a Bishop

Both Bishop Hundt and Bishop Daniels have already been ordained as bishops. Therefore, the ceremonies that will take place in Newfoundland and Labrador will be liturgies of installation. An installation is the ceremony in which a new bishop formally takes possession of his diocese. In the ceremony, the new bishop asks to enter the cathedral of the diocese. He is invited to come forward and, after the proper documents from Rome are presented, he is taken to the bishop's chair (cathedra) and is seated, signifying that he is now in possession of the diocese. The Papal Nuncio to Canada is Archbishop Pedro Lopez Quintana.

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For more information on the Archdiocese of St. John's, please visit our website at www.rcsj.org.

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