

# Diocese announces new assignments, transfers

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FALL RIVER -- Bishop George W. Coleman has announced the appointment of a new pastor and several diocesan priests.

The Rev. Philip N. Hamel was appointed a pastor for the first time and assigned to lead St. Joseph-St. Therese Parish in New Bedford. He has been serving as a parochial vicar at St. Mary's Parish in South Dartmouth. The appointment becomes effective Thursday.

A native of Taunton, the Rev. Hamel, 48, graduated from St. Jacques School and was a 1973 graduate of Coyle and Cassidy High School. He studied for the priesthood at St. John's Seminary and St. John's School of Theology in Brighton. During a leave of absence from the seminary from 1979 to 1982, he taught religious studies at Coyle and Cassidy and was an instructor in the Permanent Diaconate Program for the diocese.

He was ordained a priest on June 22, 1985, by Bishop Daniel A. Cronin in St. Mary's Cathedral in Fall River.

The Rev. Hamel has also served as a parochial vicar at Our Lady of Grace Parish in Westport, St. Patrick Parish in Falmouth, St. Louis de France Parish in Swansea, St. Anne Parish in Fall River and St. Michael Parish in Swansea.