



THE VENERABLE DR EDWARD SIMONTON OGS  
M.A. (HONS), M.Th., FRAI, FRSAI, FSA SCOT, MMCM

VICAR GENERAL & ARCHDEACON OF QUEBEC

SECRETARY- GENERAL OF THE ORATORY OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
ANGLICAN-ORIENTAL ORTHODOX INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

Archdeacon Simonton is from the Deep South of the United States. At a young age he left home to attend Anglican boarding schools in New England before moving to Scotland in his late teens where he lived for a decade. For three years he worked with the Anglican order of Franciscans ministering to the homeless and the terminally ill of Edinburgh. He studied for degrees in Scotland at the University of Edinburgh and in England at the University of Cambridge as a member of Peterhouse.

The Archdeacon is a professed member of the Oratory of the Good Shepherd. The Oratory is one of the oldest Anglican male religious communities, being founded at University of Cambridge in 1913. The Oratory has brethren in Australia, Africa, Europe, and North America.

While working for the Archbishop of Canterbury at the 1998 Lambeth Conference he met the Bishop of Cariboo. Bishop Cruickshank requested that he come to Canada for temporary work in a remote mission parish in the Rocky Mountains. After three years, the Bishop of Montreal asked him to take up ministry in Quebec, where he served as the Regional Dean of the Laurentians and as the Archdeacon of St Andrews. After a decade the Bishop of Quebec requested he take up ministry in the Eastern Townships as the Archdeacon of St Francis. In 2017 Bishop Myers appointed him Vicar General of the diocese and Archdeacon of Quebec. Except for brief student ministries in a parish in Edinburgh and the Chaplaincy at the University of Edinburgh, he has ministered in rural areas.

For most of his ministry he has been engaged in formal youth ministry at the parish, diocesan, provincial and international levels. He served as the youth chaplain for the Diocese of Cariboo, the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon, the Diocese of Montreal, and has served as the Canadian Co-ordinator for Youth Leaders International. He was a Governor of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College for over a decade.

As Diocesan Liturgical Officer of Quebec and former Diocesan Liturgical Officer of Montreal, he has been able to pursue liturgical work. He served as one of the members of the Liturgy Working Group of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Liturgy Task Force, convenor of the group revising the liturgical calendar, and the Calendrical Revision Working Group. He has also been a member of the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation, the Anglican Communion's Liturgy Committee. Since 2019 he has been the editor of McCausland's Order of Divine Service, the Anglican Church of Canada's annual liturgical guide and ordo.

As Chair of one of the HR Standing Committees of the Diocese of Montreal he was heavily involved in the production of administrative tools for the church such as Mutual Ministry Reviews, Episcopal Reviews, HR policies, and the production of the Diocesan Clergy Handbook and Warden's Handbook.

As well as serving in Diocesan, Provincial, and National positions, he also works for the worldwide Anglican Communion serving as one of the members of the Anglican-Oriental Orthodox International Commission. He has contributed to the production of the agreed ecumenical statements on Christology in 2014 and the Holy Spirit in 2017.

He is the Registrar of the Memorial of Merit of King Charles the Martyr (MMCM), founded by Her Majesty's maternal grandfather in 1911 to honour prominent Anglicans throughout the world. He owns a cat – Doofus.

**EPIPHANY 2021**