

Appointment of Reverend Father Brian Finnigan Auxiliary Bishop of Brisbane

His Holiness Pope John II has appointed Reverend Father Brian Finnigan, until now Secretary of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference, Auxiliary Bishop of Brisbane, assigning to him at the same time the Titular See of Rapido. The news has been released by the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Francesco Canalini on 31 January 2002.

TITULAR SEE Consult the Code of Canon Law: canon 376

A general description: A diocese where the Church once flourished but which now exists only in name or title. Bishops without a territorial or residential diocese of their own; e.g., auxiliary bishops, are given titular sees. There are more than 2,000 titular sees.

Rapido was located in Northern Africa.

CURRICULUM VITAE

BISHOP-ELECT BRIAN VINCENT FINNIGAN

Born 25 August 1938 Port Fairy, Victoria. The youngest of twelve children, seven girls and five boys, of John Joseph Finnigan and Elizabeth Dorothy Russell. Three sisters entered the Institute of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict, Sr Marcia (dec), Sr Dorothy, Coragulac, Victoria and Sr Kathleen, Hamilton, Victoria. Seven members of the family are deceased. 23 May 1970 Ordained Priest for the Diocese of Ballarat, by the late Bishop James P O'Collins, in the Port Fairy Theatre for the Diocese of Ballarat.

Education Toolong State School No 3595 1960 St Patrick's College, Ballarat. 1963 Corpus Christi College, Werribee. 1967 Corpus Christi College, Glen Waverley. 1977 Catholic University of America, Washington DC, USA. M.Ch.A (Master of Church Administration) 13 May, 1978. 1978 Boston College, Boston, Massachusetts, USA Summer School: Religious Education. 1990 St Paul University, Ottawa, Canada JCL (Licentiate in Canon Law) 17 May, 1991. MCL (Master in Canon Law) 28 May, 1991. 1991 The American College, Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium Summer School: Theological Institute, July 1991. Appointments 1970 St Joseph's Parish, Warrnambool, summer appointment. 1971 All Saints' Parish, Portland, Assistant Priest. 1974 St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat, Assistant Priest. 1979 Bishop's Office, Ballarat, Bishop's Secretary. Director, Marriage Tribunal. 1985 St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat, Administrator. 1990 St Joseph's Parish, Warrnambool, Parish Priest. 1991 St James' Parish, Sebastopol, Parish Priest. 1991 Vicar General 1998 Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference, General Secretary. 2002 Auxiliary Bishop of Brisbane. Involvements Diocesan Consultor. Secretary, Diocesan Ecumenical Commission. Member, Diocesan Liturgical Commission. Member, Diocesan Finance Committee. Member, Diocesan Building Commission. Ballarat Diocesan Representative on the Victorian Council of Churches. Member of the VCC Faith and Order Commission, which produced such books as 'Initiation in Australian Churches', 1984, 'Marriage in Australian Churches', 'Ministry in Australian Churches', 1987, and 'Communion in Australian Churches', 1985. Member of the Anglican/Roman Catholic Commission. Member of the Roman Catholic/Uniting Church Dialogue Group. Member of the Ballarat Council of Churches. Judge of the Marriage Tribunal for seventeen years, term completed in 1999. Later a Defender of the Bond in the Marriage Tribunal. Secretary, Canon Law Society of Australia and

New Zealand for sixteen years. Member of the Canon Law Society of America. Member of the Canon Law Society of Canada. Member of the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Interests

Played B grade Australian Rules Football Played in competition squash. Reading Walking Music Cinema

STATEMENT FROM BISHOP-ELECT BRIAN V FINNIGAN

"I feel overwhelmed and privileged at being appointed by the Holy Father to assist Archbishop Bathersby and serve the Archdiocese of Brisbane, in company with Bishop Gerry. I look forward to working with the priests of the Archdiocese, many of whom I know well, the religious and the people of the Archdiocese so that we might all grow in faith, hope, trust, peace and service in this significant time in the life of the Church and the world. I am looking forward to living in Brisbane and the State of Queensland."