



June 16, 2021

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In these few days since my ordination as Bishop, I have been reading the many cards, e-mails, and expressions of prayer that you have sent me.

I wanted to write to all of you without delay to express my sincerest thanks for your welcome, your prayers, and gifts. The spiritual bouquets of prayer prepared by the parishes and young people in our schools were very beautiful and generous and I am eager to begin visiting the different communities in this vast diocese and getting to know you in person.

The ordination celebration was very joyful and prayerful, and I am grateful that despite the covid-19 restrictions many could and did join in by the live stream. My thanks again to all who helped to organize and make the festivities of the day very memorable for all.

I would also like to take this opportunity to also thank Bishop Albert Thévenot, M. Afr., for his years of loving and selfless service as Bishop of this Diocese. May God grant him good health and much joy to enjoy his years of retirement.

In the ordination rite, the man about to be ordained Bishop promises a number of things before God and the Church and one of them is to pray unceasingly for the People of God. We have begun my episcopate together in prayer. Please know that I take all of the promises I have made to God before you very seriously and that I am praying for you every day.

One of my favourite Saints, St. Louis-Marie de Montfort, always began his letters with the prayer "May the perfect love of Christ reign in your heart!" That is my hope for all of us too. May the love of Christ reign in our hearts! And may our hearts meet always in the Heart of Christ.

As I begin my ministry as your Bishop, I entrust all the people of this Diocese of Prince Albert and my own service as Bishop to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph. May God bless each of you and your families!

Your servant in Christ,

*+ Stephen A. Hero*

Most Rev. Stephen Hero  
Bishop of Prince Albert