
General History

The Diocese of Vincennes—now the Archdiocese of Indianapolis—was established by Pope Gregory XVI on May 6, 1834. The territory then comprised the entire state of Indiana and the eastern third of Illinois. The latter was separated from the Diocese of Vincennes upon the establishment of the Diocese of Chicago, November 28, 1843.

By decree of Pope Pius IX, January 8, 1857, the northern half of the state became the Diocese of Fort Wayne, the boundaries being that part of the state north of the south boundaries of Fountain, Montgomery, Boone, Hamilton, Madison, Delaware, Randolph, and Warren counties. The remaining southern half of the state made up the Diocese of Vincennes, embracing 50 counties. It covered an area of 18,479 square miles extending from the north boundaries of Marion and contiguous counties to the Ohio River and from Illinois on the west to Ohio on the east.

The second bishop of Vincennes was permitted by apostolic brief to establish his residence at Vincennes, Madison, Lafayette, or Indianapolis; Vincennes was, however, to remain the see city. This permission, with the subtraction of Lafayette, was renewed to the fourth bishop.

Upon his appointment in 1878, Bishop Francis Chatard, the fifth bishop of Vincennes, was directed to fix his residence at Indianapolis. Although the site of the cathedral and the title of the see were continued at Vincennes, Bishop Chatard used St. John the Evangelist church in Indianapolis as an unofficial cathedral until the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul was completed in 1907. St. John the Evangelist Parish, established in 1837, was the first parish in Indianapolis and Marion County. By apostolic brief dated March 28, 1898, the title of the diocese was changed to that of “Diocese of Indianapolis,” with the episcopal see in the city of Indianapolis. Although the bishop’s official residence was changed, the patron of the diocese remained St. Francis Xavier, the title of the Old Cathedral at Vincennes. In 2006, following the canonization of Mother Theodore Guérin, the first canonized saint from the archdiocese, the Holy See proclaimed her as patroness of the archdiocese along with Francis Xavier.

An apostolic decree of His Holiness Pope Pius XII, creating the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, was issued October 21, 1944. On December 19, 1944, by executorial decree of the Most Reverend Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, apostolic delegate to the United States, the papal decree of Pope Pius XII was solemnly proclaimed in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, elevating Indianapolis to the status of an archdiocese, the state of Indiana becoming the metropolitan area. The dioceses of Evansville and Lafayette-in-Indiana were created by the same decree and, along with the Diocese of Fort Wayne,

The Province of Indianapolis



made suffragan sees of Indianapolis. Upon establishment of the Diocese of Gary on February 25, 1957, it too became a suffragan see.

The current size of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis is 13,594.08 square miles, according to the 2010 U.S. federal census, and comprises the counties of Bartholomew, Brown, Clark, Clay, Crawford, Dearborn, Decatur, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Harrison, Hendricks, Henry, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Johnson, Lawrence, Marion, Monroe, Morgan, Ohio, Orange, Owen, Parke, Perry, Putnam, Ripley, Rush, Scott, Shelby, Switzerland, Union, Vermillion, Vigo, Washington, and Wayne and the township of Harrison in Spencer County, in the southern part of Indiana.

Bishops and Archbishops of the Archdiocese

Right Rev. Simon Guillaume Gabriel Bruté de Rémur

Born in Rennes, France, March 20, 1779. Ordained priest at St. Sulpice, Paris, June 10, 1808. Consecrated bishop of Vincennes in the cathedral at St. Louis, MO, October 28, 1834, by Bishop Benedict Joseph Flaget of Bardstown, assisted by Bishop Joseph Rosati of St. Louis and Bishop John Baptist Purcell of Cincinnati. Bishop Bruté died at Vincennes, June 26, 1839. His body is interred in the Old Cathedral, Vincennes.

Right Rev. Célestin René Laurent Guynemer de la Hailandière

Born in Combourg, Archdiocese of Rennes, May 3, 1798. Ordained priest at Paris, May 28, 1825. Vicar general of the Diocese of Vincennes, 1839. Named bishop coadjutor of Vincennes, May 17, 1839. Consecrated at Paris, August 18, 1839, by Bishop Charles Forbin-Janson of Nancy, assisted by Bishop Louis Blanquart de Baillleuil of Versailles and Bishop Jean Louis Lemercier of Beauvais. Resigned July 16, 1847, and returned to France. Died May 1, 1882. His body was brought from France and interred in the Old Cathedral, Vincennes, on November 22, 1882.

Right Rev. John Stephen Bazin

Born in Duerne, Archdiocese of Lyons, France, October 15, 1796. Ordained priest at Lyons, July 22, 1822. Came to the United States in 1830 and was appointed vicar general of Mobile. Consecrated bishop of Vincennes in the cathedral at Vincennes, October 24, 1847, by Bishop Michael Portier of Mobile, assisted by Bishop Purcell of Cincinnati and Bishop Hailandière, his predecessor. Died at Vincennes, April 23, 1848. His body is interred in the Old Cathedral, Vincennes.

Right Rev. Jacques M. Maurice Landes d'Aussac de St. Palais

Born at LaSalvetat, France, November 15, 1811. Ordained priest at Paris, May 28, 1836. Administrator of the diocese after the death of Bishop Bazin. Named bishop of Vincennes, October 3, 1848. Consecrated in the cathedral at Vincennes, January 14, 1849, by Bishop Pius Miles, OP, of Nashville, assisted by Coadjutor Bishop Martin John Spalding of Louisville and the Very Reverend Hippolyte Du Pontavice, vicar general of Vincennes. Died at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, June 28, 1877. His body is interred in the Old Cathedral, Vincennes.

Right Rev. Francis Silas Marean Chatard

Born in Baltimore, MD, December 13, 1834. Ordained at Rome, June 14, 1862. Vice-rector of the American College, Rome, 1862-1867; rector, 1868-1878. Named bishop of Vincennes, March 26, 1878, at which time he took the name Francis Silas. Consecrated in Rome, May 12, 1878, by Cardinal Alessandro Franchi, secretary of state of the Holy See, assisted by Bishop Camillo Santori of Fano, Italy, and Bishop Edward Agnelli, president of the Academia Ecclesiastica at Rome. Enthroned in the cathedral at Vincennes, August 11, 1878. Arrived in Indianapolis, August 17, 1878. Died at Indianapolis, September 7, 1918. His body was interred in the crypt of the cathedral, Indianapolis. On June 8, 1976, Bishop Chatard's remains were transferred from the cathedral, Indianapolis, to Calvary Chapel Mausoleum, Indianapolis.

Most Rev. Joseph Chartrand

Born in St. Louis, MO, May 11, 1870. Ordained priest at Indianapolis, September 24, 1892. Appointed vicar general, February 13, 1910. Named titular bishop of Flavia and coadjutor to the bishop of Indianapolis, July 27, 1910. Consecrated in the cathedral at Indianapolis, September 15, 1910, by Archbishop Diomed Falconio, OFM, apostolic delegate to the United States, assisted by Bishop Denis O'Donoghue of Louisville and Bishop Herman Alerding of Fort Wayne. Bishop of Indianapolis, September 7, 1918. Named assistant at the pontifical throne, February 4, 1928. Died at Indianapolis, December 8, 1933. His body was placed in the crypt of the cathedral, Indianapolis. On June 8, 1976, Bishop Chartrand's remains were transferred from the cathedral, Indianapolis, to Calvary Chapel Mausoleum, Indianapolis.

Most Rev. Joseph Elmer Ritter

Born in New Albany, IN, July 20, 1892. Ordained priest at Saint Meinrad, May 30, 1917. Named rector of the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, Indianapolis, in 1924. Appointed titular bishop of Hippo and auxiliary to the bishop of Indianapolis, February 3, 1933. Consecrated in the cathedral at Indianapolis, March 28, 1933, by Bishop Chartrand, assisted by Bishop Emmanuel Ledvina of Corpus Christi and Bishop Alphonse J. Smith of Nashville. Made vicar general of the Diocese of Indianapolis, February 5, 1933. Bishop of Indianapolis, March 24, 1934. Installed as first archbishop of Indianapolis, December 19, 1944, by Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, apostolic delegate to the United States. Transferred to St. Louis by virtue of apostolic letters dated July 20, 1946. Formally installed in the Cathedral of St. Louis, October 8, 1946. Proclaimed and created a cardinal by Pope John XXIII on January 16, 1961. Died at St. Louis, June 10, 1967. Buried in Calvary Cemetery, St. Louis, MO.

