

## BIOGRAPHY

### The Reverend Canon David Michael Greenwood

David Greenwood comes from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada a small city across the harbour from Halifax, the home of the Atlantic Fleet of the Royal Canadian Navy. His father was a Chief Petty Officer senior mechanic with the Canadian Naval Air Group and his mother came from a long-time fishing family based in Eastern Passage on the south east side of Halifax Harbour. The entire family was very focused on church attendance and activities; home prayers were said every evening at bedtime. Along with his six brothers and sisters, David excelled in school and won academic prizes throughout his early school period. He was always terrible in sports. David and his brothers were active as church servers and in the scouting program. At the end of his schooling, he was awarded a minor church bursary and a major scholarship for the entry year at the University of New Brunswick. Two years later, unable to finance his studies, he joined the Canadian Navy under their university training plan for officer candidates and later graduated, without debt, with a Bachelor of Business Administration. His final thesis was on Federal Government Funding of the Performing Arts.



Expecting to work as a Logistic Officer (Supply, Finance and Food Services) with the Navy next door in Halifax, David was surprised to find himself posted to Canada's west coast naval base over 6,000 kilometres (3,800 miles) away. Joining St Paul's Naval and Garrison Church in Esquimalt, British Columbia, David found stability and comradery in the choir, on parish council, as Lay co-chair of the Deanery, and as youth delegate to Diocesan Synod. Strongly resisting a call to ordained ministry, David headed out to sea. During a shore posting at Base Comptroller, David met Cynthia Bergstrom, a civilian employee in the Invoice Section, and a year later they married. As of 2015, Cynthia and David have been married for 32 years. As a shipboard Supply Officer on several of Her Majesty's Canadian ships, David's naval time took him on two four-month South East Asian deployments and multiple trips up and down the west coast of the Americas. Over the 11 years on the west coast he was posted to various positions in finance and supply supporting the ships, the naval base, Fleet School and the nearby army infantry regiment. He was also loaned out to teach logistics at the Canadian Forces School of Admin and Logistics in Borden, Ontario and, for six months, was the Station Logistics Officer at an isolated Communication Research Station in the high arctic. Throughout this time, David and Cynthia raised their two daughters, Maya and Christa.

During a three year tour at the National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa and following several years of discernment, David applied for and won entry into the newly created Military Chaplain Training Program. Following three years of study towards a Masters of Divinity and endorsement by the Bishop of British Columbia, David was ordained to the diaconate and sent by the navy to the civilian parish of St Paul's, Nanaimo for his curacy. Nine months later he was ordained to the priesthood and after 14 years of naval life, he was posted by the Canadian Forces to an army base as Chaplain to the 4 Engineering Support Regiment and Canadian Forces School of Military Engineering in Gagetown, New Brunswick.

Ministry with the engineers included considerable culture shock and quick deployment responses to the ice storm in central Canada (1998), to the Swiss Air 111 crash (1998) and into the Bosnia War for most of 1999. At this time, David was appointed by the Anglican Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Forces to become Warden of Lay Readers. During this three year appointment David revised Reader training, standardized vestments, and initiated an email-based social support group for Readers at military chapels spread across Canada.

In 2000, David was selected as the Wing Chaplain at the NATO air training base in the sub-arctic of Canada and he and Cynthia moved to 5 Wing, Goose Bay in Labrador. Now with the Air Force, as all chaplains must work with all areas of Canada's military, David was appointed chaplain to the UK's Royal Air Force Squadron responsible for low level fighter aircraft training. He was also chaplain to Germany's Luftwaffe Training Squadron, the Royal Netherland Air Force Training Squadron, and Italy's Air Force Fighter School. He was Wing Chaplain and responsible for all worship, administration & congregational life at the Wing Chapel and was chaplain to the Canadian Forces Search and Rescue 444 Squadron deployed to support low level fighter jet training. David co-lead the Wing's Critical Incident Stress Debriefing team and became the co-chair of the 55 member CISD response to support the grounded civilian aircraft passengers and crew during 9-11. During his northern posting, the Chaplain General asked David to become the editor of the Military Chaplain Branch's magazine, *Dialogue*, and the Bishop Ordinary asked him to take on the role of editor of the Ordinariate's quarterly newsletter. He also began a seven year relationship with the Chaplain General's Office as Director of Music for the annual chaplains' retreat and conference. In 2002, he was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee medal which was given to only 1 in 10 members of the Canadian Forces based on merit.

Following four years in Goose Bay, David was promoted and assigned as chaplain team leader of a six-chaplain team at the maritime patrol air base in Greenwood, Nova Scotia. This was followed by three years in a joint Canadian-US position as Staff Chaplain at the Office of the Command Chaplain, North American Aerospace Defense Command and Northern Command Headquarters in Colorado Springs. There David's ministry changed to developing chaplain procedures for fighter jet bases throughout North America and teaching all chaplains involved in fighter base ministry in Canada and the US Air Force. During this time, David was deployed in response to Hurricane Katrina. For his work at NORAD-NorthCom HQ, David was awarded a Commander's Commendation and the Joint Operations Katrina Response medal.

The Chaplain General then selected David for advanced specialized chaplain training and sent him to a post graduate program in Rome, Italy. David and Cynthia enjoyed Roman life for two years while he completed an MA in Theology in Ecumenism at the Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas. His thesis was titled, *"Ecclesiastical Music in the Civic Realm: The Development of an Inter-Religious Music Resource in times of National Disaster"*. He was awarded a *Summa cum Laude* designation.

David then returned to Canada to teach and coordinate curriculum development at the Canadian Forces Military Chaplain School and Centre, he was also the Director of the School's Resource Centre (Library) and named as a specialist officer and advisor to the Chaplain General on ecumenical matters. During this time he was appointed, Canon to the Anglican Military Ordinariate.

In January 2013, David completed his military employment but did not retire from active ministry. He and Cynthia bought a home in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. With the support of the Bishop of British Columbia and the Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Forces, David returned to studies and in 2014 completed a third Master's level degree – a Licentiate in Sacred Theology specializing in Inter-Religious cooperation. With his thesis, *"Points of Congruence in Inter-Religious Prayer"*, he again graduated *Summa cum Laude*.

In January 2015, David completed a doctoral symposium and all course work needed prior to commencing his dissertation. In August, 2015, he was appointed as priest-in-charge of All Saints' Marseille, France and will also be involved with a period of research and writing on the reception of inter-religious dialogue.