

THE MOST REVEREND CHARLES C. THOMPSON

 Our New  
Shepherd

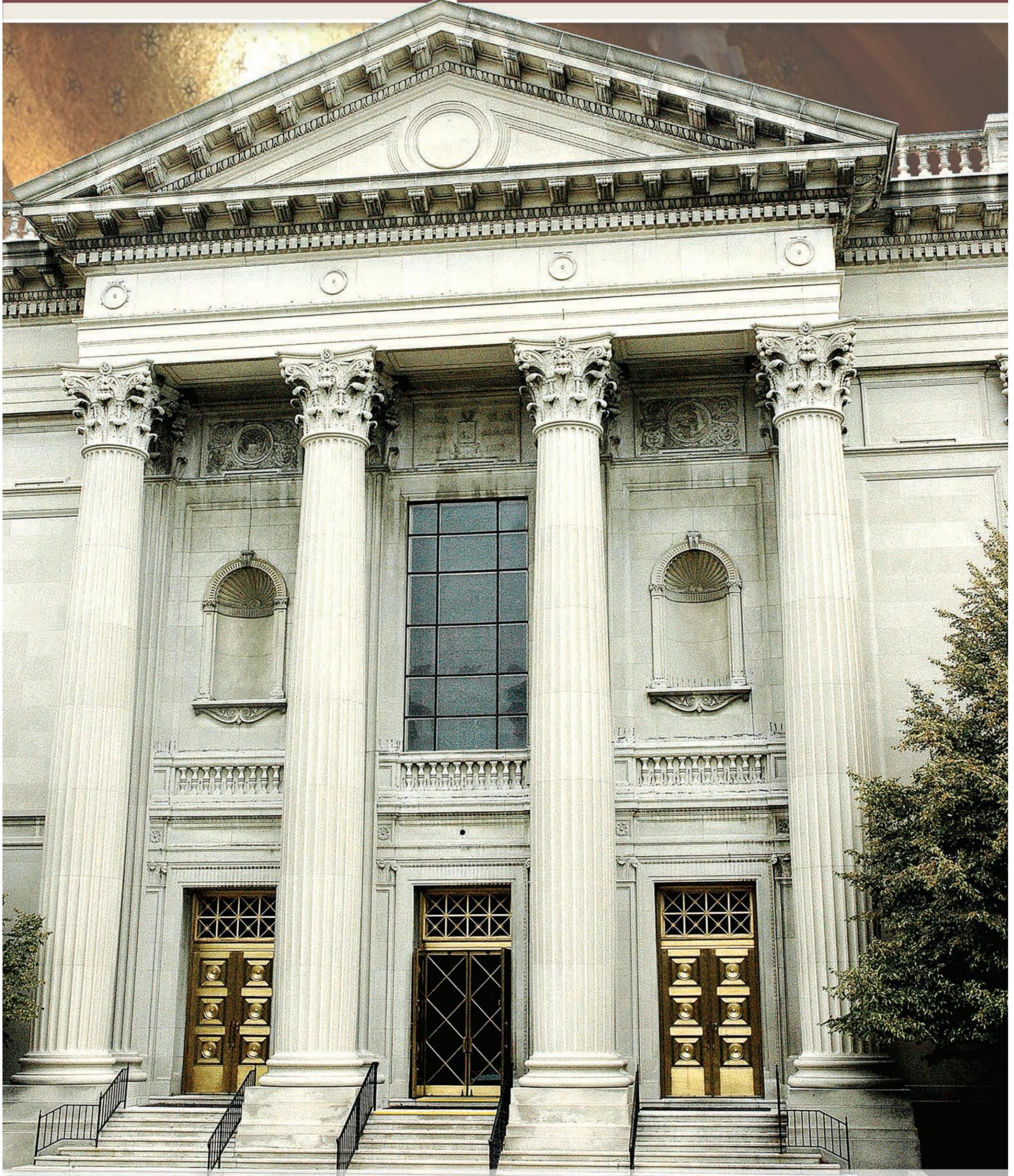


Christ  
the Cornerstone



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**The Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul welcomes our new Shepherd,  
Archbishop Charles C. Thompson**

**Congratulations, Archbishop Thompson, on the occasion of your Installation  
as our new Shepherd in Christ. We surround you with grateful prayer.**

Very Rev. Patrick J. Beidelman and the Cathedral Community

# God's hands and family's love guide Archbishop Thompson

By John Shaughnessy

Sometimes you can learn a lot about a family by the way a sister talks about a brother.

The closeness between Archbishop Charles C. Thompson and his only sister, Lori Wilson, is evident when she recalls how he has been there for her during defining moments of her life.

She remembers how he helped her when she first tried to ride a horse. And how he taught her to drive when she was 16. And how, when they were adults, he took her with him and sat next to her on her first plane trip—to Hawaii.

"We've always been close," she says. "He's always been patient with me, and still is. He's always been there for me. I'm so proud of everything he has accomplished and done in life."

You can also learn a lot about a family by the relationship that brothers have, especially long after they shared their childhood home.

From July 9 through July 23, Archbishop Thompson, his brother Kenny and Kenny's wife Sue Ann spent the two weeks together, heading west across the United States to re-create a 4,000-mile trip that the Thompson family made years ago when the two brothers and their sister were still youths.

"We've been talking for years about retracing this," Archbishop Thompson says about him and his brother.

Their recent trip led them to the Badlands and Mount Rushmore in South Dakota, through Montana and Wyoming, with stops in Cheyenne, Jackson Hole and Yellowstone National Park.

The shared journeys of two brothers—and of a sister and a brother—reflect the love and the closeness that Archbishop Thompson has for his family, a love and a closeness that is inseparable from their Catholic faith.

"I'm from a very Catholic family," the 56-year-old archbishop says about growing up in a family in which he has 90 first cousins, the byproduct of his mother being part of a family of 16 children and his father coming from a family of 13 children.

"My parents have just a wonderful ease. They're very salt-of-the-earth kind of people. They just live their faith day by day. We prayed the rosary every night together. We said grace at all meals. It was just natural. It was almost like breathing for me."

That's exactly the focus of faith and

family that Coleman and Joyce Thompson strived to help their three children attain. Married now for 57 years, the couple has always kept close to their hearts their own upbringing in an area known as "the Kentucky Holy Land"—a rural, hilly area that's a Catholic stronghold.

"We grew up in the country, out in Marion County," says the archbishop's father. "We all went to church regularly. Our parents raised us to do the right thing, and that's what we tried to do."

Joyce Thompson adds, "Our parents influenced us a lot. We knew everything was from God—vocations, marriage, religion, everything."

Still, both parents say they were "kind of surprised" when their oldest child decided to enter Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad shortly after he graduated in 1983 from Bellarmine University in Louisville with an accounting degree.

But, his mother says, "I knew he was in God's hands, and God would guide him."

Those words sum up the belief that has guided the archbishop's family for generations.

It's also a belief that Archbishop Thompson embraces as he begins to lead the Catholic faithful in central and southern Indiana.

When he is installed as the new archbishop of Indianapolis on July 28 in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, his parents, his sister, his brother and his sister-in-law will travel from Kentucky to be with him—just as he has always been there for them. A large contingent of other relatives is also expected to witness this latest chapter in the family's story of faith.

"I'm sure it's going to be very emotional," his mother says.

A hint of that emotion shows when his father describes their oldest child, "I couldn't ask for more or better. He's always been a true, straight person all his life. If he tells you something, you can count on it."

He pauses before adding, "We're proud of him. We love him, and we hope everything works out well for him."

His sister is sure it will—because of the person she knows her brother to be. She knows all the ways he has been there for her. She has seen the love and concern he

See FAMILY, page 8



Then-Father Charles C. Thompson sits on July 1, 1990, with his parents, Coleman and Joyce Thompson, during a Priests' Parents' Club meeting in the Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky. (Photo courtesy Father Dale Cieslik)



July 28, 2017

**Greetings!**

It is my honor to welcome Archbishop Charles C. Thompson to Indianapolis.

Indianapolis is a city rich in diversity, and one that welcomes and celebrates all. I am proud of the numerous community leaders and local partners who embody this spirit of inclusion, working tirelessly towards an even stronger, safer, and more just city. With Archbishop Thompson's motto, "Christ the Cornerstone" in mind, I hope Indianapolis will serve as a cornerstone, a strong foundation for the Catholic community.

Archbishop Thompson's impressive record of service both within Indiana and elsewhere are commendable, and I am honored to welcome him into the Indianapolis community.

I share my sincere congratulations to the entire Catholic community in Indianapolis as we gather here to celebrate Archbishop Thompson's inauguration, and I offer my prayers and support as he embarks on this new call to service.

Sincerely,

*Joseph H. Hogsett*  
Joseph H. Hogsett  
Mayor  
City of Indianapolis

## A note to our readers

This week's edition of *The Criterion* is a special keepsake issue meant to help readers get to know Archbishop Charles C. Thompson on a more personal level.

From family and friends to colleagues, to former parishioners and brother bishops and priests, people share their firsthand experiences with our new shepherd.

Although the majority of this July 28 issue is dedicated to stories about Archbishop Thompson, you will find some of our regular weekly

features on pages 48-49.

Next week's issue of *The Criterion* will include stories and photos from Archbishop Thompson's July 28 installation Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, along with coverage of other events leading up to that historic day, including Solemn Evening Prayer held at the cathedral on July 27.

For more information on Archbishop Thompson, log on to [www.archindy.org/archbishop](http://www.archindy.org/archbishop). †

—Mike Krokos



**Phone Numbers:**  
Main office: 317-236-1570  
Advertising: 317-236-1454  
Toll free: 1-800-382-9836, ext. 1570  
Circulation: 317-236-1454  
Toll free: 1-800-382-9836, ext. 1454

**Price:** \$22.00 per year, 75 cents per copy

**Postmaster:**  
Send address changes to *The Criterion*, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

**Web site:** [www.CriterionOnline.com](http://www.CriterionOnline.com)

**E-mail:** [criterion@archindy.org](mailto:criterion@archindy.org)

Published weekly except the last week of December and the first week of January. Mailing address: 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367. Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN. Copyright © 2017 Criterion Press Inc. ISSN 0574-4350.



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*The Criterion* (ISSN 0574-4350) is published weekly except the last week of December and the first week of January.

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317-236-1570  
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Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN.  
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# Priesthood bonds archbishop and cousin in life-changing way

By John Shaughnessy

When he saw the photos of his cousin being greeted with a warm smile by Pope Francis, Father Dale Cieslik just shook his head in joy and wonder.

“Just to see him with the pope—oh my!—that’s a Thompson there!” recalls Father Cieslik, the first cousin of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson.