Most Rev. Paul C. Schulte

Born in Fredericktown, MO, March 18, 1890. Ordained priest at Kenrick Seminary, St. Louis, MO, June 11, 1915. Appointed bishop of Leavenworth, May 29, 1937. Consecrated in the new cathedral at St. Louis, September 21, 1937, by St. Louis Archbishop John J. Glennon, assisted by Bishop Christopher Byrne of Galveston and Bishop Christian H. Winkelmann, auxiliary of St. Louis. Named archbishop of Indianapolis, July 20, 1946. Formally installed in metropolitan see of Indianapolis by Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, apostolic delegate, October 10, 1946. Appointed assistant at the pontifical throne, February 3, 1961. Retired January 14, 1970, and named titular archbishop of Elicroca. Died February 17, 1984, in St. Augustine Home, Indianapolis. Funeral, February 22, 1984, SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis. Entombed in Calvary Chapel Mausoleum, Indianapolis.

Most Rev. George J. Biskup

Born in Cedar Rapids, IA, August 23, 1911. Ordained priest in Rome, March 19, 1937. Appointed titular bishop of Hemeria and auxiliary to the archbishop of Dubuque, March 9, 1957. Consecrated in St. Raphael Cathedral, Dubuque, April 24, 1957, by Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, apostolic delegate, assisted by Archbishop Leo Binz of Dubuque and Bishop Loras T. Lane of Rockford. Appointed bishop of Des Moines, February 3, 1965. Named titular archbishop of Tamalluma and coadjutor, with the right of succession, to archbishop of Indianapolis, July 26, 1967. Formally received in the metropolitan see of Indianapolis in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, October 10, 1967. Became archbishop of Indianapolis, January 14, 1970. Resigned as archbishop of Indianapolis, March 26, 1979. Died on October 17, 1979, in St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis. Funeral, October 22, 1979, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis. Entombed in Calvary Chapel Mausoleum, Indianapolis.

Most Rev. Edward T. O'Meara, STD

Born in St. Louis, MO, August 3, 1921. Ordained priest in St. Louis, December 21, 1946, by Archbishop Joseph Ritter. Appointed national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in the United States, December 28, 1966. Named titular bishop of Thisiduo and auxiliary bishop to the cardinal-archbishop of St. Louis, January 28, 1972. Ordained in St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, February 13, 1972, by His Holiness Pope Paul VI. Named fourth archbishop of Indianapolis, November 27, 1979. Formally installed in metropolitan see of Indianapolis by Archbishop Jean Jadot, apostolic delegate in the United States, in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, January 10, 1980. Died January 10, 1992, at his residence, Indianapolis. Funeral, January 16, 1992, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis. Entombed in Calvary Chapel Mausoleum, Indianapolis.

Most Rev. Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB

Born in Jasper, IN, April 20, 1938. Son of Rose (Blessinger) and Carl Buechlein, Holy Family Parish. Solemn profession of vows as a Benedictine monk, August 15, 1963. Ordained at Saint Meinrad Archabbey, May 3, 1964, for Saint Meinrad Archabbey. President-rector of Saint Meinrad School of Theology, August 1971–May 1982; president-rector of Saint Meinrad School of Theology and Saint Meinrad College, May 1982–March 1987. Named third bishop of the Diocese of Memphis by Pope John Paul II. Ordained and installed, March 2, 1987, by Archbishop Thomas Cajetan Kelly, OP, of Louisville, assisted by James Francis Cardinal Stafford of Denver, and Archbishop Edward T. O' Meara of Indianapolis. Named fifth archbishop of Indianapolis by Pope John Paul II, July 14, 1992. Formally installed in metropolitan see of Indianapolis by Archbishop Agostino Cacciavillan, apostolic pro-nuncio to the United States, in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, September 9, 1992. Granted early retirement, September 21, 2011. Died January 25, 2018, at Saint Meinrad Archabbey. Funeral, January 31, 2018, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis. Buried at the cemetery of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, St. Meinrad.

His Eminence Joseph Cardinal Tobin, CSSR

Born in Detroit, MI, May 3, 1952. Son of Joseph W. Tobin and Marie Terese Kerwin, Holy Redeemer Parish, Detroit. Professed first vows as a member of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (the Redemptorists), August 5, 1973. Professed perpetual vows in the Redemptorists, August 21, 1976. Ordained to the priesthood, June 1, 1978. Appointed associate pastor, Holy Redeemer Parish, Detroit, June 1979. Named pastor, Holy Redeemer Parish, July 1984 and served as a provincial consultor for the Redemptorists, 1984-1990. Named pastor, St. Alphonsus Parish, Chicago, July 1990. Served as a general consultor for the Redemptorists at the congregation's headquarters in Rome, 1991–1997. Elected superior general of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, 1997; reelected superior general, 2003, and served until 2009, Rome. Named by Pope Benedict XVI as secretary of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life and titular archbishop of Obba, August 2, 2010. Ordained bishop in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome by Tarcisio Pietro Evasio Cardinal Bertone, SDB, secretary of state of the Holy See, assisted by Franc Cardinal Rodé, CM, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, and Agostino Cardinal Vallini, vicar general of Rome, on October 9, 2010. Named sixth archbishop of Indianapolis by Pope Benedict XVI, October 18, 2012. Installed in the metropolitan see of Indianapolis at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States, December 3, 2012, the memorial of St. Francis Xavier, a principal patron of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. October 9, 2016, proclaimed and created a cardinal by Pope Francis. Appointed archbishop of Newark, October 22, 2016. Inducted into the College of Cardinals on November 19, 2016, in Rome. Installed as sixth archbishop of Newark on January 6, 2017.

Most Rev. Charles C. Thompson

Born in Louisville, KY, April 11, 1961, the oldest of three children of Coleman and Joyce Thompson, who were both born, raised, and married in Marion County, KY, part of the “Kentucky Holy Land,” where the family lived for much of Archbishop Thompson’s elementary-school years. Baptized at Most Blessed Sacrament Parish, in Louisville; received First Communion at St. Joseph Church, in Raywick, KY; confirmed at St. Bernard Church, Louisville. Earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting in 1983 from Bellarmine College (now University), Louisville; entered Saint Meinrad Seminary in St. Meinrad, IN, following college. Ordained to the diaconate, at St. Bernard Church, Louisville, October 25, 1986. Received a Master of Divinity degree in 1987 from Saint Meinrad School of Theology and was ordained a priest in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Louisville, May 30, 1987. Appointed associate pastor of St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral, as well as priest-chaplain at Bethlehem High School, in Bardstown, KY, 1987; obtained a licentiate in canon law from St. Paul University, Ottawa, Canada, and named part-time associate pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Louisville, 1992; appointed metropolitan judicial vicar and director of tribunals, 1993; served as parish administrator of St. Peter Claver Parish, Louisville, 1994; named priest-chaplain at Presentation Academy, Louisville, 1995; appointed pastor of St. Augustine Parish, Lebanon, KY, 1996; named pastor of Holy Trinity Parish, Louisville, and visiting professor of canon law at Saint Meinrad School of Theology, 2002; named priest-chaplain to Sacred Heart Academy, Louisville, 2004; appointed vicar general of the Archdiocese of Louisville, 2008; named fifth bishop of Evansville, April 26, 2011; ordained at St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, of Louisville, assisted by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB, of Indianapolis, Bishop Emeritas Gerald A. Gettelfinger of Evansville, and Archbishop Emeritas Thomas Cajetan Kelly, OP, of Louisville; installed by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States, June 29, 2011; named archbishop of Indianapolis, June 13, 2017; installed in the metropolitan see of Indianapolis in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, June 28, 2017.

From the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, the following have gone as bishops:

Right Rev. Auguste M. Martin

Born in Rennes, France, in 1808. Ordained at Rennes, 1828. Came to the United States with Bishop Hailandière in 1839 and was made vicar general of the diocese. In 1847, he went to New Orleans and in 1852 became vicar general of that diocese. Consecrated bishop of Natchitoches, LA, November 30, 1853, by Archbishop Anthony Blanc of New Orleans, assisted by Bishop Michael Portier of Mobile and Bishop Oliver Van de Velde, SJ, of Natchez. Died September 29, 1875.

