

BISHOP DON BOLEN'S ORDINATION

by Frank Flegel

Newly minted Saskatoon Bishop Don Bolen was barely through the four-day celebration of his episcopate ordination and installation when he had to hit the floor running. His Thursday, March 25 ordination was the week prior to Holy Week, one of the busiest times of the Liturgical year. "It was the most grace filled and joyous time in my life," he said about the celebrations surrounding his ordination but he also added that there was a sense of relief and a need to begin his new duties.

The celebrations began on the evening of the 24th with an ecumenical prayer service, followed on the 25th with a gala reception and banquet and the ordination/installation ceremony in the evening at St. Patrick's Church. A brunch for family and close friends followed on Friday.



Lorie and Laurier Donais and family, sang a goodbye song as St. Agnes Pilot Butte, St. Peter's Colony Kronau and St. Joseph's Balgonie parishioners said good bye to their parish priest, Monsignor Don Bolen now Bishop of Saskatoon.

The reception was like a reunion. Some 37 archbishops and bishops, plus a number of priests, ecumenical representatives, Regina and Saskatoon diocesan staff, family and friends were in attendance. Bishop Elect Bolen received several presentations including a hand made Chasuble from a community of Sisters in Rome, and a bishop's staff from the Saskatoon Diocese.

St. Patrick's Church was packed with an estimated 1,400 invited guests for the ceremony. "All the people there," Bolen told *The Arch*, "touched me at some point in my life." It began with a procession of clergy, bishops, archbishops, ecumenical representatives and ended with congratulatory remarks from several special guests. Regina Archbishop Daniel Bohan was the Principle Consecrator with Most Reverend Brian Farrell, LC, Secretary of the Pontifical Council Promoting Christian Unity, Rome and Winnipeg Archbishop Reverend James Weisgerber as Co-Consecrators.

The congratulatory remarks following the service included a brief and unscheduled skit with Reverend Ron Beechinor who was Saskatoon Diocesan Administrator prior to Bishop Don's appointment and Director of Education for the Saskatoon Catholic School Board Bev Hanson. The two did a question and answer skit that included a humorous reference to



confusion over the names of Archbishop Dan Bohan and Bishop Don Bolen. The two ended with admonishing the new bishop to stay away from the province of Manitoba. The two former Saskatoon bishops LeGatt and Weisgerber are now Archbishops of St. Boniface and Winnipeg respectively.

GOOD FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS



After a year's hiatus the tradition of the Way of the Cross through downtown Regina on Good Friday was resumed. Reverend John Weckend who established the tradition 14 years ago led the procession from City Hall to Stations at locations in the city's downtown business district.