As the two cousins were growing up in the rural, hilly country known as “the Kentucky Holy Land” because of its strong Catholic roots, the thought that a member of their extended family would one day become an archbishop and be welcomed by a pope seemed beyond the realm of consideration.

And yet that’s what happened on June 29 in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican when Pope Francis gave Archbishop Thompson a pallium—a woolen band worn over the shoulders that symbolizes his new, closer connection with the pope and his responsibility as the shepherd who will lead the Church in central and southern Indiana.

Seeing the photos of that exchange was a moment of pride and emotion for Father Cieslik—the person that Archbishop Thompson credits with making him realize that he could pursue a vocation as a priest.

“He planted a seed when he went away to seminary,” Archbishop Thompson says about his older cousin. “Before then, I thought the priesthood was for other people, other families. That said to me that the Holy Spirit can call any of us. So he was a good example.”

It was a way of life the future archbishop would first consider seriously when he faced a difficult time as a youth—when he attended high school during a period of desegregation.

#### A defining moment

“We moved to Louisville just a year or two before busing,” Archbishop

Thompson recalls. “The very first year of busing, I was bused as a freshman downtown to one of the two schools that were considered the worst in the whole educational system at that time in Louisville, if not Kentucky.

“A lot of violence that year. Just to give you a couple examples, but not to get too graphic, there was a stabbing once. A teacher disciplined a student and the next day all four tires were slit. There was a rape on one floor. There were drug dealings. It was the first time I thought of priesthood in a whole different light.

“I remember asking myself, ‘All this violence and all this inhumanity to humanity, how does my life speak to this behavior, to this kind of violence?’ That’s when priesthood came to me in a whole different light. I went on and dated through high school and college. But halfway through college, that’s when I went to my cousin [Father Cieslik] about the seminary. It triggered that whole notion of a witness—how does my life speak to something other than that violence?”

Father Cieslik remembers that visit. At the time, he just didn’t realize it would become a defining moment in his cousin’s life.

“I tried to show him the way of life as a seminarian, and I introduced him to some of my friends,” says Father Cieslik, who entered Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad in 1974.

“For me, it really is humbling to know that was a defining moment for him. We never know how what we say or do affects people. It was me just being myself. In the priesthood, we want to serve.”

#### A brotherly bond

Father Cieslik was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Louisville in 1982. A year later, the future archbishop of Indianapolis followed a similar path after



Bishop Charles C. Thompson, left, and his cousin, Father Dale Cieslik, right, pose after concelebrating the wedding Mass of their cousin Millie Cambron and her husband Joe Paul Brady on July 16, 2016, at St. Catherine Church in New Haven, Ky. (Photo courtesy Bob Knoll)

graduating from Bellarmine University in Louisville in 1983 with a degree in accounting. He entered Saint Meinrad that fall and was ordained a priest in the Louisville archdiocese in 1987.

It’s a connection that has continued, a connection that has bonded the cousins in a special way

“We are companions in the journey,” Father Cieslik says. “He and I are related on the Thompson side of the family. And we share our ordained ministry. There’s a brotherly bond between the two of us. It was really significant for us to be priests in the same archdiocese, to serve in the same local Church. We shared good conversations about what was going on in our archdiocese, in our parishes.”

They were even pastors of neighboring parishes in the Louisville area for a while—another element of the closeness

that provides Father Cieslik with a special insight about his cousin.

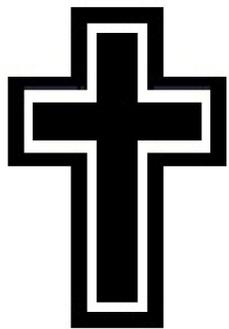
“His biggest gift is being a person of prayer,” Father Cieslik says. “He’s going to use that prayer to help him make decisions on behalf of the people of the archdiocese. He’s also a great listener. He listens to how things will affect people.

“Another big plus is he knows Church law so well, and he knows how Church law is helpful serving people. His degree in accounting from Bellarmine is helpful, too. He understands money, and he’s very frugal.”

#### ‘We feel stronger as a family’

Their closeness continued during the six years Archbishop Thompson served as the bishop of the Evansville, Ind., Diocese.

See COUSIN, page 8



The parishes and schools  
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**Archbishop Charles C. Thompson**

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and your service to the  
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*Welcome  
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# Archbishop Thompson's new coat of arms: one shield, two stories

By Natalie Hoefer

In the ancient world, soldiers used unique crests on shields to identify military units on the field of battle.

It seems fitting, then, that the Catholic Church uses such "coats of arms" to identify dioceses of the Church Militant—the soldiers of Christ on Earth.

Symbolism abounds in coats of arms. Colors, the number of certain items, the presence or absence of particular elements—all combine to identify who presides over a particular ecclesial region.

As Archbishop Charles C. Thompson becomes the shepherd of the Church in central and southern Indiana, his coat of arms will be joined with that of the archdiocese.

In this article, *The Criterion* takes a look at this new coat of arms, translating the story the symbols tell about our new shepherd and the archdiocese he now leads.

## To top it off

The first piece of the story comes from outside the shield, starting with the color of the hat (*galero*) and the tassels. The green hue identifies the ecclesial leader as an archbishop.

The *galero*, or hat, above the shield is reminiscent of broad-rimmed, tasseled hats worn by clergy centuries ago. Although its use was eliminated by a papal decree in 1969, the *galero* is still used on ecclesial coats of arms.

The number of tassels indicates the shepherd's place within Church hierarchy. Six tassels per side indicate a bishop, 10 per side identify an archbishop, and 15 per side represent a cardinal.

Behind the shield is a gold cross, an element reserved to the coat of arms of bishops. A single horizontal bar denotes a bishop, whereas two bars indicate an archbishop. The five red jewels symbolize the five wounds of Christ on the cross.

## So many symbols

The story continues with the many elements emblazoned on the shield of the coat of arms. The right side of the shield (the observer's left) contains the archdiocesan crest. The crest on the left is the personal crest of the archbishop.

Archbishop Thompson's crest is a tri-part plethora of meaning. The top-most symbol is the *fleur de lis*, which translates to "flower of the lily." Archbishop Thompson chose this symbol for its long-standing history in the ecclesial heraldry of this area. It is taken from the arms of the Diocese of Bardstown, and it also represents the Diocese of Vincennes, which was established from the original territory of Bardstown.

In the middle of Archbishop Thompson's crest are two wavy "barrulets" encompassing two blue crosses. The wavy bars represent several rivers of importance to the area and to the archbishop's background: the Ohio River, which connects Indiana and his birth-state of Kentucky; the Wabash River, which was central to the Diocese of Vincennes; and the Salt River, which flows through the archbishop's native Marion County in Kentucky. The wavy lines also represent the waters of baptism.

Between the barrulets are two blue Greek crosses. They represent the Catholic heritage that has come to him from his parents, Coleman and Joyce (Thomas) Thompson.

The final component of the Archbishop Thompson's crest is a green sword overlaid by an inverted blue cross. These represent the means by which SS. Peter and Paul—two saints to whom the archbishop holds devotion—were martyred: St. Peter by being crucified upside down, and St. Paul by being beheaded with a sword. The green in heraldic terms represents loyalty in love, and blue represents strength and faith.

Serving as a background to all of these elements is the color white or silver, a hue

which in heraldry signifies sincerity and truth.

## A tale of two regions

On the right side of the shield is the coat of arms for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

It consists of a blue cross on a gold field. The cross is the ultimate symbol of faith, emphasized by the color blue and its meaning of strength and faith in heraldic terms. The cross is placed on a gold background, which signifies wisdom, generosity, glory and constancy.

Toward the top of the cross is the *fleur de lis*. It represents the faith brought to this area by French missionaries to the French-established fort and outpost of Vincennes.

The fish and the trident recall the Algonquin Native American people of this region. The word Algonquin means "at the place of spearing fish." Gold, the color of the most noble metal, here symbolizes the first and most noble of the virtues: faith.

## The final message

Below the shield lie the final components of the coat of arms.

First is the pallium, the white woolen cloth worn around the neck over the shoulders—as a sheep carried by Christ, the Good Shepherd—that yokes an archbishop to the pope in shepherding the flock of the universal Church. Both the physical pallium and the element on the coat of arms bear black crosses and black silk at the end of a tab attached to the front of the pallium.



According to an article on the Eternal Word Television Network's website, "These crosses are to remind the wearer of the five wounds of Christ crucified for us," and "the end tips of the garment are embroidered with black silk, reminiscent of the feet of the lambs the Good Shepherd laid down his life for ..."

The final message of the story told by the coat of arms is written on the banner at the bottom. It is the Scripture passage Archbishop Thompson chose to adopt as his motto as a bishop, and will remain his motto no matter where he shepherds: "Christ the Cornerstone." It can be found in Eph 2:20, as well as referenced in Psalm 118:22. †

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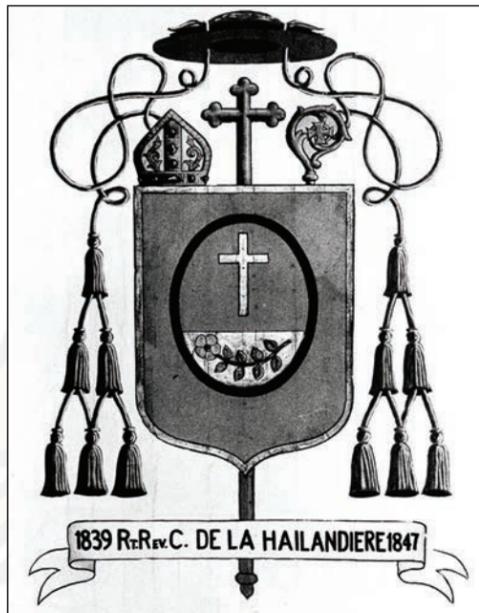
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# The coat-of-arms from each of our 12 previous bishops/archbishops