Right Rev. Martin Marty, OSB

Born in Switzerland, January 11, 1834. Ordained at Einsiedeln, September 14, 1856. Made first abbot of Saint Meinrad in 1871. Consecrated titular bishop of Tiberias and vicar apostolic of the Dakota Territory at Ferdinand, IN, February 1, 1880, by Indianapolis Bishop Francis Silas Chatard, assisted by Bishop Rupert Seidenbusch, OSB, of St. Cloud, MN, and Abbot Innocent Wolf, OSB, of Atchison, KS. Made bishop of Sioux Falls, SD, 1889. Transferred to St. Cloud, January 21, 1895. Died September 19, 1896, at St. Cloud.

Right Rev. Denis O'Donaghue

Born in Daviess County, IN, November 30, 1848. Ordained at Indianapolis September 6, 1874. Chancellor of the diocese from 1878 to 1899. Vicar general, March 19, 1899. Named titular bishop of Pomario and auxiliary to the bishop of Indianapolis, February 13, 1900. Consecrated in St. John the Evangelist Church, Indianapolis, April 25, 1900, by Archbishop William Elder of Cincinnati, assisted by Bishop John Samuel Foley of Detroit and Bishop Thomas Sebastian Byrne of Nashville. Named bishop of Louisville, February 9, 1910. Enthroned in the cathedral at Louisville, March 29, 1910. Died November 7, 1925, at Louisville.

Right Rev. Herman Alerding

Born at Ibbenbeuren, Diocese of Münster, Germany, April 13, 1845. Ordained at Saint Meinrad, September 22, 1868. Named bishop of Fort Wayne, August 30, 1900. Consecrated in the cathedral at Fort Wayne, November 30, 1900, by Archbishop William Elder of Cincinnati, assisted by Bishop Denis O'Donaghue, auxiliary of Indianapolis, and Bishop Henry Moeller of Columbus. Died December 6, 1924, at Fort Wayne.

Most Rev. Emmanuel B. Ledvina

Born in Evansville, IN, October 28, 1868. Ordained priest at Indianapolis, March 18, 1893. Became secretary of the Catholic Church Extension Society at Chicago, later vice president, September 9, 1907. Appointed domestic prelate, June 18, 1918. Bishop-elect of Corpus Christi, April 30, 1921. Consecrated at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, June 14, 1921, by Indianapolis Bishop Joseph Chartrand, assisted by Bishop Joseph Patrick Lynch of Dallas and Bishop Cornelius Van de Ven of Alexandria. Died December 16, 1952, at Corpus Christi.

Most Rev. Alphonse John Smith

Born in Madison, IN, November 14, 1883. Ordained at Rome, April 18, 1908. Bishop-elect of Nashville, December 23, 1923. Consecrated, March 25, 1924, in the cathedral at Indianapolis by Indianapolis Bishop Joseph Chartrand, assisted by Bishop Emmanuel Ledvina of Corpus Christi and Bishop Samuel A. Stritch of Toledo. Died December 16, 1935, at Nashville.

Most Rev. James Hugh Ryan, STD, PhD

Born in Indianapolis, December 15, 1886. Ordained in Rome, June 5, 1909. Chaplain and professor of philosophy at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College, 1911. Secretary of educational department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference at Washington, DC, June 15, 1921. Domestic prelate, September 10, 1927. Appointed rector of The Catholic University of America by His Holiness Pope Pius XI, July 12, 1928. Prothonotary apostolic, August 5, 1929. Titular bishop of Modra, August 15, 1933. Consecrated, October 25, 1933, in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC, by Indianapolis Bishop Joseph Chartrand, assisted by Bishop Thomas E. Molloy of Brooklyn and Auxiliary Bishop Joseph E. Ritter of Indianapolis. Appointed bishop of Omaha, August 6, 1935. First archbishop of Omaha, August 17, 1945. Died November 23, 1947, at Omaha.

Most Rev. William Donald Borders

Born in Washington, IN, October 9, 1913. Son of Zelpha Ann (Queen) and Thomas M. Borders. Ordained at St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans, LA, on May 18, 1940, by New Orleans Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel, DD. Served as army chaplain during World War II and was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor. Named domestic prelate in 1963. Named first bishop of Orlando, FL, June 14, 1968, by Pope Paul VI. Appointed 13th archbishop of Baltimore, MD, April 2, 1974, and was installed on June 26, 1974. Retired April 6, 1989. Died April 19, 2010, at Stella Maris Hospice, Timonium, MD.

Most Rev. Thomas J. O'Brien

Born in Indianapolis, November 29, 1935. Son of Mary Ellen (O'Donnell) and Frank R. O'Brien, St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Indianapolis. Ordained at Saint Meinrad, May 7, 1961, for the diocese of Tucson, AZ. Appointed vicar general of the diocese of Phoenix, June 6, 1978. Made prelate of honor by Pope John Paul II on February 8, 1981. Elected administrator of the Phoenix diocese on May 18, 1981. Ordained third bishop of Phoenix at Rome by Pope John Paul II, January 6, 1982, and was installed in Phoenix, January 18, 1982; resigned as bishop of Phoenix, 2003. Died August 26, 2018, in Phoenix.

Most Rev. Gerald A. Gettelfinger

Born in Frenchtown, IN, October 20, 1935. Son of Mary (Kiesler) and Gerald A. Gettelfinger, St. Bernard Parish, Frenchtown. Ordained at Saint Meinrad, St. Meinrad, IN, May 7, 1961. Appointed chancellor of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, May 1, 1980, and vicar general of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, July 1, 1988. On January 26, 1983, named a prelate of honor by Pope John Paul II. Served as pastor of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Parish, Indianapolis, 1981-1989. Named fourth bishop of Evansville, March 8, 1989, by Pope John Paul II. Ordained April 11, 1989, by Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara of Indianapolis, assisted by Bishop Thomas J. O'Brien of Phoenix and Bishop Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB, of Memphis. Installed in St. Benedict Church, Evansville, IN, April 11, 1989. Retired, April 26, 2011.

Most Rev. William E. Lori

Born in Louisville, KY, May 6, 1951. Son of Margaret (Caradonna) and Francis Lori of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Clarksville, IN. Ordained at St. Matthew Cathedral, Washington, DC, May 14, 1977. Served in the ecumenical office of the Washington archdiocese from 1982-1984 when he was named secretary and theological advisor to Cardinal James A. Hickey. In 1994, appointed chancellor, vicar general, and moderator of the curia of the Archdiocese of Washington. Named auxiliary bishop of Washington by Pope John Paul II February 28, 1995. Ordained by Cardinal Hickey, joined by Cardinal William W. Baum, of the Apostolic Penitentiary, Rome, and

Bishop William G. Curlin of Charlotte, April 20, 1995, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC. Named Bishop of Bridgeport, January 23, 2001. Installed in Bridgeport, March 19, 2001. Named sixteenth archbishop of Baltimore, March 20, 2012. Installed in the Baltimore see on May 16, 2012. He was named Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus in 2005.

Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne

Born in Tell City, IN, June 15, 1959. Son of Kay (Voges) and Paul Etienne, St. Paul Parish, Tell City. Ordained at St. Paul Church in Tell City, June 27, 1992. In 2007, appointed vice-rector of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, Indianapolis. Named eighth bishop of the Diocese of Cheyenne by Pope Benedict XVI on October 19, 2009. Ordained and installed in Cheyenne by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput OFM Cap of Denver, joined by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB, of Indianapolis, and Bishop David J. Ricken of Green Bay on December 9, 2009. Named fourth archbishop of Anchorage on October 4, 2016. Named coadjutor archbishop of the Archdiocese of Seattle on April 29, 2019. Succeeded Archbishop J. Peter Sartain on September 3, 2019, who resigned because of health.

Note:

The Most Reverend Henry Moeller, former archbishop of Cincinnati, although not a priest of the Diocese of Vincennes, acted as secretary to Bishop Chatard at St. John the Evangelist Church, Indianapolis, during the year 1880, until recalled to Cincinnati to become chancellor of that archdiocese.

The Most Reverend Vincent Wehrle, OSB, former bishop of Bismarck, was for a time assistant priest at Jasper.

The Most Reverend Henry J. Tihen, former bishop of Denver, was born in Oldenburg, IN.

The Most Reverend Albert Daeger, OFM, former archbishop of Santa Fe, was a native of St. Ann Parish, Jennings County, Indiana, and was for a time at Oldenburg.

