

August 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What makes a good bishop and what kind will our new one be?

On Saturday August 6th, several of us witnessed the consecration of our new bishop, Alex Cameron. It was a grand event, arguably a little too grand for such a humble role, but worshipful and filled with joy nonetheless.

For me, the excellent sermon by Archbishop Bob was a high point. Preaching from John 21, he said this complex job really boils down to just three simple commands and one attitude: to feed us; love us; and lead us humbly—and by “us”, he included himself, modeling the very thing he was telling Bishop Alex to do.

The vows mirrored the sermon well. According to them, Bp. Alex is to instruct us from scripture, study it faithfully for himself, teach wholesome doctrine, and convince those who contradict it. He is to withstand and banish erroneous and strange doctrine, live a simple life, love us all, lead leaders, and be gentle to those in need. A good bishop knows what they’re talking about, and lives it out kindly, but with firmness too. Their authority is derived from Christ, they are to behave like Him, and their job is all about Him, not themselves.

We’ve been blessed with many good bishops in this city, who battled savage wolves for the sake of sound doctrine, yet somehow still answered the phone late at night, and prayed for our kids by name. And so, like anyone getting a new boss, the church and diocesan staff alike have been asking themselves what kind of bishop do we think Alex will be?

Well, it took us just ten hours to find out. Later that day, he held a party here in our church. When almost everyone else had left, and he had talked to them all, he was still here, cleaning our floor so that it would look nice for us the following day. It did not take him long to do what I think Jesus would have done and swap his crozier for a wet mop. And as I reflected on these starkly contrasting images (below), I believe I found the answer to both of my questions.

Please pray for Bishop Alex and his wife Tamara. In the words of Collect 13 “make him a holy and loving servant and shepherd of the flock for whom you shed your most precious blood. Amen”. (*BCP p.650*)

Yours in Christ,



Rev'd Alex (not the bishop!)