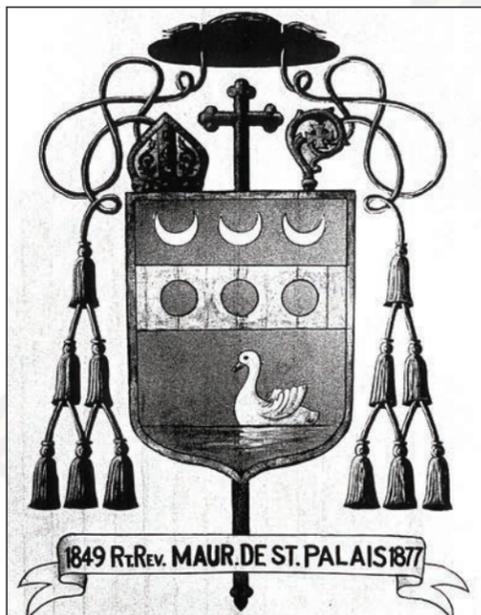
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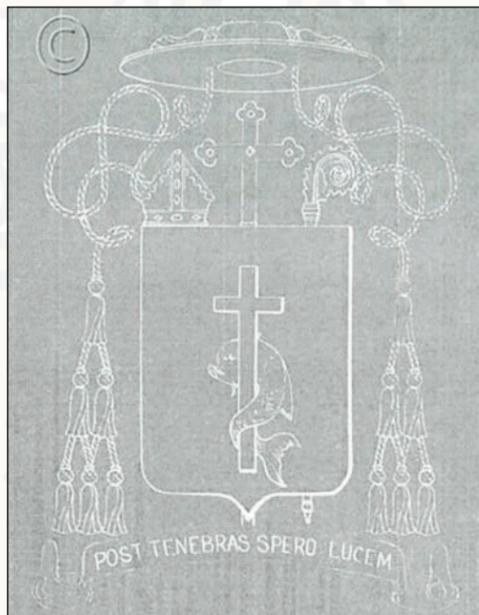
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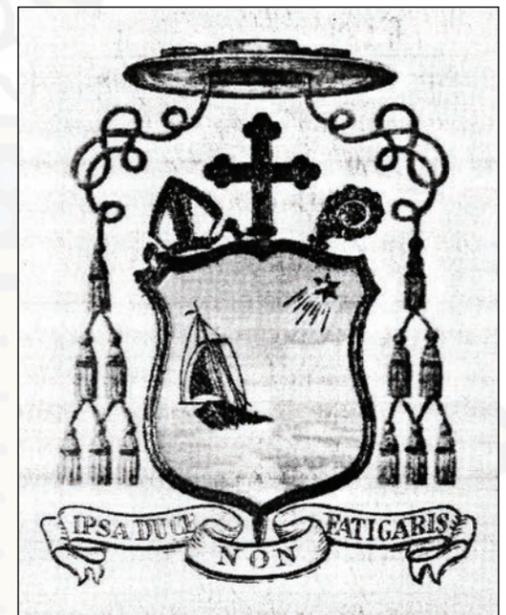
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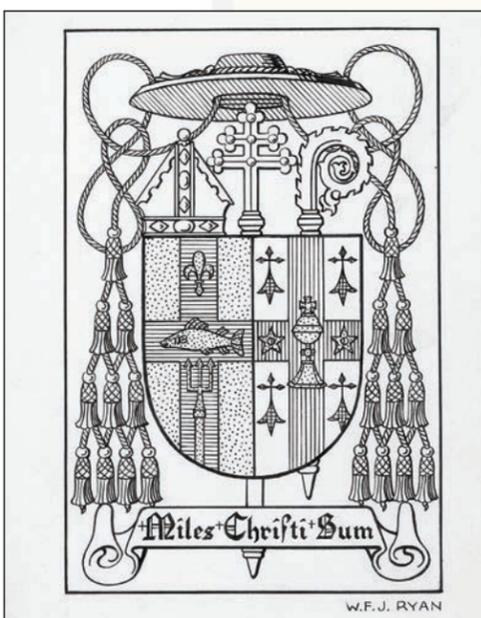
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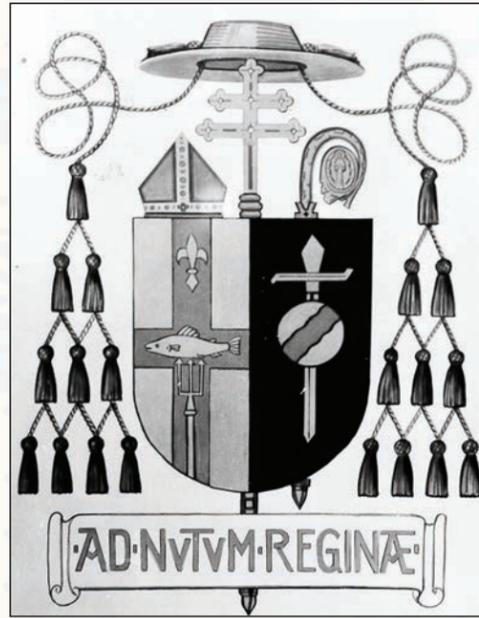
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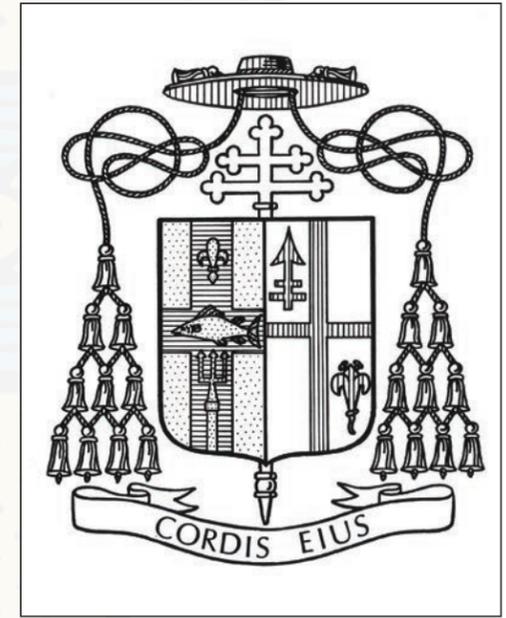
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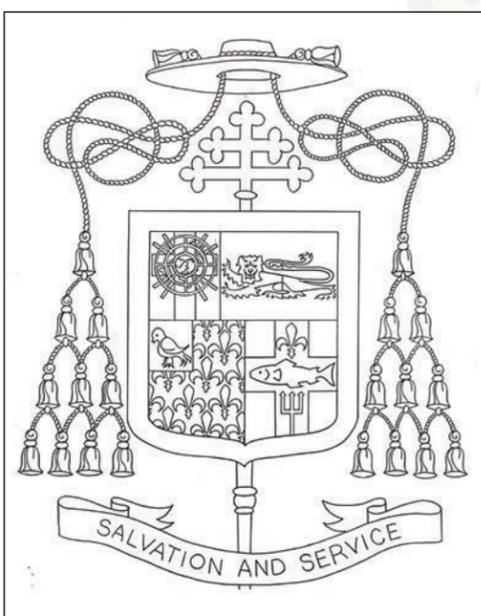
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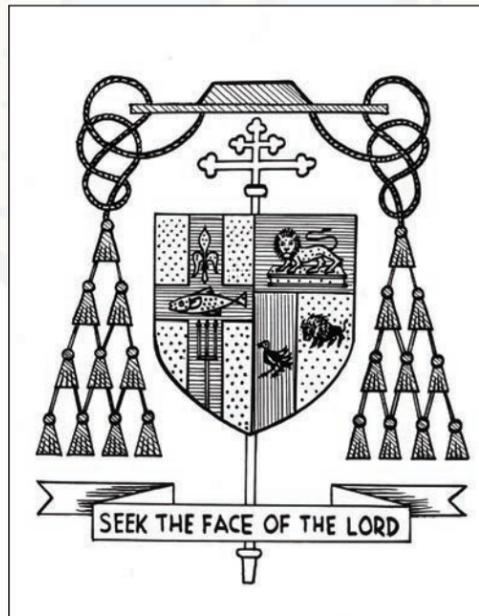
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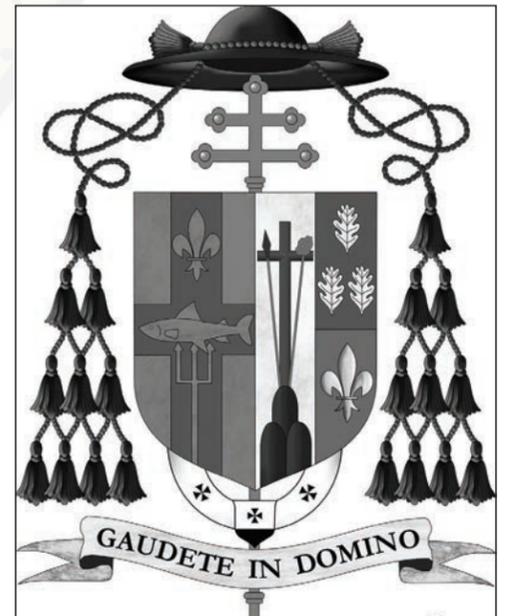
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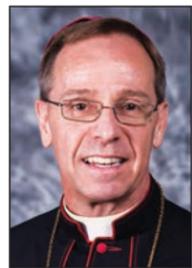


Most Rev. Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.

# Archbishop's motto promotes being 'Christ-centered in all we do'

By Natalie Hoefler

When a priest becomes a bishop, he chooses for himself a motto—a phrase or Scripture verse that will appear on his coat of arms and will serve as a cornerstone for his ministry as an episcopal shepherd.



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

When he was selected to lead the Evansville Diocese in 2011, then-Bishop Charles C. Thompson literally selected a “cornerstone” as his episcopal motto: “Christ the Cornerstone.”

“I chose the motto from a couple of different places [in Scripture],” Archbishop Thompson explained. “In addition to Ephesians [2:20], the reference is also made in Psalm 118 [verse 22] and a psalm prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours.”

A historical definition of the term “cornerstone” was offered by Father Terry Bradshaw, a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville who served as ministry supervisor

for then-transitional Deacon Thompson before he was ordained a priest in 1987.

“The cornerstone, when you build something, especially back in the day, finding the corner and establishing that—you line everything up to the cornerstone,” he explained. “Everything is directed in relation to the cornerstone. It’s where you measure the angles from.”

Archbishop Thompson explained his motto in answer to a question during a press conference at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis on June 13.

He explained it as “that whole notion of being rooted and founded in Christ, being Christ-centered in all we do. For me, it means trying to keep [that notion] before me.”

“We have to be Christ-centered, not self-centered [or] ego-centered, to not be driven by *my* agenda, but be driven by God’s will, the mission of Jesus Christ and the grace of the Holy Spirit.”

He expounded upon that definition in an interview with *The Criterion*, noting that the motto is about “all encountering the person of Jesus Christ, leading others to this encounter and keeping before

[them] that the Church is the Body of Christ.”

He referred several times during the June 13 press conference to the archdiocese as “Christ’s Church, not my Church.”

Archbishop Thompson said the idea of being rooted in Christ has long been a driving force in his life.

“The need to be Christ-centered has always been something that I have tried to keep in mind and live,” he said. “It is the essence of being eucharistic people.”

He sees in the motto a means to keep priorities straight in life.