His Eminence, John F. Cardinal O'Hara, CSC, former archbishop of Philadelphia, former president of the University of Notre Dame, former bishop of Buffalo, was a son of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Parish, Indianapolis.

Vicars General

- 1834-1839 — Very Rev. Simon P. Lalumière
1836-1839 — Very Rev. Célestin de la Hailandière
1842-1846 — Very Rev. Auguste M. Martin
1846-1848 — Very Rev. Hippolyte Du Pontavice
1846-1848 — Very Rev. Maurice de St. Palais
1847-1848 — Very Rev. Edward F. Sorin, CSC
1849-1874 — Very Rev. Hippolyte Du Pontavice
1849-1851 — Very Rev. Conrad Schniederjans
1851-1857 — Very Rev. Joseph Kundek
1851-1872 — Very Rev. John B. Corbe
1853-1861 — Very Rev. P. Leonard Brandt
1869-1875 — Very Rev. Bede O'Connor, OSB
1872-1877 — Very Rev. Msgr. Auguste F. Bessonies
1876-1877 — Very Rev. John Guéguen
1878-1901 — Rt. Rev. Msgr. Auguste F. Bessonies
1878-1918 — Very Rev. Anthony R. Scheideler
1899-1900 — Very Rev. Denis O'Donaghue
1900-1910 — Rt. Rev. Denis O'Donaghue, Auxiliary Bishop
1910-1918 — Rt. Rev. Joseph Chartrand, Coadjutor Bishop
1918-1932 — Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis H. Gavisk
1933-1933 — Most Rev. Joseph E. Ritter, Auxiliary Bishop
1934-1959 — Rt. Rev. Msgr. Raymond R. Noll
1957-1966 — Rt. Rev. Msgr. Bernard P. Sheridan
1966-1979 — Rt. Rev. Msgr. Cornelius B. Sweeney
1967-1970 — Most Rev. George J. Biskup, Coadjutor Archbishop
1975-1979 — Very Rev. Francis R. Tuohy
1980-1988 — Rev. Msgr. Francis R. Tuohy
1988-1989 — Rev. Msgr. Gerald A. Gettelfinger
1989-1994 — Rev. David E. Coats
1994-1997 — Very Rev. Joseph F. Schaedel
1997-2011 — Rev. Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel
2011-2011 — Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne, (March-September), Auxiliary Bishop
2012-2014 — Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne, Auxiliary Bishop
2014-2016 — Rev. Msgr. William F. Stumpf, PhD
2017- — Rev. Msgr. William F. Stumpf, PhD

Archdiocesan Prelates

Ordained

Rev. Msgr. Joseph G. Riedman	May 3, 1956
Rev. Msgr. Harold L. Knueven.....	May 3, 1958
Rev. Msgr. Paul F. Richart.....	May 7, 1961
Rev. Msgr. Frederick C. Easton, JCL	May 1, 1966
Rev. Msgr. Mark A. Svarczkopf.....	June 8, 1974
Rev. Msgr. Paul D. Koetter.....	May 21, 1977
Rev. Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel	May 22, 1982
Rev. Msgr. William F. Stumpf, PhD	June 1, 1985
Rev. Msgr. Anthony R. Volz	June 1, 1985

Chronology

Foundation Dates of the Parishes and Missions

Information regarding the location of sacramental and/or school records of parishes that have closed may be obtained from the Office of the Chancellor, P.O. Box 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46206, 317-236-7325, 800-382-9836 ext. 7325, Fax 317-236-1401.

1820

- Dogwood, St. Michael: erection of the first church.

1823

- St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, St. Mary: erection of the first church.

1824

- Derby, St. Mary: erection of the first church.
- Dover, St. John the Baptist: erection of the first church.

1833

- New Alsace, St. Paul: erection of the first church and appointment of the first resident pastor.

1834

- Millhousen, Immaculate Conception: founding of the settlement of Millhousen and celebration of the first Mass.

1835

- Bradford, St. Michael: erection of the first church.

1836

- New Albany, Holy Trinity: appointment of the first resident pastor.
- St. Nicholas, Ripley County, St. Nicholas: celebration of the first Mass.

1837

- Indianapolis, St. John the Evangelist: appointment of first pastor.
- Leopold, St. Augustine: appointment of the first resident pastor.
- Madison, St. Michael: appointment of the first resident pastor.
- Oldenburg, Holy Family: erection of the first church.
- St. Mary-of-the-Woods Village, St. Mary-of-the-Woods: establishment of the first resident pastor and of the first church.
- St. Vincent, Shelby County, St. Vincent de Paul: appointment of the first resident pastor.

1838

- St. Peter, Franklin County, St. Peter: dedication of the first church.
- Terre Haute, St. Joseph University: erection of the first church.

1841

- Columbus, St. Bartholomew: erection of the first church.
- Jennings County, St. Ann: date of the first parish records.
- St. Joseph, Dearborn County, St. Leon: erection of the first church.
- Scipio, St. Patrick: erection of the church.

1842

- Lawrenceburg, St. Lawrence: laying of the cornerstone for the first church.

1843

- Lanesville, St. Mary: purchase of the first church.
- Magnet, Perry County, Sacred Heart of Jesus: erection of the first church.

1844

- Enochsburg, St. John the Evangelist: blessing of the first church.
- Oak Forest, St. Philomena: erection of the first church. Renamed St. Cecilia of Rome, 1961. Renamed SS Philomena and Cecilia, 2007
- St. Mary-of-the-Rock, St. Mary: erection of the first church.

1845

- Brookville, St. Michael: purchase of the first church.
- Navilleton, St. Mary: erection of the first church.

1846

- Richmond, St. Andrew: dedication of the first church and appointment of the first resident pastor.

1847

- Fulda, St. Boniface: erection of the first church.
- St. Mary Magdalen, Ripley County, St. Mary Magdalen: erection of the first church.

1848

- Martinsville, St. Martin: erection of the first church.
- Napoleon, St. Maurice: erection of the first church.

1849

- Frenchtown, St. Bernard: erection of the first church.
- Liberty, St. Bridget: celebration of first Mass.
- St. Peter, Harrison County, St. Peter: erection of the first church.
- Troy, St. Pius V: erection of the first church.

1850

- St. Joseph, Jennings County, St. Joseph: erection of the first church.
- Yorkville, St. Martin: founding of parish.

1851

- Connersville, St. Gabriel: laying of the cornerstone of the first church.
- Edinburgh, Holy Trinity: dedication of the first church.
- Jeffersonville, St. Anthony: erection of the first church.
- Jeffersonville, St. Augustine: erection of the first church.

1852

- Cambridge City, St. Elizabeth of Hungary: purchase of the first church.

1853

- Greencastle, St. Paul the Apostle: purchase of the first church.
- North Madison, St. Patrick: erection of the first church.
- St. Joseph Hill, St. Joseph: erection of the first church.

1854

- St. Meinrad: establishment of Saint Meinrad Abbey.
- Liberty, St. Bridget of Ireland: erection of the first church.

1855

- Milltown, St. Joseph: erection of the first church.

1856

- Morris, St. Anthony of Padua: dedication of the first church.

1857

- Aurora, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception: dedication of the first church.
- Rushville, St. Mary (Immaculate Conception): erection of the first church.

1858

- Greensburg, St. Mary: erection of the first church.
- Indianapolis, St. Mary: blessing of the first church and appointment of the first resident pastor.
- New Albany, St. Mary: dedication of the first permanent church.

1859

- Cannelton, St. Michael: blessing of the church.
- Richmond, St. Mary: purchase of the first church.
- St. Maurice, St. Maurice: dedication of the first church.
- St. Paul, Decatur County, St. Paul: erection of the first church.
- St. Pius, St. Pius: erection of the church.
- Tell City, St. Paul: erection of the first church.

1860

- Charlestown, St. Michael: erection of the first church.
- Greenfield, St. Michael: erection of the first church.
- St. Croix, Holy Cross: erection of the first church.
- Seymour, St. Ambrose: erection of the first church.

1861

- China, St. Anthony: erection of the first church.
- North Vernon, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St. Mary): erection of the church.
- St. Meinrad, Immaculate Conception: erection of the first church.
- Starlight, St. John: dedication of the first church.

1863

- St. Mark, Perry County, St. Mark: establishment of first church.

