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Triumph of theologians over diplomats in Vatican

by John L. Allen Jr.



Cardinal Marc Ouellet, Archbishop Rino Fisichella and Bishop Kurt Koch (composite from CNS file photos)

Rome -- In what's already a turbulent time, Pope Benedict XVI has triggered another Vatican earthquake, changing the guard in three senior leadership positions. Among those exiting the scene is the Catholic church's most prominent ecumenical leader over the past decade, while the new arrivals complete the ascent of personal friends and theological protégés of the pontiff to the Vatican's top positions.

The Vatican announced today two key personnel moves. Tomorrow, announcement of a third transition is expected.

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