“When we keep Christ as the cornerstone, all else falls into place,” he said. “When we fail to do so—placing ourselves, ego, pride, material possessions, ideologies, agenda, popularity, etc. [ahead of Christ]—everything falls apart.”

“This is the way of the world as well. Keeping Christ as the cornerstone, we are able to keep before us the poor, the vulnerable, those in need and those on the margins. Rather than judge them as problems, we embrace them as persons, brothers and sisters in Christ the

cornerstone.”

In a written statement during the June 13 press conference, Archbishop Thompson drew upon his “Christ the Cornerstone” episcopal motto, saying it is his “first and foremost prayer that we be Christ-centered in all aspects of our identity, mission and witness in proclaiming the Joy of the Gospel.”

In his interview with *The Criterion*, he stated that, not just for members of the archdiocese, but for all Christians, “particularly Catholics,” that it is essential to “embrace what it means to be people of God, the body of Christ and part of the eucharistic community of believers.”

“To carry out our baptismal calling of missionary discipleship, we must be Christ-centered in and through word, sacrament and service,” he said.

“To be Christ-centered, intimately bound to the person of Jesus Christ the cornerstone, we must necessarily be rooted in prayer, both individually and communally.”

“This is how we make a difference in a wounded world, bringing out peace, healing, reconciliation, justice and mercy.” †

## COUSIN

continued from page 4

“I’ve gone to Evansville quite often to be with him, to have a meal,” says Father Cieslik, the archivist for the Louisville Archdiocese and the pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Mount Washington, Ky. “First of all, it’s just catching up on our family, and seeing what each of us has been up to. I don’t hesitate to ever ask him his opinion. He has very good insights.”

Father Cieslik arranged his schedule to arrive in Indianapolis a few days before his cousin became the new archbishop during the installation Mass at SS. Peter

and Paul Cathedral on July 28. As the archbishop moved into his new residence, his cousin wanted to be there to “help him unpack and hang a few pictures.”

He also wanted to be part of the cookout that Archbishop Thompson hosted for his extended family on July 27. That get-together reminds Father Cieslik of the family meals they were both part of growing up.

“Our grandmother, Mildred Thompson, became a widow very young,” Father Cieslik says. “A lot of us kids would get farmed out to work in her garden during the summer, picking vegetables and wild blackberries. During the week, there were three or four cousins staying there, and it really built the bond between us.

On Sundays, all the uncles and aunts *came home* to our grandmother’s house. Everyone would bring something to eat. It was like a family reunion every Sunday.”

He expects a large family reunion for the archbishop’s installation Mass.

“It speaks of closeness and support—and being very proud of Chuck. We love him a lot.”

“Chuck and I presided at a wedding in the family a year ago. We’ve done that quite a bit. It’s so wonderful. When he and I are together, I just feel a lot of connection. I feel the presence of grandparents and aunts and uncles who are no longer with us. We miss them a lot. When we are together, we feel stronger as a family.” †

## FAMILY

continued from page 3

has shown as an uncle to her three children.

“He’s honest, patient and understanding,” she says. “He’s a great guy, and he does everything by the book. He’s very holy, and he very much trusts in God.”

As she thinks about his installation Mass, her thoughts turn from the person he is to the family bond they share.

“We’re a close-knit family,” she says. “This is very important to him, and it’s very important for us. I want to be there for my brother—supporting him and letting him know how proud we are of him.” †

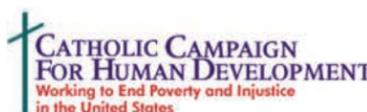


The staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities, Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Campaign for Human Development send our Prayers and Congratulations to

**Archbishop Charles C. Thompson**

on his new appointment!

We will **continue to pray that God will strengthen Archbishop Charles C. Thompson** to be fearless in his witness to the Gospel; to stand with the suffering, the weak and the poor; and lead our Church by his example.



# Religious communities express support for Archbishop Thompson

By Sean Gallagher

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson is the shepherd not only for the clergy and lay faithful in parishes across central and southern Indiana.

He is also a pastoral leader for the men and women religious in the archdiocese, especially those whose communities are based here.

Leaders of these religious communities recently shared with *The Criterion* their reaction to the appointment of Archbishop Thompson, and their hopes for his future leadership of the archdiocese.

Benedictine Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, the leader of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, was especially delighted at the news of the appointment since Archbishop Thompson received his priestly formation at his community's seminary and later served on its faculty.



Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, O.S.B.

"Because he is an alumnus, we at Saint Meinrad believe we contributed to his priestly formation, a formation which has resulted in a gracious, effective, and happy priest and then bishop—and now archbishop," said Archabbot Kurt, who taught Archbishop Thompson in a course on sacramental theology. "We are 'humbly proud' of our support of the Archbishop-designate over the years."

Franciscan Sister Maureen Irvin, congregational minister for the Congregation of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis in Oldenburg, and other religious order leaders in the archdiocese have already come to know Archbishop Thompson through yearly

meetings they have had with bishops from across the state.

She hopes that Archbishop Thompson will do much to build on the pastoral leadership of his predecessor, Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, N.J.

"Being a pastoral leader who calls Catholics to respond to the social justice issues of our time, including poverty, immigration, the death penalty, climate change, human trafficking and the sanctity of all life would surely challenge and enrich the Church of central and southern Indiana," Sister Maureen said.



Sr. Maureen Irvin, O.S.F.

"Perhaps he can find ways to reach out to young Catholics, and help them to feel more a part of the archdiocese and the Church. I anticipate that he will be a strong spiritual and pastoral leader."

She also noted that many religious communities, including her own, are currently living through times of change and decision making about the future.

"We anticipate that Archbishop Thompson will be sensitive to all that is happening for vowed religious, and supportive of the major decisions that congregations are having to make," Sister Maureen said. "As Sisters of St. Francis, we will be planning for the future of some of our ministries. The fact that he is a canon lawyer will be very helpful."



Sr. Dawn Tomaszewski, S.P.

Providence Sister Dawn Tomaszewski,

general superior of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, appreciates Archbishop Thompson's pastoral leadership and expressed her expectation that her community will assist him in ministering to the Church in central and southern Indiana.

"Bishop Thompson led the Diocese of Evansville through a highly inclusive pastoral planning process," she said. "He will bring those gifts to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis."

"I certainly hope Archbishop-designate Thompson would find us willing collaborators in continuing the mission of Jesus in whatever ways that might be helpful or fruitful. The Sisters of Providence have long been dedicated to the Church in Indiana, and wish to continue the legacy begun by our foundress St. Mother Theodore Guérin."

Conventual Franciscan Father James Kent, provincial of his order's Province of Our Lady of Consolation based in Mount St. Francis, said he looks forward to the leadership that Archbishop Thompson can show in this time marked by many divisions in society.



Fr. James Kent, O.F.M. Conv.

"The Archbishop-designate has said he most often finds the truth in the center," said Father James. "In a culture so fractured and with such apparent little interest in overcoming the divide, my hope is Archbishop Thompson can shepherd the people of central and southern Indiana to pastures that serve the common good, rooted in the truth of the Gospel, and which unites our diversity through the grace of Jesus Christ's self-sacrificing love."

Benedictine Sister Jennifer Mechtild Horner, prioress of Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, hopes that her community can help Archbishop Thompson give support to people in need in the archdiocese.



Sr. Jennifer Mechtild Horner, O.S.B.

"It is important that we reach out to the poor, immigrants, refugees and anyone else in need," she said. "As our shepherd, Archbishop Thompson can take the lead in calling the clergy, religious and all the faithful to reach out to all people bringing them the good news of Jesus Christ."

While various religious communities across the archdiocese foresee collaborating with Archbishop Thompson in actively accomplishing the mission of the Church in central and southern Indiana, the Discalced Carmelite nuns of the Monastery of St. Joseph in Terre Haute plan on supporting Archbishop Thompson much as they have his predecessors—through a hidden life of prayer in their cloistered community.

"Each archbishop in the history of our community has always held a special relationship with us, as our life is dedicated to the spiritual support of the local Church and its shepherd," said Mother Anne Brackmann,



Mother Anne Brackmann, O.C.D.

the monastery's prioress. "It is our hope that this mutual enrichment will continue. It is our privilege to support him with our life of contemplative prayer, and our efforts to live the Gospel in our particular vocation in the Church." †

The  
Sisters of St. Benedict  
of  
Our Lady of Grace Monastery

Welcome  
Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

We look forward to showing you our  
Benedictine hospitality!

"So that in all things God may be glorified."  
Rule of St. Benedict

Our Lady of Grace Monastery    Benedict Inn Retreat & Conference Center    St. Paul Hermitage

*Congratulations!*

It is with great joy and thankfulness, that we extend our warmest welcome to you, Archbishop-designate Charles C. Thompson, and congratulate you on your appointment to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. The Pastors and Good People of the South Deane Parishes extend our prayers and support to you as you begin your new journey.

Church of the Most Holy Name of Jesus	SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary	St. John the Evangelist
Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ	St. Jude
Sacred Heart of Jesus	St. Mark the Evangelist
St. Ann	St. Patrick
St. Barnabas	St. Roch
Good Shepherd	Our Lady of the Greenwood

# Archbishop's words offer look into his heart, leadership

By John Shaughnessy

In a one-on-one interview with *The Criterion*, Archbishop Charles C. Thompson shared his thoughts and insights on a wide range of topics, from his tendencies for collaboration and self-effacing humor to his views on women and diversity in the Church.

Through his words, the 56-year-old Archbishop Thompson also offers a glimpse into his heart, his personality, and the qualities and perspectives that will guide him as the new spiritual leader of the Church in central and southern Indiana.

## His humor, humility and commitment to dialogue and collaboration

"When you're my size, you'd better be humble or you'll be humbled. I'm always in awe of the people I've worked with over the years. I've got an incredible family. I've got incredible brother priests, deacons, lay people I've worked with over the years. I'm always humbled by wonderful, holy, brilliant men and women in the Church.

"The dialogue is necessary because no one person can do this on their own. For me to think I'm a Lone Ranger and that I can lead a parish let alone a diocese without collaboration, without working with others, I do damage to myself and the Church. So I think it's necessary for us to form that vision together and walk together. Pope Francis, I love his word, 'accompaniment'—that notion of a culture of encounter, that connectedness and that missionary discipleship."

## Importance of marriage and family to his ministry

"It's at the center of my experience growing up. And it's certainly a key concern for our Church today. Marriage

and family is the fabric of stability in our society. As the family goes, society goes. The family is where we first learn love, mercy, forgiveness, respect, care for others, the faith.