1864

- Bedford, St. Vincent de Paul: purchase and dedication of the first church.
- Bloomington, St. Charles Borromeo: purchase of the first church.

1865

- Bainbridge, St. Patrick: first Mass celebrated in the first church, which had been recently purchased.
- Brazil, Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary: purchase of the first church.
- Indianapolis, St. Patrick: dedication of the first church, called St. Peter.
- Terre Haute, St. Benedict: blessing of the first church.

1867

- Montezuma, Immaculate Conception: erection of the first church.
- Osgood, St. John the Baptist: erection of the first church.
- Rockville, St. Joseph: erection of the first church.

1868

- Batesville, St. Louis: appointment of first pastor.
- Franklin, St. Rose of Lima: dedication of the first church.
- Shelbyville, St. Joseph: dedication of the first church.

1869

- Brownsburg, St. Malachy: completion of the first church and appointment of the first resident pastor.
- Fortville, St. Thomas: erection of the first church.
- Hamburg, St. Ann: erection of the first church.
- Henryville, St. Francis Xavier: dedication of the first church.
- Laurel, St. Raphael: erection of the first church.
- Siberia, St. Martin: blessing of the first church.

1870

- Batesville, St. Louis: dedication of the church.
- Carbon, St. Joseph: erection of the church.
- Locust Point, Harrison County, St. Joachim: founding of the church.

1871

- Mitchell, St. Mary: erection of the church.

1872

- Knightstown, St. Rose of Lima: dedication of the church.

1873

- Indianapolis, St. Joseph: erection of the first church.
- New Castle, St. Anne: dedication of the first church.

1874

- Cedar Grove, Holy Guardian Angels: first divine services in the newly erected church.

1875

- Indianapolis, Sacred Heart of Jesus: dedication of the first church.
- St. John, Perry County, St. John: erection of the first church.

1876

- Terre Haute, St. Ann: erection of the first church.
- Vevay, Most Sorrowful Mother: dedication of the church.

1880

- Indianapolis, St. Bridget: dedication of the church.
- New Middletown, Most Precious Blood: erection of the first church.

1881

- Indianapolis, St. Francis de Sales: purchase and blessing of the first church.
- Terre Haute, St. Patrick: erection of the church and appointment of the first resident pastor.

1887

- French Lick, Our Lady of the Springs: dedication of the church.

1891

- Clinton, Sacred Heart: erection of the first church.
- Fontanet, St. Augustine: erection of the church.
- Indianapolis, St. Anthony: blessing of the first church.
- St. Joseph, Perry County, St. Joseph: dedication of the church.

1892

- Indianapolis, SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral: dedication of SS. Peter and Paul chapel.

1894

- Indianapolis, Assumption: dedication of the church.
- St. Denis, St. Denis: erection of the first church and appointment of the first resident pastor.

1895

- Indianapolis, Church of the Holy Cross: erection of the first church.

1896

- Corydon, St. Joseph: erection of the church.

1897

- Diamond, St. Mary: erection of the church.

1903

- Indianapolis, Church of the Holy Angels: dedication of the church.

1906

- Indianapolis, Holy Trinity: beginning of the church and appointment of the first resident pastor.

1908

- Beech Grove, Church of the Most Holy Name of Jesus: foundation of parish.
- Milan, St. Charles: dedication of the first church.
- Seelyville, Holy Rosary: dedication of the church and appointment of the first resident pastor.

1909

- Indianapolis, Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary: dedication of the first church.
- Indianapolis, Our Lady of Lourdes: erection of the first church and appointment of the first resident pastor.
- Indianapolis, St. Catherine of Siena: erection of the first church.
- Indianapolis, St. Philip Neri: dedication of the church.

1912

- West Terre Haute, St. Leonard of Port Maurice: dedication of the church.

1917

- Indianapolis, St. Ann: erection of the first church.

1919

- Indianapolis, St. Rita: dedication of the church.

1920

- Terre Haute, St. Margaret Mary: dedication of the church.
- Universal, St. Joseph: dedication of the church.

1921

- Indianapolis, St. Joan of Arc: dedication of the first church.

1922

- Indianapolis, St. Roch: private blessing of the temporary church.

1924

- Terre Haute, Sacred Heart of Jesus: dedication of the church.

1925

- Indianapolis, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower): blessing of the church.

1934

- Brownstown, Our Lady of Providence: dedication of the chapel.

1937

- Speedway, St. Christopher: dedication of the church.

1938

- Scottsburg, Church of the American Martyrs: blessing of the church.

1939

- Danville, Mary, Queen of Peace: dedication of the church.
- Indianapolis, Christ the King: dedication of the church.
- Indianapolis, St. Thomas Aquinas: dedication of the church.

1940

- Nashville, St. Agnes: dedication of the church.

1942

- Salem, St. Patrick: dedication of the church.

1946

- Indianapolis, Holy Spirit: Rev. Francis Early, pastor.
- Indianapolis, Immaculate Heart of Mary: Rev. Edwin Sahn, pastor.
- Indianapolis, St. Andrew the Apostle: Rev. Matthew Herold, pastor.
- Indianapolis, St. Mark the Evangelist: Rev. Leo Schafer, pastor.

1947

- Indianapolis, Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Rev. Louis Gootee, pastor.

1948

- Greenwood, Our Lady of the Greenwood, Queen of the Holy Rosary: Rev. Richard J. Mueller, pastor.
- Indianapolis, St. Michael the Archangel: Rev. Thomas Finneran, pastor.
- Paoli, Our Lord Jesus Christ the King: erection of the church.
- Sellersburg, St. Paul: Rev. Paul Gootee, pastor.

1949

- Indianapolis, St. Lawrence: Rev. Cyril Conen, pastor.
- Indianapolis, St. Joseph: new parish and church. Rev. Vincent Grannan, pastor.

1950

- New Albany, Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Rev. Richard Langen, pastor.

1951

- Indianapolis, St. James the Greater: Rev. John Betz, pastor.
- Spencer, St. Jude the Apostle: Rev. Joseph J. Pucci, OMI, pastor.

1952

- Indianapolis, St. Bernadette: Rev. John Herold, pastor.

1953

- Jeffersonville, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus: Rev. Robert Walpole, pastor.
- Plainfield, St. Susanna: Rev. John Reidy, pastor.
- Richmond, Holy Family: Rev. Robert Minton, pastor.

1954

- Indianapolis, St. Joseph: new church location: Rev. Thomas Carey, pastor.
- New Albany, Holy Family: Rev. Louis Marchino, pastor.
- St. Meinrad: Saint Meinrad Abbey celebrates 100 years and is elevated to the status of archabbey, one of the only nine archabbeyes in the world.

1955

- Greenwood, Our Lady of the Greenwood, Queen of the Holy Rosary: elevated to parochial status: Rev. Richard Mueller, pastor.
- Indianapolis, St. Pius X: Rev. Charles Ross, pastor.

1956

- Indianapolis, St. Monica: Rev. Paul Utz, pastor.

1958

- Indianapolis, St. Matthew the Apostle: Rev. Albert Diezeman, pastor.
- Nashville, St. Agnes: elevated to parochial status. Rev. Victor Wright, pastor.

1959

- Indianapolis, St. Jude: Rev. William Vollmuth, pastor.

1960

- Knightstown, St. Rose of Lima: elevated to parochial status. Rev. James Shanahan, pastor.

1961

- Edinburgh, Holy Trinity: elevated to parochial status. Rev. Richard Zore, administrator.
- Indianapolis, St. Luke the Evangelist: Rev. Paul Courtney, pastor.
- Indianapolis, St. Simon the Apostle: Rev. Earl Feltman, pastor.

1963

- Columbus, St. Columba: Rev. Patrick Gleason, pastor.
- Indianapolis, St. Gabriel the Archangel: Rev. Victor Wright, pastor.

1964

- Scottsburg, Church of the American Martyrs: dedication of the church.

1965

- Indianapolis, St. Barnabas: Rev. John Sciarra, pastor.

1967

- Mooresville, St. Thomas More: Rev. Herman Briggeman, pastor.

1968

- St. Isidore the Farmer, Perry County: dedication of parish church.
Rev. Ralph Staashelm, pastor.

1969

- Bloomington, St. Paul Catholic Center: dedication of campus center.
Rev. James Higgins, director.

1970

- Bloomington, St. John the Apostle: Rev. Francis Buck, pastor.

