ARCHBISHOP DONALD BOLEN ARCHDIOCESE OF REGINA

One of many great moments at the installation of Archbishop Bolen Friday night was the: presentation of a Vatican II ring from one Archbishop to another. At the close of the historic Second Vatican Council, participating bishops were presented with a specially-commissioned pastoral ring featuring images of Peter and Paul and Jesus. One such Vatican II bishop's ring was presented at that time to the Archbishop of Regina, Most Rev. Michael O'Neill -- the ring was later worn by Regina Archbishop Charles Halpin and was on Archbishop Halpin's hand when he ordained Donald Bolen to the priesthood on October 12, 1991. Archbishop Halpin willed that after his death the ring should go to the next priest from the Archdiocese of Regina to be made a bishop – and so it came to Most Reverend James Weisgerber when he was ordained bishop of Saskatoon in 1996. The ring went with Archbishop Weisgerber when he became Archbishop of Winnipeg in 2000. Now retired and living again in Regina, Archbishop Emeritus James Weisgerber presented the ring to newly named Archbishop Donald Bolen, another former bishop of Saskatoon, who was installed as shepherd of the Archdiocese of Regina on October 14, 2016. And so the historic ring returns to an Archbishop of Regina, worn by a man raised and ordained in the prairie diocese.