"And our Church has long taught that parents are the first and foremost educators of our children. So it's at the core of everything that we're about in evangelization and catechesis, and growing as a community of faith. We say the Church is the family of families."

## Role of young people in the Church

"First, we have to recognize them as the Church of today. It's not the future Church. They're the young Church of today. And to treat them as such.

"Young people have to be at the table. People ask me, 'What's the vision of the diocese?' They've got to be part of that dialogue. They've got to be part of forming that vision. And to be relevant, authentic and credible to them—to speak honestly and transparently, but to speak to the things they're dealing with and facing.

"On the other side, the young people have to be willing to be engaged, to be a part of that Church. It's not just what the Church can do for me, but what can I do to be part of that mission."

## Catholic education

"I was the chaplain of three different Catholic high schools. I loved that ministry. It was always energizing and refreshing. If I was having a bad day, I'd just go over there, and they would pick me up, inspire me and renew my spirit.

"Both in the Archdiocese of Louisville and in the Diocese of Evansville, I've been with very strong Catholic school systems. As a result of that, you see the value of Catholic schools and Catholic education, not only on our Church, but on our community, upon our society. The



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson speaks during a press conference on June 13 at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis. Earlier in the day, Pope Francis had named the Evansville, Ind., bishop as the seventh archbishop of Indianapolis, succeeding Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, who was appointed to lead the Archdiocese of Newark, N.J., last November. (File photo by Sean Gallagher)

schools are not only striving to produce good members of the Church, we're striving to produce good citizens. It's the holistic approach of mind, body and spirit."

## Diversity in the Church

"My understanding is that when St. John Paul II began World Youth Day, he began it because he wanted young people to experience the universality of the Church—to experience the richness of cultures and languages, and all the beauty of the Church beyond one's own backyard, one's own parish, and one's own diocese. Just that richness of the diversity.

"It's the same thing here with immigrants and refugees and migrants. Pope Francis also says in 'The Joy of

the Gospel,' in serving the poor, don't think about what we're giving them, but how we listen to them and allow them to touch us. With immigrants and refugees and migrants, how do we let them touch us? How do we allow them to bring the richness of their culture and languages to our communities as well?"

## Women in the Church

"My maternal grandmother was very much the matriarch of the family. She was admired by everyone in the town and the county. So I grew up with the sense of how important that woman was to the family, to the life of our relationships.

"I think that without even realizing it very early on, I was given that sense of

See WORDS, page 19

Prayers and warm congratulations to

*Archbishop Charles C. Thompson*

on being named the seventh Archbishop of Indianapolis.

From Bishop Christopher Coyne and the parishoners, priests, deacons, and staff of the

ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Congratulations

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

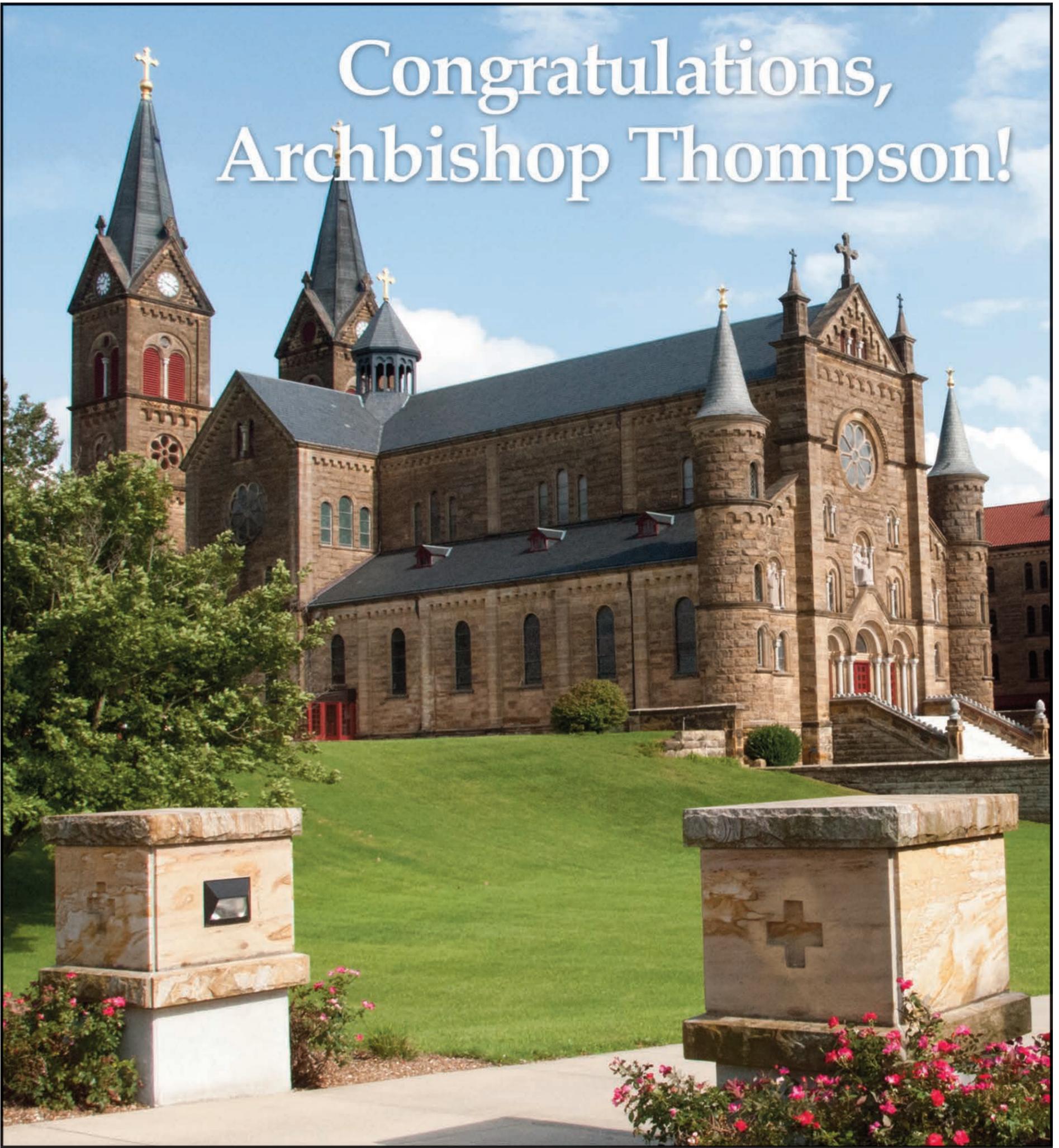
on being named the seventh Archbishop of Indianapolis

from

Bishop Thomas John Paprocki

and the Clergy, Religious and Laity of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

# Congratulations, Archbishop Thompson!



*Congratulations to the Most Rev. Charles C. Thompson  
on your installation as Archbishop of Indianapolis.  
We extend a warm welcome to you as you begin your  
ministry in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.*

**Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, O.S.B., President-Rector Fr. Denis Robinson, O.S.B.,  
and the monks, students and faculty of  
Saint Meinrad Archabbey & Seminary and School of Theology.**



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# Archbishop keeps running, pushing to a higher level of service

By John Shaughnessy

Nearly 35 years have passed, but Steve Schulz still remembers a certain cross-country meet from his college days—especially one moment in the race involving his teammate Charles “Chuck” Thompson.

At the time, Schulz and the future archbishop of Indianapolis were both among the top seven runners for the cross-country team of Bellarmine University in Louisville, Ky., in the fall of 1982.

“The one thing I remember vividly is from our last year,” Schulz recalls. “I believe it was our conference championship meet. Chuck got progressively better over his years at Bellarmine. At one point in the race, I remember Chuck is moving right past me, just leaving me in the dust.”

What Schulz remembers even more is the kind of person and teammate that the new archbishop of Indianapolis was.

“He was an extremely nice guy,” Schulz says. “He never said anything bad about anyone. He never complained. And he worked really hard every day. He was just dedicated—like everything he does.”

So Schulz isn’t surprised to hear that his college teammate is still running about four miles a day. And he isn’t surprised about Archbishop Thompson’s track record of upward movement in the Church.

“It’s been interesting watching him go up through the ranks,” says Schulz, a Louisville resident who has stayed in touch with Archbishop Thompson during his friend’s time as a priest in the Archdiocese of Louisville and as bishop of the Evansville, Ind., Diocese.

“From a commitment and intelligence level—and with his dedication—it doesn’t surprise me that he would get these opportunities and do an excellent job. He’s a very well-rounded individual.”

Running is no longer the physical outlet for Archbishop Thompson’s competitive fire. Instead, it helps to fuel the energy, the calmness and the direction he brings to

people in his spiritual care.

“I’ve been running all my life,” Archbishop Thompson says. “Running is a matter of releasing stress. It’s just a good way to let things go. I tell people I run for the people around me. If things are weighing on me or causing me stress, I can run four miles, and if I run long enough and hard enough, the problem is still there, but I have a different perspective and a whole different place with it.”

He tries to run at least five days a week—a commitment he hopes to continue as he leads the Catholic faithful in central and southern Indiana.

There’s little doubt that he will keep the commitment, according to another friend and teammate from his college days.

“I’m glad he’s still running, and he’s able to,” says Harry Freibert, who ran cross country and track at Bellarmine with Archbishop Thompson and still lives in the Louisville area. “He was tough as nails. There was no quit in him.”

Still, their bond extended well beyond the 110-115 miles they would run together each week as part of their training in college. Freibert entered Bellarmine as a freshman when Archbishop Thompson was a junior. Freibert’s voice turns softer as he remembers his friend Chuck as one of the people who “didn’t make me feel as lonely” at the start of that year.

“Our thread runs pretty thick,” Freibert says. “It seems the more we did together, the more we had in common. Chuck and I were from the same blue-collar background of hard work. You get up and put in a good day’s work. We ran track and cross country together. We both qualified for the work-study program to pay for our education—working in the admissions office. And then we both had accounting in common.”

Freibert pauses, laughs and adds, “He’s got a great wit about him, too. We laughed a lot. And I’ve got a lot of great memories that stand out about him.”



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, center, posed for a photo with Steve Schulz, left, and Harry Freibert—two of his former teammates from Bellarmine University in Louisville where they ran cross country and track together. The photo was taken three years ago when Schulz and Freibert drove from Louisville to visit their friend, who was then the bishop of Evansville, Ind. (Submitted photo)

The memories include traveling with him to the Catholic stronghold known as “Kentucky’s Holy Land” where the archbishop’s life is rooted.

“We went down and went fishing. And then I met his grandma,” Freibert says. “She had something in the oven that was really good, and she wouldn’t let us go without eating. They were just salt-of-the-earth people.”