1983

- Indianapolis, St. Francis de Sales: parish closed. Parish territory attached to four other Indianapolis parishes: St. Andrew the Apostle, St. Philip Neri, St. Rita, and St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower). Sacramental records kept at St. Rita Parish.

1987

- Indianapolis, St. Francis de Sales: church sold to Martin University.

1991

- Indianapolis, Korean Catholic Community: dedication of chapel, which was incorporated into St. Lawrence Parish.

1993

- Madison, Prince of Peace: new parish created which includes the congregations of the parishes of St. Mary, St. Michael, and St. Patrick, all in Madison, and St. Anthony, in China, which were closed. Church to be used by Prince of Peace Parish: the former St. Mary Church in Madison. Rev. Jeffrey Charlton, pastor. Sacramental records of all former parishes kept at Prince of Peace.
- Indianapolis, Good Shepherd: new parish erected to coincide with the boundaries of St. Catherine and St. James, both in Indianapolis. Rev. Thomas E. Clegg, pastor. Sacramental records of both parishes kept at Good Shepherd.
- Greenwood, SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi: new parish established in northwestern Johnson County. Rev. Stephen T. Jarrell, pastor.

1994

- Indianapolis, St. Bridget: parish closed. Parish territory becomes part of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Parish. Sacramental records kept at SS. Peter and Paul.
- Columbus, parishes of St. Bartholomew and St. Columba: closed. New parish created having boundaries coterminous with the boundaries previously established for the aforementioned parishes. New parish named St. Bartholomew. Rev. Stephen Banet, pastor.

1995

- Indianapolis, Assumption Parish: closed. Parish territory becomes part of St. Anthony Parish. Sacramental records kept at St. Anthony.
- Indianapolis, St. Simon the Apostle: parish to be relocated to a new site in northeastern Marion County.

1996

- St. Paul, Decatur County, St. Paul: mission closed. Records kept at St. Vincent de Paul, Shelby County.

1997

- Indianapolis, St. Simon the Apostle: parish moved, changing the boundaries of the parish and the two neighboring parishes, St. Lawrence and Holy Spirit.

1998

- Bloomington, St. John the Apostle: church moved to a new site with no change in parish boundaries.

2000

- Bright, St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross: new parish established in northeastern Dearborn County. Rev. William Marks, pastor.
- Oak Forest, St. Cecilia of Rome: closed as parish but remains as a chapel.

2001

- Montezuma, Immaculate Conception: closed.

2007

- Oak Forest, former St. Cecilia of Rome reopened as a parish and named Oratory of SS. Philomena and Cecilia

2009

- Indianapolis, St. Ann: church moved to a new site with no change in parish boundaries.
- Brownsburg, St. Malachy: church moved to a new site with no change in parish boundaries.

2011

- West Terre Haute, St. Leonard of Port Maurice: closed November 19. Sacramental records kept at St. Mary-of-the-Woods Parish. Other materials stored in archdiocesan archives.

2012

- Universal, St. Joseph: closed April 18. Sacramental records kept at Sacred Heart, Clinton. Other materials stored in archdiocesan archives.
- Terre Haute, St. Ann: closed May 20. Sacramental records kept at St. Joseph University Parish. Other materials stored in archdiocesan archives.
- Seelyville, Holy Rosary: closed October 12. Sacramental records and other materials stored in archdiocesan archives.

2013

- Cedar Grove, Holy Guardian Angels: closed December 1.
Sacramental records kept at St. Michael, Brookville.
- Hamburg, St. Anne: closed December 1.
Sacramental records kept at Holy Family, Oldenburg.
- Jennings County, St. Denis: closed December 1.
Sacramental records kept at Immaculate Conception, Millhouses.
- New Marion, St. Mary Magdalen: closed December 1.
Sacramental records kept at Prince of Peace, Madison.
- St. Mary of the Rock, Batesville: closed December 1.
Sacramental records kept at Holy Family, Oldenburg.
- Ripley County, St. Pius: closed December 1.
Sacramental records kept at St. Charles Borromeo, Milan.
- The Archdiocese of Indianapolis named a new faith community and parish:
All Saints, Dearborn, a result of the merger of St John the Baptist, Dover,
St. Leon, West Harrison, St. Martin, Yorkville and St. Paul, New Alsace.
- The Archdiocese of Indianapolis named a new faith community and parish:
St. Catherine of Siena, Decatur County, a result of the merger of St. John the
Evangelist, Enochsburg and St. Maurice, Decatur County.

2014

- Indianapolis, Church of the Holy Cross: closed November 30.
Sacramental records kept at St. Philip Neri, Indianapolis.
- Indianapolis, Holy Trinity: closed November 30.
Sacramental records kept at St. Anthony, Indianapolis.
- Indianapolis, St. Bernadette: closed November 30.
Sacramental records kept at Our Lady of Lourdes, Indianapolis.
- The Archdiocese named a new faith community and parish: St. John Paul II,
Sellersburg. The community, located in Clark County, a result of the merger of
St. Joseph Parish, Clark County and St. Paul Parish, Sellersburg.

2016

- Knightstown, St. Rose of Lima: closed July 1.
Sacramental records kept at St. Anne, New Castle.
- Brownstown, Our Lady of Providence: closed July 1.
Sacramental records kept at St. Ambrose, Seymour.
- July 1, the Archdiocese named a new faith community and parish: St. Elizabeth Ann
Seton, Richmond, a result of the merger of Holy Family, St. Mary and
St. Andrew, Richmond.
- Greensburg, St. Mary: dedication of the new church on August 13.

2018

- New Middleton, Most Precious Blood: closed July 5 and merged into St. Joseph, Corydon.
Sacramental records kept at St. Joseph, Corydon.
- Harrison County, St. Peter: closed July 5 and merged into St. Joseph, Corydon.
Sacramental records kept at St. Joseph, Corydon.
- Siberia, St. Martin of Tours: closed July 5 and merged into St. Isidore the Farmer, Perry
County. Sacramental records kept at St. Isidore the Farmer, Perry County.

Important Events

July 1, 2017– June 30, 2018

2017

July 27

A solemn evening prayer service was held at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis on the evening before Archbishop Charles C. Thompson was installed in the cathedral as the seventh archbishop of Indianapolis the following day.

July 30

Archbishop Thompson celebrated his first Mass at an archdiocesan parish for about 500 people at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany.

July 31

Philip Wiese was named the director of New Albany Deanery Catholic Youth Ministries.

August 12

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson was among archdiocesan leaders and parish staff at a reception honoring Margie Pike for her 11 years of service as the volunteer director of Cathedral Kitchen, the food ministry of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Parish, Indianapolis.

August 13

St. Lawrence Parish in Lawrenceburg marked its 175th anniversary.

August 17

Benedictine Father Timothy Sweeney who served as the seventh abbot and fourth archabbot of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad from 1978–1995, died at the age of 82.

August 27

Seventy-three couples celebrated their marriages at the annual archdiocesan Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Annunciation Parish in Brazil celebrated its first Mass in the church following a two-year renovation project.

August 30

Archbishop Thompson was one of three faith leaders who were featured speakers a public rally sponsored by the Indiana Congregation Action Network held at Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis.

September 5

This year's Excellence in Catechesis Award was presented to Anita Navarra for her work in religious education at St. Mary Parish, Greensburg. Ashley Barnett received the 2017 Youth Ministry Servant Leader of the Year Award for her work as youth minister at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Bloomington, and Leah Massengale, a teacher at St. Michael School in Greenfield, received the 2017 St. Theodora Guérin Excellence in Education Award. The presentations took place during a special Mass at the cathedral.

September 10

St. John the Baptist Parish in Osgood observed its 150th anniversary as a parish community.

September 21

Archbishop Thompson addressed a group of approximately 170 supporters of the Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, in Indianapolis, at the annual "Celebrate Bruté" event.

September 30

Archbishop Thompson was the principal celebrant at a Mass held during V Encuentro (Encounter) at St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, in Indianapolis. More than 180 Catholics of different ethnicities participated.

Nearly 400 men attended the Indiana Catholic Men's Conference at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis.

October 1

At the annual Respect Life Mass at the cathedral, Josh and Cara Bach, parishioners at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis, were presented with the 2017 Archbishop O'Meara Respect Life Award, and Emily Taylor, a parishioner at Holy Spirit in Indianapolis, was honored with the 2017 Our Lady of Guadalupe Pro-Life Youth Award.

