

Anglican Church has new reverend

By Arnim Joop Jan 9 1990

The Anglican Church of Canada in Cardston has a new minister, Rev. Elizabeth Aime.

Aime was born and raised in Manitoba. She worked as a priest in a Cree community in northern Manitoba for four years before she went back to university to finish off her studies.

Aime earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Waterloo in Ontario and a Masters of Divinity degree at the Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

"I did everything backwards," Aime says. "I became deacon in 1974, and I was ordained in 1978 before I got my university degrees."

Aime comes from a family of seven children. "I have five brothers," she says. "I learned how to survive."

Aime has much experience with

parish work and with counselling as well. When she was made deacon, she worked for Children's Aid of Eastern Manitoba which is a child protection government agency. She set up a counselling service. "The idea of this counselling service was to catch tragedies before they happen," Aime says.

Aime also worked as a counsellor with Canada Employment and Immigration helping people to re-join the work force. She dealt with people who were in mental hospitals, women who had raised families and others, many of them natives.

Aime also set up an ecumenical counselling service in the Diocese of Niagara in Ontario which had been started by the Anglican Church. "When we got it rolling, I left," Aime says. "I wanted to go back to a parish."

In 1987 Aime was appointed as minister for the Anglican Church in

Fort Macleod. She wanted to stay in Fort Macleod but the Anglican Bishop of Calgary, The Right Reverend Barry Curtis, approached her asking her to take care of the Anglican Church parish in Cardston which has been without a minister since Rev. Ronald Stallard retired about a year ago.

Aime will attend to approximately 500 Anglicans living on the Blood Indian Reserve and in the Town of Cardston, primarily native people. "They were looking for a pastor and pastoral counsellor who would celebrate the sacraments with them," Aime says. "The native people are very sacramental. I feel I am part of the native culture because I lived with native people. I believe we can be God's people together."

"I came because I wanted to come," Aime says. "I want to be here. I want to live here. And I want to be priest for the Anglican community. I will do what I would do in any other community. I will

be a counsellor for the people. My natural gifts and training are in counselling. I will do a fair amount of family counselling. I have to hear the history and needs of the people before I can respond. I was sent not to do something but to be with the people. The people need to be ministered. I want to listen and know where the people's needs are."

Aime has four daughters. Cathy, the oldest, is married with two children in P.E.I., Mildred lives in Winnipeg, Jean is married with two children also living in Winnipeg, and Margareth is working with correctional services in Vancouver, B.C.

On Sunday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. Rev. Elizabeth Aime will be officially inducted as minister of the Anglican Church in Cardston by Archdeacon Bob Griffith of High River in the presence of The Reverend Laverne Jacobs who is co-ordinator for native ministry of the Anglican Church of Canada.



Elizabeth Aime

... new reverend