Bishop Thomas Riley acting area head

By Kay Longcope Globe Staff

Humberto Cardinal Medeiros announced today that Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Riley will succeed, pro tem, the late Bishop Jeremiah F. Minihan as head of the Archdiocese's northern region.

Bishop Riley, who also is

vicar general of the archdiocese and a priest at St. Peter's parish in Cambridge, will continue in those posts, Cardinal Medeiros said.

Bishop Riley will keep office hours in the Regional Bishop's office, 70 Lawrence st., Lowell, on Tuesday and Thursday. He will be at the Archdiocesan Chancery office in Brighton on Fridays.

The prelate also announced the appointment of two new Episcopal Vicars.

Rev. Samuel J. Lombard of St. Agnes, Middleton, will fill the unexpired term in the North Lynn Vicariate of Rev. Msgr. Cornelius T. H. Sherlock, who has retired from parish duties at St. Mary's Church, Lynn.

Rev. Gerard D. Barry of St. Cecilia's Church, Ashland, will fill the unexpired term in the South-D Vicariate of Rev. Msgr. John J. Mulcahy, former rector of Pope John Seminary, Weston. Msgr. Mulcahy recently succeeded Msgr. Sherlock as parish priest at St. Mary's in Lynn.

All appointments are effective immediately.