October 3

At the annual Celebrate Life Dinner, Harry Steele, parishioner at Our Lady of the Greenwood, in Greenwood, was given the Charles E. Stimming, Sr., Pro-Life Award for his work in the protection of human life. The dinner and awards are sponsored by Right to Life of Indianapolis.

October 7

St. Ann Church in Indianapolis marked its 100th anniversary.

October 15

Archbishop Thompson blessed the newly installed altar of St. Joseph Church in Indianapolis after a two-month renovation. He also blessed a statue of Our Lady of La Vang installed on the grounds by the archdiocesan Vietnamese Catholic Community.

October 18

The Canon Law Society of America held its 79th annual convention in Indianapolis.

October 19

Indiana basketball legend, Bobby Plump, was the keynote speaker at the Catholic Charities Indianapolis Hoosiers for Seniors dinner at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis. Indianapolis Mayor Joseph Hogsett was a guest speaker.

St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods near Terre Haute announced that the St. Mary-of-the-Woods Historic District will be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

October 21

Approximately 100 middle school students from the archdiocese gathered with nearly 7,000 teens in Chicago for the “Holy Fire” conference organized by the National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry.

October 22

The Sisters of St. Benedict of Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove honored two women. Maggie Hagenauer, of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis, received the Mary, Heart of Prayer Award. She is a second-grade teacher at St. Luke the Evangelist School in Indianapolis. The Martha, Heart of Service Award went to Julie Bowman, a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Parish, in Indianapolis. She serves as director of programming for College Mentors for Kids, a nonprofit organization that connects younger children with college students through weekly on-campus activities that inspire growth, confidence, and brighter futures. The Sisters of St. Benedict and the Serra Club of Indianapolis instituted these annual awards for young women who exemplify Mary of Bethany’s approach to prayer and her sister Martha’s, emphasis on service.

St. Rita Church in Indianapolis celebrated the 70th Anniversary of the parish’s Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Council.

October 28

About 100 people attended the archdiocesan conference, “Corrections: A Ministry of Hope and Salvation,” at St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus.

November 3

Some 200 people attended an archdiocesan Mass on the Memorial of St. Martin de Porres at St. Lawrence Church in Indianapolis.

November 16-18

Approximately 1,600 teenagers from the archdiocese joined nearly 20,000 youth from across the country for the National Catholic Youth Conference held at the Indiana Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

December 1

All Saints Parish in Dearborn County was awarded Indiana Landmark’s 2017 Rosemary Prentice Award for Historic Preservation for the restoration work done on its four historic campuses.

December 7

Archbishop Thompson offered a reflection and addressed a group of approximately 200 people at the inaugural Catholic Community Foundation’s “An Evening of Lights” program in Assembly Hall of the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis. Members of parishes throughout central and southern Indiana were able to donate \$10 or more to dedicate a luminaria in memory of a loved one. Approximately 160 luminarias were lit and blessed by the archbishop during the service.

December 14

Father Robert E. Mazzola, a retired priest of the archdiocese, died at his home in Connersville. He was 80.

December 15

Father Mark Gottemoeller, a retired priest of the archdiocese, died at IU Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis from complications following surgery. He was 68.

2018**January 12**

Eighteen Sisters of Providence of Saint-Mary-of-the-Woods celebrated milestone jubilees of their entrance into religious life. Celebrating 60 years were: Sister Susanne (formerly James) Gallagher, Sister Janet (formerly Janet Marie) Gilligan, Sister Mary Catherine Keene, Sister Arlene (formerly Jean Cecile) Knarzer, Sister Carol (formerly Richard Ann) Lindly, Sister Patricia (formerly Kevin Joseph) Mahoney, Sister Carol (formerly Michaelleen) Meyers, Sister Sharon (formerly Charlene) Richards and Sister Elizabeth (formerly Ann Martin) Smigla. Seventy-year jubilarians were: Sister Agnes Maureen Badura, Sister Joyce (formerly Robert Ellen) Brophy, Sister Margaret (formerly Margaret Bernard) Heese, Sister Mary Ann (formerly Robert Ann) Lechner, Sister Joan (formerly Ignatius) Matthews, Sister Maureen Ann McCarthy and Sister Lucille (formerly Mary Lucille) Nolan. Celebrating 75 years were: Sister Mary Patricia (formerly Maria Janice) Cummings and Sister Francis (formerly Francis Bernard) Edwards.

January 16

Retired senior editor of *The Criterion*, Margaret Nelson, died in Indianapolis. She was 87.

January 19

More than 50 young adults from the archdiocese were among 8,000 people from across the country who traveled to Chicago to attend SLS18 (Student Leadership Summit 18), a biennial conference sponsored by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students.

January 22

More than 500 people participated in the inaugural March for Life held in downtown Indianapolis on the 45th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decisions in *Roe v Wade* and *Doe v Bolton*. The event was sponsored by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, the Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana and Right to Life of Indianapolis. Prior to the start of the march, some 1,000 people attended the Mass for Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life concelebrated by Archbishop Thompson and Lafayette Bishop Timothy Doherty at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis.

January 25

Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein died in the infirmary of Saint Meinrad Archabbey where he has lived since his retirement in 2011. He was 79. Archbishop Buechlein served as the fifth archbishop of Indianapolis from 1992.

The funeral Mass was celebrated at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis on January 31 with Archbishop Thompson as the principal celebrant. Burial followed on Feb. 1 at the archabbey cemetery.

January 26

Two private Catholic high schools in Indianapolis recently named new presidents. Margie Crooks is serving as president of Providence Cristo Rey High School, and Jesuit Father William Verbryke will become president of Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory High School effective July 1.

February 8

Deacon Donald Dearman, who was the first African-American permanent deacon in the archdiocese, died. He was a member of the first group of permanent deacons in the history of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis ordained on June 28, 2008. He was 67.

February 12

Archbishop Thompson spoke to Catholic state legislators and the five Indiana bishops at a dinner hosted by the Indiana Catholic Conference and Legatus.

February 14

Archbishop Thompson's first pastoral letter was released on Ash Wednesday. It is titled, *We are One in Christ: A Pastoral Letter to the Clergy, Religious and Faithful People of Central and Southern Indiana on Fundamentals of Christian Anthropology*.

February 22

The 22nd annual Celebrating Catholic Schools Values event was held in the Grand Hall of Union Station at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Indianapolis. The keynote speaker was Sister Carol Cimino, a Sister of St. Joseph of Rochester, New York. The honorees were Ody Oruche, of St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, Indianapolis, and Dan and Jan Megel, members of St. Mary Parish, North Vernon. The Community Service Award was presented to the men's group of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis; the group was represented by Gary Ahlrichs. The event raised more than \$6 million to help children receive a Catholic education in the archdiocese.

February 24

Archbishop Thompson was the principal celebrant at Mass at the third annual E6 Catholic Men's Conference held at East Central High School in St. Leon. More than 1,200 men from Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky attended the one-day conference sponsored by the King's Men, a men's prayer and education group at All Saints Parish in Dearborn County.

February 26

Seventeen young adults from across central and southern Indiana were awarded scholarships from the Brooke Nichole Lahr Memorial Fund for International Mission Work at a ceremony at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis. Brooke Nicole Lahr, a member of St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish in Indianapolis was killed in 2013 when she was struck by an automobile while on a mission trip to Central America. The fund is managed by the archdiocesan Catholic Community Foundation.

February 27

Archbishop Thompson was the principal celebrant at a Mass for "Catholic Day of Action for Dreamers" at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. After the Mass, Father Michael O'Mara, pastor of St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, in Indianapolis, led a group of about 40 from the church to the Indiana Statehouse.

March 4

Archbishop Thompson administered the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist to two inmates during a Mass in the chapel of the Indiana Women's Prison in Indianapolis.

March 6

Father Christopher Wadelton, pastor of St. Philip Neri Parish in Indianapolis and Providence Sister Tracey Horan were among more than a dozen people arrested during a protest in Indianapolis in support of "Dreamers," undocumented immigrants brought into the United States as children. The protest was organized by the Indianapolis-based interfaith advocacy organization, Faith in Indiana.

March 8

Archbishop Thompson spoke to 163 peer mentors of the A Promise to Keep (APTK) program during a luncheon at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center celebrating their service. The APTK program is a ministry of the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Schools and is co-sponsored by St. Vincent Hospital.

