Larroque named diocese administrator

Monsignor H.A. Larroque, left, the diocese's new administrator, visits with Bishop Michael Jarrell, center, of Houma-Thibodaux, and Father Floyd Calais on Friday.

Monsignor H.A. Larroque has been elected administrator of the Diocese of Lafayette. He will serve until a bishop is named to replace Harry J. Flynn, who was installed last week as Coadjutor Archbishop of St. Paul-Minneapolis.

Larroque has been vicar of judicial affairs for the Lafayette diocese. He was elected Friday by diocesan consultants to handle the day-to-day affairs of the Catholic church here.

"As I have accepted the responsibility of the administration of the diocese, my role shall be chiefly to help continue the operations of the diocese and its church parishes until a bishop is appointed," Larroque said in a prepared statement.

"The Diocese of Lafayette is blessed with dedicated clergy, religious and laity, and with strong central structures which make for a smooth transition.

"I am grateful to the diocesan consultants for placing this confidence in me and for the assurance of their support. During this period I ask your prayers and cooperation as we continue to building the Kingdom," he said.

Larroque, 62, is a native of Jeanerette. He was ordained in...
1955. He had pastoral assignments in Abbeville, Lafayette and Lake Charles. He was chancellor of the diocese under the late Bishop Maurice Schexnayder and was judicial vicar under Bishop Gerard L. Frey, who preceded Flynn in Lafayette.

Monsignor Alexander O. Sigur, who was vicar general under Flynn, presided at the consultors’ meeting. He said that Larroque was elected unanimously on the first ballot.

“He is a very capable priest and we have great confidence in him,” Sigur said.

Priests on the board of diocesan consultants include Joseph Alexander, Eunice; Joseph Breaux, Duson; Joseph Brennan, Lafayette; Millard Boyer, Lafayette, and Fred Swenson, Scott; and Monsignors Glen Provost, Larroque, and Sigur.