There’s also Freibert’s memory of the day he married his wife Anne 30 years ago—and how his friend presided over the wedding.

“I’m one of eight children in a very traditional upbringing,” Freibert says. “Having Chuck preside over our wedding ceremony just meant a lot for our family tradition—and our tradition of family. I think it means even more to me now than it did then.”

So does what his friend did when Freibert’s mother died three years ago—a time when his friend was the bishop of the Evansville Diocese.

“I asked Chuck to pray for her,” Freibert recalls. “He showed up at the funeral home. And it wasn’t a flash-in-the-pan visit. He had another place to go, but he stayed.”

So has their friendship. Freibert and Schulz both try to stay connected with their former teammate, sending him an occasional e-mail and even driving together to visit him when he was leading the Church in southwestern Indiana.

“He’s already told us we have to come to Indianapolis,” Freibert says with a laugh. “I’ve been fortunate to maintain my friendship with him over the years. He’s just a special person.”

He is also a great choice to lead the archdiocese, Freibert insists.

“I just don’t think Chuck knows failure. I don’t think he would have accepted this position if it didn’t scare him a little, challenge him, and push him to a higher level of service. I just think he’s going to do great.

“We knew him when—and he’s never let anyone down since.” †

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



## CONGRATULATIONS

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

“I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9

May the Lord bless you in your ministry!  
- Cardinal Blase J. Cupich



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# WELCOME

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, D.D, J.C.L.  
to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis!

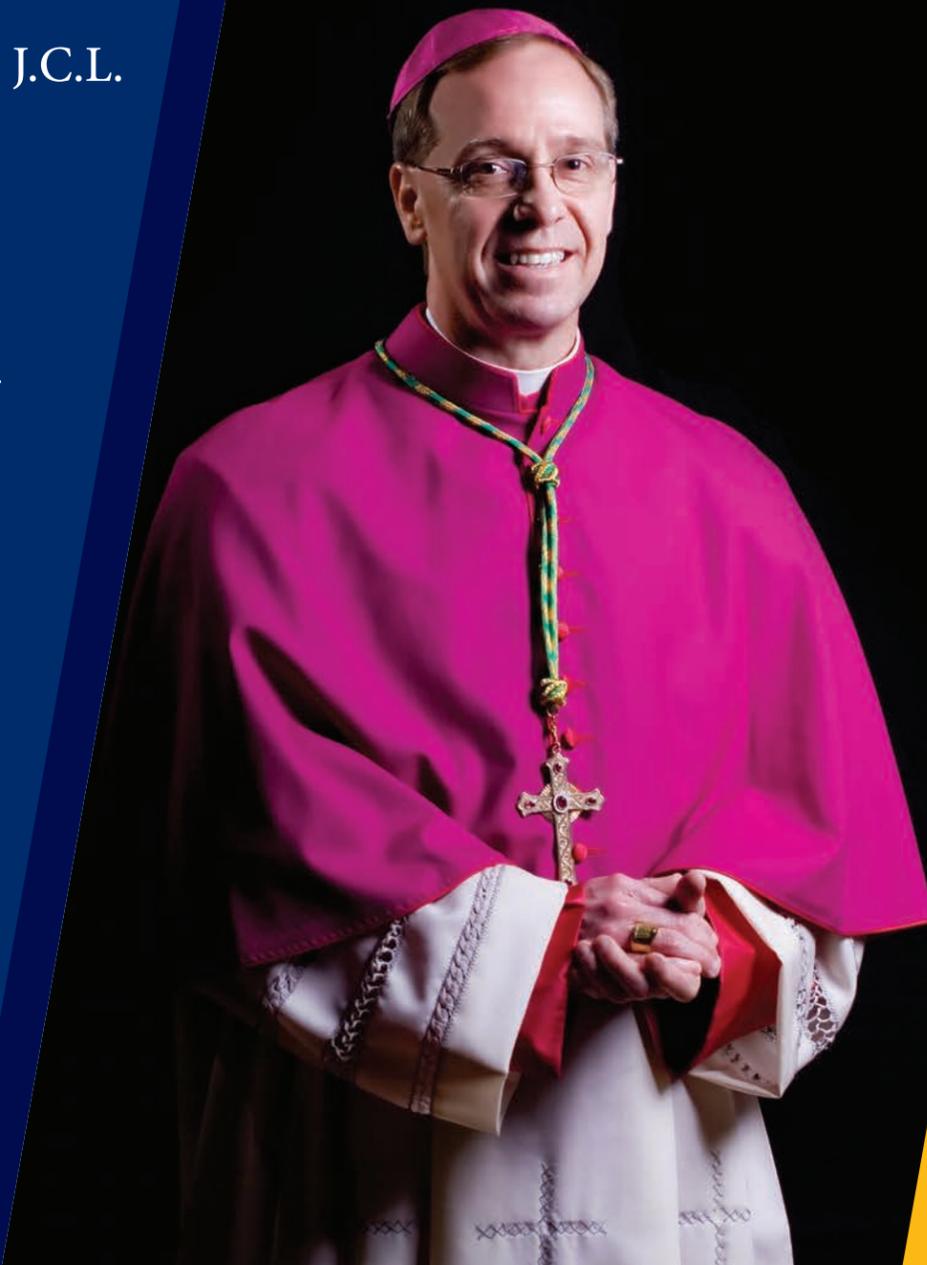
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We offer our prayers for you and your leadership through Jesus Christ who is our cornerstone.

“Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. Through him the whole structure is held together and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord.”

—Ephesians 2:20-21

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# The gift of family, the gift of faith



Then-bishop-designate Charles C. Thompson stands on April 26, 2011, in front of the altar at St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville, Ind., following the announcement of his appointment to lead the Diocese of Evansville. Pictured, front row, left, his sister, Lori Wilson; his mother Joyce; then-Bishop Thompson; his father Coleman; his sister-in-law and brother, Sue Ann and Kenny Thompson. Standing behind them, from left, his aunt and godmother Anna Schmalz; and his cousin Father Dale Cieslik, a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky. (Photo courtesy The Message)



Then-Father Charles C. Thompson, center, is flanked by then-archbishop Thomas C. Kelly of Louisville, Ky., and then-bishop Daniel M. Buechlein of Memphis, Tenn., on May 30, 1987, the day he was ordained a priest. (Photo courtesy Father Dale Cieslik)



Charles C. Thompson, pictured as an infant, was born on April 11, 1961, the first-born child of Coleman and Joyce Thompson. (Photo courtesy Louisville Archdiocesan Archives)



Coleman and Joyce Thompson, center, celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on May 7, 2010, with the help of retired Louisville, Ky., Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly, left, Father Dale Cieslik, then-Father Charles Thompson and Louisville Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz. (Photo courtesy Louisville Archdiocesan Archives)



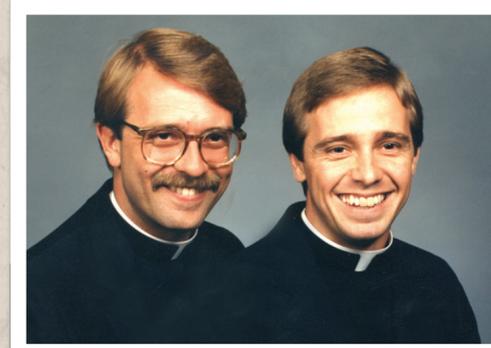
Then-Father Charles C. Thompson, newly ordained as a priest, is pictured with his parents, Coleman and Joyce Thompson, at a reception following his first Mass on May 30, 1987. (Photo courtesy Louisville Archdiocesan Archives)



Father Charles Thompson is pictured with his maternal grandmother, Mildred Thompson, in this undated photo from the Christmas season. (Photo courtesy Father Dale Cieslik)



Coleman Thompson, left, is pictured with his son, then-Father Charles Thompson, after his ordination on May 30, 1987. (Photo courtesy Father Dale Cieslik)



Father Dale Cieslik and then-transitional Deacon Charles Thompson pose for portrait in 1986. The photograph was taken as a gift to their grandmother, Mildred Thompson. (Photo courtesy Louisville Archdiocesan Archives)



Young Charles Thompson, bottom row at the far right, is seen with classmates after they received their first Communion in 1969 at the former St. Joseph Parish in Raywick, Ky. (Submitted photo)



Thirteen-year-old Chuck Thompson poses for his seventh-grade class picture during the 1973-74 academic year. (Photo courtesy Louisville Archdiocesan Archives)



Lori Wilson dances with her brother Chuck Thompson at her wedding reception on July 22, 1983. (Photo courtesy Louisville Archdiocesan Archives)



Cousins and grandmother pose at a reception following Father Charles Thompson's first Mass on May 30, 1987, at St. Bernard Church in Louisville, Ky. Father Dale Cieslik, left, six years older than his cousin, and Father Thompson stand alongside Mildred Thompson. (Photo courtesy Louisville Archdiocesan Archives)

# CONGRATULATIONS AND PRAYERFUL BEST WISHES

## *Archbishop Charles C. Thompson*

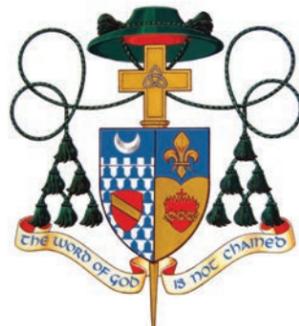
Upon your call to ministry  
in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis



From Bishop Timothy L. Doherty, Bishop Emeritus William L. Higi  
and the Priests, Religious Brothers, Women Religious, Deacons  
and the Lay Faithful of the



DIOCESE  
of  
LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA



# New archbishop 'understands needs' of Hispanic community

By Natlie Hoefer

When Sharon Burns speaks of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson's dedication to Hispanic ministry, she does so with strength and conviction. As director of Hispanic ministry and director of Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Evansville, Ind., she had a front-seat view of his dedication to serving the Latino community.

"He genuinely cares for the people and has grown to understand their needs, and he wants to proactively address them," says Burns.



Sharon Burns

According to a story in Evansville's diocesan newspaper, *The Message*, welcoming then-Bishop Thompson as their new shepherd in 2011, he had already identified Hispanic ministry as a priority for the southwestern Indiana diocese.

"He realized from data that we had a growing population throughout the diocese," says Burns. "He wanted to help them not only in faith formation, but [also] in their ability to participate and navigate fully in the community. He understood that some have needs that are more community-based—for example, that immigration legal services is important to have. That started in his tenure" through Catholic Charities, she says.

As a seminarian, Archbishop Thompson chose to spend one summer learning Spanish in the Diocese of Brownsville, Texas, along the Mexico border. So when he came to the Evansville Diocese, he was able to celebrate Mass and other sacraments in Spanish.

