



BISHOP-ELECT ROBERT P. DEELEY, J.C.D.

BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY

Bishop-elect Robert P. Deeley, 66, was named Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia of the Archdiocese of Boston in June 2011 and began his service on September 1, 2011.

Born in Cambridge, MA, Bishop-elect Deeley grew up in Belmont as the fourth in a family of five sons. His parents, Michael and Mary, now deceased, were born in County Galway, Ireland. The family belonged to Sacred Heart Parish in Watertown where he and his brothers attended school. The Bishop-elect attended Matignon High School in North Cambridge where he graduated in 1964.

Following high school, he entered Cardinal O'Connell Minor Seminary in Jamaica Plain to discern a vocation to priesthood. After two years of college he received a Theodore Basselin Foundation Scholarship and began Philosophy studies at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. where he graduated in 1968.



After a year of post-graduate studies he was sent to the Pontifical North American College in Rome for his theological formation. At the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome he earned a degree in Theology (S.T.B.) in 1972. After a year of continuing studies in theology, he returned to Boston and was ordained to the priesthood on July 14, 1973 at his home parish, Sacred Heart in Watertown.

His first local assignment was as Associate Pastor at St. Bartholomew parish in Needham for five years. In 1978, with his appointment as Secretary to the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Boston, he began a ministry on the Tribunal which would last for over twenty years. The last ten of those years of that time he served as Judicial Vicar (1989-1999). Bishop-elect Deeley returned to Rome to complete advanced studies in canon law, earning a JCL in 1983 and a JCD (summa cum laude) in 1986 from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Throughout his service to the Metropolitan Tribunal he provided priestly presence and assistance at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes parish in Newton and St. Brigid parish in Lexington. He was named a Prelate of Honor (Monsignor) on December 13, 1995.

He was named Pastor of St. Ann's Parish in the Wollaston section of Quincy in 1999. He assumed the presidency of the Canon Law Society of America in 2000.

Bishop-elect Deeley was sent to Rome in September of 2004 to assist the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, first on a temporary basis and then, at the request of the then Prefect, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI), as an Official of the Congregation. He served at the Congregation until being named Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia in the summer of 2011.

Pope Benedict XVI named him Auxiliary Bishop of Boston on November 9, 2012. His episcopal ordination is scheduled for January 4, 2013 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston.

Bishop-elect Deeley's younger brother, Rev. Kevin J. Deeley, is pastor of St. Michael Parish in North Andover, MA. His older brothers, Tom, Paul and John are married.

He has served on several boards, commissions and councils throughout his nearly forty years as a priest.