

## Bishop Fredrik Modéus' Consécration – 2015

On 12 April 2015, Fredrik Modéus was consecrated as the 59<sup>th</sup> bishop of the Diocese of Växjö. As bishop, his main task is to lead and inspire the church in the diocese.

Fredrik Modéus was born in 1964 and has his roots in Jönköping. He was ordained as a priest for Växjö diocese in 1991.

When Fredrik Modéus was elected bishop he was working as a parish pastor in Lund Cathedral Parish. Before that, among other things, he has been pastor of Helgeand Pastorate [Benefice] in Lund Diocese. He has lectured and been responsible for conferences and seminars on the subject of working for change, building up parishes and the development of worship. Fredrik Modéus was awarded a doctorate in systematic theology in the spring of 2015.

Modéus has published nine publications, among which are *Gudstjänstgemenskap i folkkyrkan (Worship Communities in the Folk Church)*, *Konturer av tro (Contours of Faith)*, *Längta efter liv – församlingsväxt i Svenska kyrkan (Longing for Life – Parish Growth in the Church of Sweden)* and *Mod att vara kyrka – om församlingsbygge och kyrkans identitet (Courage to be Church – on building up parishes and the identity of the church)*.

Fredrik Modéus is married with three children.

As his motto, Bishop Fredrik Modéus has chosen “God’s grace is all you need”. This reminds us that the most important thing in life is free. We receive it as a gift, of grace.



Photo: Magnus Aronson/IKON

The Consecration in Uppsala Cathedral was led by Archbishop Antje Jackelén in the presence of guests from overseas and the bishops of the Church of Sweden. In her sermon, the archbishop turned to Fredrik Modéus and touched on his motto, “God’s grace is all you need”:

*“You have already had to reply many times to questions like “What do you want to achieve? What are your goals?*

*How will you turn round negative trends?” There are rightly big expectations of a Bishop. You have spoken about living worship, the importance of education, and courageous pastoral ministry. Through your experience as a parish priest and through your work with and around parish growth you have been able to build up a competence that is good both for the diocese and for the college of bishops. And of course it is splendid that your doctoral dissertation in systematic theology about the worshipping community in the national church is now ready and will shortly be defended.”*



Ärkebiskop Antje Jackelén och biskop Fredrik Modéus

Foto: Magnus Aronson/IKON

Fredrik Modéus is 50 years old and moves [to Växjö] from his ministry as a parish pastor in Lund Cathedral. Later this he is due to undertake his disputation in systematic theology. Fredrik Modéus' roots are in Jönköping and was ordained as a priest in Växjö Diocese in 1991. Earlier on he has, among other things, been a pastor in Helgeands Pastorate [Benefice] in Lund. He has lectured and been responsible for conferences and seminars on the subject of working for change, building up parishes and the development of

worship. Fredrik Modéus has published eight publications on, among other things, parish growth, building up parishes and the identity of the church.

“As bishop of Växjö Diocese, I will to the best of my ability lead the work of the diocese and support all the able people who make their contribution in the parishes of the diocese. I want to listen to stories of sorrow and joy in the

parishes and create conditions for local development work based on the different situations in the town and country. Living worship, sound teaching and courageous pastoral ministry help us in the fight for a meaningful life, a just world and a good life for all people”, says Bishop Fredrik Modéus.

*The above is a translation of an article on the Växjö diocesan web pages. The pictures that follow were taken by Tony Dickinson.*