But Burns describes Archbishop

Thompson as one who likes to relate to people, and his limited Spanish-speaking skills prevented him from conversing in the language.

So for more than a year, he met for lunch almost weekly with one of her Spanish-speaking employees in Catholic Charities to converse in Spanish in order to improve his skills.

"To carve out a lunch almost every week and meet with a staff member—that's quite a commitment," she says. "I tried, and I couldn't do it."

Within the last three years, he also spent a month participating in an intensive Spanish language program at the Mexican American Catholic College in San Antonio, Texas.

Such commitment to improve his ability to converse in Spanish is indicative of another common trait of the archbishop, says Burns: "He reaches out to get what he needs to serve God better and do a better job."

To serve the Hispanic community better, then-Bishop Thompson reached out in another way—he reached out in search of



Fr. Homero Rodriguez

Latino seminarians to be ordained in the Evansville Diocese.

Now a priest, then-seminarian Homero Rodriguez, a native of Mexico, was contacted by a friend who was in priestly formation for the Evansville Diocese. The friend commented that the diocese had priests who spoke Spanish, but no Latino priests, and that Bishop Thompson was looking for Hispanic men to serve in the diocese.

"I thought about it for quite a few months," says Father Rodriguez. "It kind of stuck in my head."



Then-Bishop Charles C. Thompson elevates the Eucharist during a special Latino Day of Mercy Mass on Aug. 6, 2016, at St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville, Ind., to celebrate the Holy Year of Mercy.

(Photo courtesy *The Message*)

He came to the diocese "just kind of like checking out whether I liked the diocese or city, just basically to have an experience of the language and Church," Father Rodriguez admits.

When he finally met with then-Bishop Thompson, "I didn't know he was studying Spanish," the priest says. "We had a very pleasant conversation. Every time he could, he spoke Spanish to me. It was just enjoyable. Because of him, I decided to stay."

And thanks to then-Bishop Thompson, two more Latino seminarians will be ordained for the diocese next summer, says Father Rodriguez, who was ordained last December.

"I see this as one of his most significant efforts," says Burns. Bringing in the Latino seminarians "has been positively received by all of the community," not just the Hispanics, she notes.

Speaking for the Catholic Hispanic

community of the Evansville Diocese, Father Rodriguez admits they are sad to see their bishop go.

"People are definitely going to miss him," he says. "We had a farewell Mass for him. I saw people from the Hispanic community who came from almost an hour away just to say goodbye to him. That speaks volumes of not only his personality, but his leadership in the diocese.

"Part of our prayers is that we get a man of his conviction, his love for the Hispanic community, somebody who is willing to listen."

When it comes to Archbishop Thompson's efforts for the Hispanic community, Burns says, "There's no doubt in my mind it's for a love of Jesus Christ. His love for Jesus motivates everything he does.

"His sights are clearly set on the kingdom of God, not just for himself but for all people." †



## Welcome Archbishop Thompson

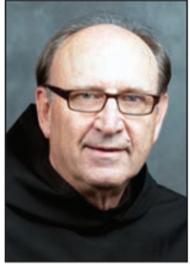
Your flock has been well-tended, awaiting your arrival.

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, as you familiarize yourself with our Archdiocese, you'll soon notice the generosity of its people. Many members of your flock share the love of Christ by graciously giving their time and talents. But these people of faith often go a step further. Through endowments with the Catholic Community Foundation, they provide perpetual support to schools, parishes and other ministries in our Archdiocese. Today, there are fuller stomachs, more enlightened minds and happier children because of those efforts. Yet, there is still so much more work to be done. On behalf of the CCF board, staff, Legacy Society members and all who've found it in their heart to discover God's call to give back, we look forward to working with you to make our Archdiocese a place where God truly lives in every heart.

# Saint Meinrad formed archbishop for ordained ministry

By Sean Gallagher

Benedictine Father Harry Hagan remembers the day in 1983 on which Archbishop Charles C. Thompson first arrived at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad as a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky.



Fr. Harry Hagan, O.S.B.

He was a “quiet and thoughtful fellow,” and had a “practical, down-to-earth personality,” said the monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey who continues to serve on the seminary faculty. He was dean of students when Archbishop Thompson was a seminarian.

“He brought it to his studies, and I think he took that into parishes, then into the Diocese of Evansville and now to Indianapolis,” said Father Harry.

Priestly formation at Saint Meinrad has played a pivotal role in Archbishop Thompson’s approach to ordained life and ministry. But, as Father Harry explained, that formation was intended to help Archbishop Thompson come to live out ordained ministry within his own identity, not according to a set model or mold.

The seminary’s influence on the broader archdiocese is significant as well. Some 80 percent of archdiocesan priests received at least part of their priestly formation there.

And Saint Meinrad’s president-rector when Archbishop Thompson was a seminarian was then-Benedictine Father Daniel M. Buechlein, who served as archbishop of Indianapolis from 1992-2011. Archbishop Thompson himself taught canon law at Saint Meinrad from 2002-2011.



Then-Bishop Charles C. Thompson of Evansville, Ind., ritually holds the hands of archdiocesan seminarian Jeffrey Dufresne during an April 22 Mass in which Dufresne was ordained a transitional deacon. The ordination Mass for Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology was celebrated at the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln in St. Meinrad. Archbishop Thompson was a seminarian at Saint Meinrad from 1983-87 and was on its faculty from 2002-2011. (Photo courtesy of Saint Meinrad Archabbey)

“They grounded us in appreciating and embracing liturgy,” said Archbishop Thompson of Saint Meinrad’s formation staff. “They gave you that foundation of prayer and spiritual rootedness that flows in and out of everything else that we do—our work, our leisure, our friendships.”

Larry Hoyt of Robertsville, Mo., was a classmate of Archbishop Thompson

at Saint Meinrad. He spoke of the integration of prayer and life as a whole that is part of priestly formation there and how this attitude came to life in his friend.

“He made it seem so easy and so natural,” Hoyt said. “That’s what I always wanted in my own life, to have a natural faith rather than something that seemed to be kind of removed from life. He was

able to exemplify that in the way he did things.”

The two have remained friends since their days in the seminary. When they visit, Hoyt observes the important place of prayer in Archbishop Thompson that was fostered in the seminary.

See MEINRAD, page 19

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and the Faithful of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend congratulate Archbishop Charles C. Thompson.

May Christ, the Good Shepherd, bless you and the Holy Spirit guide you as you lead and serve the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

# MEINRAD

continued from page 18

“When he gets up in the morning, he gets up very early, but he doesn’t emerge for several hours, because he’s in prayer,” Hoyt said.



Larry Hoyt

“When he comes out, he and I will have conversations and I’ll know what he’s been reading or reflecting on. It starts coming out. He spends a lot of time in prayerful reflection every day.”

He was pleased that his friend, whom he calls “Chuck,” was appointed archbishop of Indianapolis, and sees his approach to ordained life and ministry as a bishop as consistent with the formation he received at Saint Meinrad.

“The Spirit is definitely alive in the Church, because Chuck probably exemplifies what Pope Francis is trying to do in the Church today,” Hoyt said. “He wants to enter into the life of people. He wants people to feel a part of the Church. He wants to offer forgiveness, to make the Church something that is hands on.”

Father Harry said that a cornerstone of priestly formation at Saint Meinrad is the goal “to help people be the person that they are, rather than stamping them out of

a mold.”

Retired Father Lawrence Richardt has seen the effect of this approach to priestly formation with Archbishop Thompson. The retired archdiocesan priest served as academic dean and vice rector at Saint Meinrad when Archbishop Thompson was a seminarian. He later lived in Huntingburg, Ind., in the Evansville, Ind., Diocese when Archbishop Thompson led the Church in southwestern Indiana.

“You can’t mistake him for anyone else, at least I don’t see that,” said Father Richardt. “He is who he is. He has great self-possession and is confident in that. But he’s willing to submit himself to Jesus’ larger mission.”

After being formed for the priesthood at Saint Meinrad, Archbishop Thompson contributed to the formation there from 2002-2011 by teaching canon law.

Father Robert Robeson, pastor of Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Beech Grove, was one of his students.

“He was outstanding,” said Father Robeson. “He was able to make canon law understandable. The marriage canons are pretty complex. And he had a gift for being able to help you understand them without getting too confused.”

Having served as the rector of Bishop Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis from 2004-14, Father Robeson appreciates how Archbishop Thompson’s approach to formation extended beyond simply teaching a class.



*‘You can’t mistake him for anyone else, at least I don’t see that. He is who he is. He has great self-possession and is confident in that. But he’s willing to submit himself to Jesus’ larger mission.’*

—Father Lawrence Richardt

“You could tell he loved being a priest,” Father Robeson said. “He had a great love for the Church. But, also, he was just a very kind and humble guy. He had great knowledge of canon law, but was very patient with those of us who were new to it and trying to understand it.”

Just the fact that Archbishop Thompson agreed to teach at Saint Meinrad impressed Father Harry. At the time, Archbishop Thompson was also serving in the Louisville Archdiocese as a pastor and in its metropolitan tribunal.

“It was kind of a sign of his generosity and his devotion to Saint Meinrad,” said Father Harry, “that he added that to his schedule above and beyond what he was already doing.”

Father Harry was in Indianapolis during the spring meeting of the U.S. bishops held in the days after the June 13

announcement of Archbishop Thompson’s appointment as the next shepherd of the archdiocese. The two, who first met nearly 35 years ago, spoke with each other during the meeting. Father Harry saw signs in him of the priestly formation he received at Saint Meinrad decades before.

“He seemed very much at home with himself and being himself,” said Father Harry. “There’s a nice freedom and spontaneity in him, his ability to laugh, that shows that he has become the person that God called him to be. It’s not that we [at Saint Meinrad] have made him into something. We have given him a place and an education that has allowed that to unfold.”

(For more information on Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, go to [www.saintmeinrad.edu](http://www.saintmeinrad.edu).) †

# WORDS

continued from page 10

deep regard for what women bring to faith and to leadership and to family—and to every aspect of our lives.

“Most people I’ve worked with over my now 30 years of priesthood have been women. Women bring a whole different tone or witness to any different group or any different situation. That’s

necessary. That’s so important.”

### Care for the poor

“When Jesus asks, ‘What is the greatest commandment?’ he says, ‘Love God with all your heart.’ Second is, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ Pope Francis is telling us to go to the margins and the peripheries. If we go to the margins and the peripheries, then we touch everyone in between. It means leaving nobody behind.”

