## **Cardinal Gérald Cyprien Lacroix**

Archbishop of Québec Primate of Canada

## SHORT BIOGRAPHY

His Eminence Cardinal Gérald C. Cardinal Lacroix was born on July 27, 1957 in Saint-Hilaire de Dorset, a farming community of the Beauce Region in the Province of Québec, Canada. In 1965, he emigrated with his family to Manchester, New Hampshire, USA. There he graduated from Trinity High School and pursued his studies at St. Anselm College.

His Eminence Cardinal Lacroix was received as a lay consecrated member of the Pius X Secular Institute (ISPX) in 1976 and pronounced perpetual vows in 1982. In 1985, he obtained a Bachelor of Theology degree from Laval University, Quebec City. While serving as Secretary General of the Pius X Secular Institute from 1982 to 1987, he was also Director of *La Maison du Renouveau*, a Christian formation and spiritual renewal centre in Québec, from 1985 to 1987.

On March 25, 1988, His Eminence Cardinal Lacroix was ordained a deacon and on October 8<sup>th</sup> of the same year, he was ordained a priest in Notre-Dame-de-Recouvrance church of the Archdiocese of Québec.

From 1990 to 1998, he was a missionary in Colombia, South America, and greatly contributed to establish the Pius X Secular Institute in that country. While serving as pastor of *Nuestra Señora del Carmen* Parish in Argelia, Cauca, in the Archdiocese of Popayán from 1990 to 1993, he obtained a Master's in Pastoral Theology from Laval University, Quebec (1993).

During his stay in Colombia, he assumed several responsibilities in the Archdiocese of Popayán, namely as professor at *San José* Seminary, member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, member of the Presbyteral Council, member of the Social Communications Commission, and director of the Liturgy Commission. On his return to Quebec, he was elected General Director of the Pius X Secular Institute from 2001 to 2005 and from 2005 to 2009. He was also President of the Canadian National Office of St. Andrew School of Evangelization, and member of the Board of Directors for the World Conference of Secular Institutes (2008-2012).

On April 7, 2009, he was appointed Titular Bishop of Ilta and Auxiliary Bishop of Quebec by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. He received the episcopal ordination on May 24, 2009 in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Basilica. On August 26, 2010, he was elected Diocesan Administrator by the Quebec Archdiocesan College of Consultors.

His Eminence Gerald C. Cardinal Lacroix was named Metropolitan Archbishop of Quebec and Primate of Canada on February 22, 2011 and took possession of his see on March 25, 2011. He is the 25<sup>th</sup> Bishop and the 15<sup>th</sup> Archbishop of Quebec. Pope Francis designated him a Cardinal on January 12, 2014, the 8<sup>th</sup> Cardinal of the Archdiocese of Quebec.

He is a member of the Vatican Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, of the Dicastery for Culture and Education, of the Council for the Economy, of the Ordinary Council of the Synod of Bishops and of the Council of Cardinals.

His Eminence Cardinal Lacroix is a member of the Board of Directors of the Quebec Assembly of Catholic Bishops (AECQ). In the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), he is a member of the Permanent Council, and Liaison Bishop for Secular Institutes in Canada.

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