



November 21, 2025
Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

To the Clergy and Faithful in the Archdiocese of Edmonton

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Pope Leo XIV announced from Rome today that he has appointed me as the Metropolitan Archbishop of Edmonton. I am very humbled and grateful for the trust placed in me to take up this new mission in the Church and to serve in a community that is already close to my heart.

I spent forty years of my life in Edmonton. It is impossible to estimate how much the faith of the priests and people in the Archdiocese influenced and nurtured my own faith as a young man, fostered my call to priesthood, and helped me to grow and mature in the Lord. It is an honour to be sent to you now as your Archbishop.

Although I have a knowledge of the people and history of the Archdiocese, I look forward to returning, listening, and discerning with you how the Holy Spirit is calling us to move forward together. I have known your last three Archbishops and wish to continue to build on the wise and inspiring leadership that they gave amid the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

It has been a great joy to serve as Bishop of the Diocese of Prince Albert for the last four years. I am immensely grateful to the Clergy, religious, and lay faithful of the 'lake country' who have welcomed me as Shepherd and sought to serve and glorify the Lord with me. Kindly pray that the Lord will give them the Bishop they need to help to build up God's kingdom there.

Both Prince Albert and Edmonton are in Treaty Six territory. I am eager to meet the Indigenous and Métis peoples in the Archdiocese and walk with them as well as all the many diverse peoples and cultures who now share these lands.

Today I become the Diocesan Administrator of Prince Albert until I am officially installed as the Archbishop of Edmonton on January 23, 2026. Father Paul Kavanagh continues as the Administrator of Edmonton until that time. Please pray for me, dear brothers and sisters, as I prepare to follow the Lord back to Edmonton. You are in my daily prayers as well.

Sincerely in Christ,

† Stephen A. Hero

✠ Most. Rev. Stephen A. Hero
Archbishop-Elect of Edmonton and Administrator of Prince Albert