



Ottawa – His Holiness Pope Francis accepted the resignation of the Most Reverend Lionel Gendron, P.S.S., as Bishop of the Diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil, and today appointed his successor the Most Reverend Claude Hamelin. At the time of his appointment, Bishop Hamelin was Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil. Bishop Gendron has been the Bishop of the Diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil for the past nine years. He submitted his resignation to the Holy Father upon reaching the age of 75, as required by the Code of Canon Law.

Bishop Hamelin was born on 10 July 1951 in Sherrington, Québec. He attended the *Université de Montréal*

from which he obtained a Baccalaureate in Theology, followed by the completion of a Master of Pastoral Theology. On 3 December 1977, he was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Saint-Jean-de-Québec (later renamed the Diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil). He then obtained a Licentiate in Moral Theology from the Pontifical Lateran University (Alphonsian Academy) in Rome. Following his ordination, he served in a number of diocesan ministries including that of pastoral animator at the secondary school level, pastor, head of the diocesan committee for the ministry of life of priests and deacons, Episcopal Vicar (for pastoral regions and human resources), Moderator of the diocesan curia, and Vicar General. On 22 December 2015, he was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil and, on 18 March 2016, was ordained Bishop in the Cathedral of Saint-Jean-l'Évangéliste at Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu by Bishop Gendron.

As a member of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), Bishop Hamelin was recently elected to the Permanent Council as the Québec regional representative for a two-year term (2019-2021).



[Diocese of Saint-Jean-Longueuil](#)