March 10

"The Sanctification of the Family" was the theme of the Indiana Catholic Women's Conference attended by nearly 700 women from central and southern Indiana and beyond at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis. The conference was hosted by the Marian Center of Indianapolis.

March 14

Archbishop Thompson was given an award during the Archdiocese of Louisville's annual Salute to Catholic School Alumni dinner in Louisville.

March 16

The Office of Pro-Life and Family Life was divided into new pastoral ministry offices: Office of Marriage and Family Life and Office of Human Life and Dignity. Both offices are part of the Secretariat for Pastoral Ministries.

March 31

In the archdiocese during the Easter Vigil, 447 catechumens were baptized, and 448 candidates were received into full communion with the Catholic Church.

April 3-5

Among those receiving awards at the annual National Catholic Education Association convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, were: - Father Christopher Wadelton, pastor of St. Philip Neri Parish in Indianapolis, and Annette Hunger, dean at Oldenburg Academy of the Immaculate Conception in Oldenburg. Both received the Lead, Learn, Proclaim Award for excellence and distinguished service in Catholic school education.

- John Elcessor, executive director of the Indiana Non-Public Education Association was awarded the Leonard F. DeFiore Parental Choice Advocate Award.

April 7

Archbishop Thompson ordained transitional deacons Timothy DeCrane and Vincent Gilmore at the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln in St. Meinrad.

April 15

The Sisters of St. Francis of Oldenburg announced their newly elected governing council: Sister Christa Franzer, congregational minister, Sister Delouise Menges, first councilor, and Sisters Annette Grisley and Barbara Leonhard, councilors. The members will serve from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2024.

April 16

The Conventual Franciscan Province of Our Lady of Consolation, based at Mount St. Francis in southern Indiana, elected new leadership at its quadrennial chapter. Those elected to the new Definitory included: Father Wayne Hellmann, minister provincial, Father Martin Day, vicar provincial, and Brother Nicholas Wolfla, provincial secretary. They, with Fathers Miguel Briseño, Andy Martinez, John Pozhathuparambil and Mario Serrano, will lead the province for the next four years.

April 19

St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities in New Albany presented the Spirit of Hope Award to former advisory council members Carl Wolford and Phillip McCauley at its annual Giving Hope-Changing Lives gala.

Archbishop Thompson announced the Connected in the Spirit decisions for the New Albany and Tell City deaneries.

New Albany Deanery:

- Most Precious Blood Parish in New Middleton and St. Peter Parish in Harrison County will be closed and merged into St. Joseph Parish in Corydon.
- St. John the Baptist Parish in Starlight and St. Mary Parish in Navilleton will be linked.

Tell City Deanery:

- St. Martin of Tours Parish in Siberia will be closed and merged into St. Isidore the Farmer Parish in Perry County.
- St. Mark Parish in Perry County, St. Michael Parish in Cannelton, St. Paul Parish in Tell City and St. Pius V Parish in Troy will be linked.

April 20

Groundbreaking for a renovation project that will accommodate an expanded early education program took place at Central Catholic School in Indianapolis. Central Catholic is one of the University of Notre Dame ACE Academies owned by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and operated in partnership with Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education.

April 24

Rita Kriech, of St. Philip Neri Parish in Indianapolis, and Paul Hnin, of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis, were honored with the Spirit of Service award at the annual Catholic Charities Indianapolis dinner. Michael Isakson, a member of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis, was the recipient of the Youth Award and Dr. Michael Patchner, of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, was honored with the Community Service Award. Former Colt player, Joe Reitz, was the featured speaker at the event.

Archbishop Thompson accompanied Erika Fierro to the Department of Homeland Security Office in Indianapolis for her meeting to ask for a 'credible fear interview' while awaiting deportation.

April 27

Lynée Locke received the 2017-18 St. Theodora Excellence in Education Award, the highest honor for a Catholic educator in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. She teaches junior high theology and social studies at Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School in Indianapolis.

More than 1,000 students graduated from the three Catholic colleges in the archdiocese, St. Mary-of-the-Woods College in St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Marian University in Indianapolis and Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad.

May 1

Seven members of the archdiocese received the Catholic Youth Organizations highest honor—the St. John Bosco Medal—from Archbishop Thompson during an awards ceremony at the cathedral in Indianapolis. Medal recipients were Tom Mattingly, of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis; Rachel Ayres, of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Indianapolis; Dan Bauer and Theresa Wells-Ditton, of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis; Jesse Cleary, of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis; Derry Condon, of Immaculate Heart of Mary in Indianapolis; and Mark McGuire, of St. Roch Parish in Indianapolis.

May 2

Father Guy Roberts, pastor of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis and dean of the Indianapolis North Deanery, blessed a rosary garden created by the seventh and eighth grade students and made possible by a \$1,500 grant from the Queen and Divine Mercy Center Endowment Fund which is managed by the Catholic Community Foundation.

May 9

Archbishop Thompson was the main celebrant at a Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis prior to the “Circle of Giving” event at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center recognizing the members of the Miter Society and the Legacy Society for their generous donations to the United Catholic Appeal and the Catholic Community Foundation.

May 11

The Office of Catholic Schools announced that 1,408 students will graduate from 11 Catholic high schools—seven interparochial and four private—in the archdiocese.

May 13

Father Gerald Burkert, a retired priest of the archdiocese, died at Franciscan Health in Indianapolis. He was 83.

May 18

St. Joseph Parish in Shelbyville and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Shelby County formed the new St. Vincent de Paul Society of Shelby County.

May 24

Archbishop Thompson was the main celebrant at a Mass at St. John the Baptist Church in Starlight prior to the second “Circle of Giving” dinner recognizing the members of the Miter Society and the Legacy Society for their generous donations to the United Catholic Appeal and the Catholic Community Foundation.

May 27

Archbishop Thompson celebrated Mass in the infield of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis prior to the 102nd running the Indianapolis 500.

May 31

Archbishop Thompson spoke at a press conference and offered a blessing over Erika Fierro before she entered an Intensive Supervision Appearance Program meeting during which she was expected to be deported to Mexico. Her deportation was set for June 26.

June 2

Deacon Jeffrey Dufresne was ordained a priest by Archbishop Thompson in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

June 8-10

Archbishop Thompson, along with a delegation from the archdiocese attended the Region VII Encuentro at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend. Nearly 200 Hispanic ministry leaders from 13 dioceses in Indiana, Wisconsin and Illinois took part in the three-day conference.

June 9 and June 15

Staff of *The Criterion* received awards for excellence in journalism from three organizations for work completed during the 2017 calendar year.

Staff writer Natalie Hoefler was awarded four first-place awards by the Women's Press Club of Indiana. She also received a second-place award. The first-place entries advanced to the National Federation of Press Women where she was received a first place for coverage of the National Catholic Youth Conference held in November in Indianapolis and third place for her adoption series.

Editor Mike Krokos was awarded a first-place in the Best Editorial on a Local Issue Category by the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada. Assistant Editor John Shaughnessy received a second-place for his reporting of social justice issues, and Natalie Hoefler received a third place for her coverage of pro-life issues. As a staff, *The Criterion* received a third-place award for the issue welcoming Archbishop Thompson as the new archbishop.

Criterion freelance writer, Katie Rutter, received a first-place award as Videographer/Video Producer of the Year in the Catholic Press Association's "Excellence Awards."

June 15

Benedictine Sister Julianne Babcock, who served as the seventh prioress of Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove from 2009–2015, died. She was 69.

June 20

The archdiocesan Refugee and Immigrant Services of Catholic Charities Indianapolis sponsored a World Refugee Day celebration at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center.

June 24

St. Isidore the Farmer Parish in Perry County celebrated its 50th anniversary.

June 26

Archbishop Thompson delivered remarks at the Palliative and Hospice Care Conference at Marian University in Indianapolis. The conference was the first event of a new initiative between the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Franciscan Health and St. Vincent Health that will provide education and resources for those who accompany individuals and families through chronic illness, suffering and end stages of life.

June 27

Forty high school boys and 24 seventh and eighth grade boys attended the 13th annual Bishop Bruté Days at Bishop Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis.

Archbishop Thompson spoke to about 300 young adults at a Theology on Tap gathering at the Knights of Columbus McGowan Hall in Indianapolis.