### The challenge of leading a geographically large archdiocese

“I’ve lived in the rural, I’ve lived in the suburbs, I’ve done ministry in the inner-city as well as the suburbs as well as rural. So I’ve had a little bit of everything. In my experience as a pastor and as a bishop, it’s amazing to me that in a crisis what rises to the top is the faith—the incredible faith of people. There’s love for the Church and Jesus Christ.”

### His need for prayers—and patience

“Pray for me that I’m first and foremost the one who listens to the Holy Spirit. And if I can’t listen to the Spirit, that I’ll at least know how to get out of the way of the Spirit, for the sake of the people I serve.

“I plead for prayers—and patience. I assure you I will make mistakes, and hopefully I’ll have the ability to recognize them at some point, reconcile them and move forward. I’m happy to be here.” †

The graphic contains the following elements:

- Logos and Text:**
  - CHRIST THE KING PARISH & SCHOOL
  - IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH & SCHOOL
  - ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH
  - ST. JOAN OF ARC PARISH & SCHOOL
  - ST. LAWRENCE PARISH & SCHOOL
  - ST. LUKE PARISH & SCHOOL
  - ST. MATTHEW PARISH & SCHOOL
  - ST. PIUS X PARISH & SCHOOL
  - ST. SIMON PARISH & SCHOOL
  - ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH & SCHOOL
- Photograph:** A large sign for BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL, THE NORTH DEANERY, WELCOMES ARCHBISHOP CHARLES THOMPSON.
- Handwritten Letter:**

Dear Archbishop Thompson,

The North Deanery parishes and schools are praying for you at your installation as the Archbishop of Indianapolis. As you continue in the footsteps of the apostolic leaders of our local church who have preceded you, including Bishop Silas Chatard, the first Bishop of Indianapolis, please know that you have a faith community ready and excited to worship and serve alongside you.

Welcome to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis!

# Archdiocese of Indianapolis is divided into 11 deaneries

By Natalie Hoefer and Brandon A. Evans

The archdiocese of Indianapolis is comprised of 129 parishes and nearly 70 Catholic schools. They are organized in 11 different regions, called deaneries.

More than 221,000 Catholics call the archdiocese home. Here are the varying areas where they live and worship.

## Batesville Deanery:

- 19 parishes
- Includes Dearborn, Decatur, Ohio, Ripley and Shelby counties, and parts of Franklin County
- 6 elementary schools, 1 high school
- 25,438 Catholics
- 11.5 percent of the archdiocese

## Bloomington Deanery:

- 10 parishes
- Includes Brown, Lawrence, Monroe, Orange and Owen counties, and parts of Morgan County
- 2 elementary schools
- 10,900 Catholics
- 4.9 percent of the archdiocese

## Connersville Deanery:

- 6 parishes
- Includes Henry, Fayette, Rush, Wayne and Union counties, and parts of Franklin County
- 4 elementary schools, 1 high school
- 6,444 Catholics
- 2.9 percent of the archdiocese

## Indianapolis North:

- 10 parishes
- Includes parts of Marion County
- 9 elementary schools, 3 high schools
- 30,726 Catholics
- 13.7 percent of the archdiocese

## Indianapolis East:

- 9 parishes
- Includes Hancock County and parts of Marion County
- 6 elementary schools, 1 high school
- 19,533 Catholics
- 8.8 percent of the archdiocese

## Indianapolis South:

- 14 parishes
- Includes parts of Marion and Johnson counties
- 9 elementary schools, 1 high school, 1 pre-K-12
- 38,836 Catholics
- 17.4 percent of the archdiocese

## Indianapolis West:

- 11 parishes
- Includes Hendricks County and parts of Marion and Morgan counties
- 7 elementary schools, 2 high schools
- 40,625 Catholics
- 18.4 percent of the archdiocese

## New Albany Deanery:

- 18 parishes
- Includes Clark, Floyd and Harrison counties
- 7 elementary schools, 1 high school
- 23,107 Catholics
- 10.5 percent of the archdiocese

## Seymour Deanery:

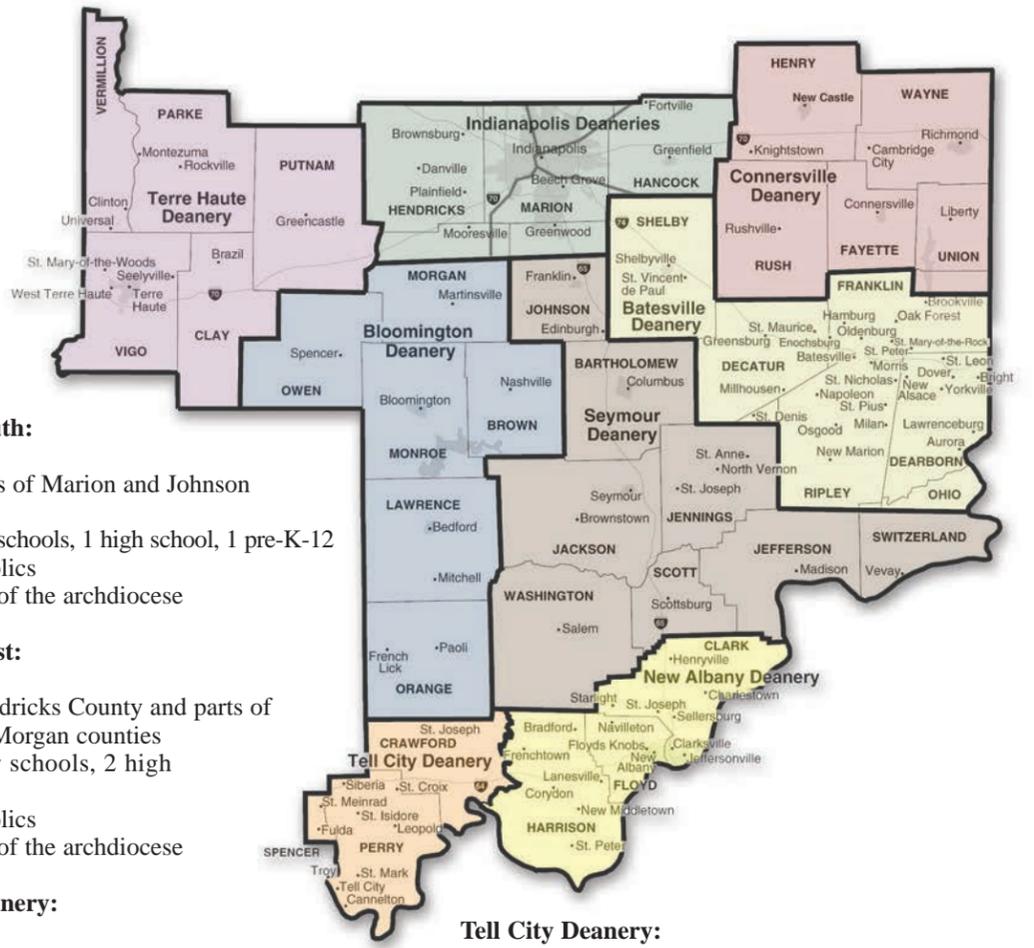
- 11 parishes
- Includes Bartholomew, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Scott, Switzerland and Washington counties, and parts of Johnson County
- 5 elementary schools, 1 high school
- 13,517 Catholics
- 6.1 percent of the archdiocese

## Tell City Deanery:

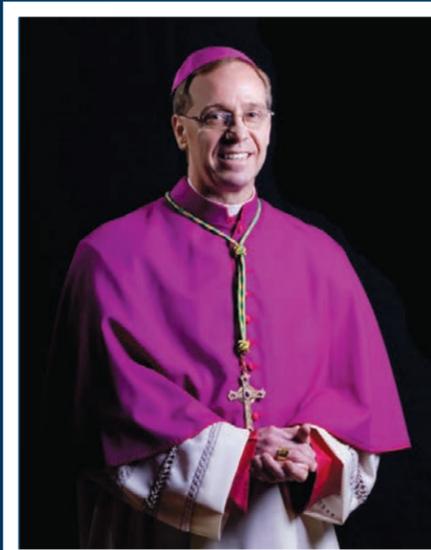
- 11 parishes
- Includes Crawford and Perry counties, and parts of Spencer County
- 5,072 Catholics
- 2.3 percent of the archdiocese

## Terre Haute Deanery:

- 10 parishes
- Includes Clay, Parke, Putnam, Vermillion and Vigo counties
- 1 elementary school
- 7,770 Catholics
- 3.5 percent of the archdiocese †



## Congratulations to Archbishop Charles Thompson from the South Deanery Schools



*"Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."*

MATTHEW 5:16



# Archbishop's ministry connects Louisville, Indianapolis and Evansville

By Natalie Hoefler

The people of three dioceses were on the mind of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson as he prayed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican on June 30, a day after receiving his pallium from Pope Francis.

He prayed for the people of the Archdiocese of Louisville, where he was raised, felt the call to the priesthood and served as a priest; for the people of the Diocese of Evansville, whom he led for six years as bishop; and for the people of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, whom he will shepherd starting on July 28.

"I couldn't pray for one without the other," he told *The Criterion*. "They're all connected to me. They're all a part of me. And they always will be."

His words were true not just on a personal level, but on an historical level as well. In familial terms, the Archdiocese of Louisville is the grandmother of the Diocese of Evansville, and the mother of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Here is a brief background of the three dioceses that share both a history and a hold on the heart of Archbishop Thompson.

## In the beginning

Going further along the diocesan family tree, it all started in 1658, when the Diocese of Quebec was established. At its peak in 1712, the diocese covered all of the lands from "New France"—now Canada—down to the Gulf of Mexico.

More than 130 years later, a new diocese was carved out of the vast Diocese of Quebec. To meet the needs of the newly formed United States of America, the Diocese of Baltimore was established—or erected, using the Church term—from the Quebec Diocese in 1789. Its boundaries encompassed the entirety of the newly formed nation, and the lands as far west as the Mississippi River.

## The grandmother: Archdiocese of Louisville

In 1808, a new diocese was erected. It included most of what was or would become the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. The new episcopal territory was called the Diocese of Bardstown, a town located in the heart of a three-county area in central Kentucky with a dense Catholic population. The area came to be known as the "Kentucky Holy Land," where Archbishop Thompson was raised and shaped in the faith. (See related story on page 30.)

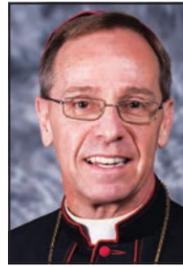
As the population moved north and the economy shifted to the quick currents of the Ohio River, the see of the Diocese of Bardstown was moved north to Louisville in 1841, and its name was changed to the Diocese of Louisville.

And so it was called for almost 100 years when, in 1937, it was elevated to an archdiocese.

## The mother: Archdiocese of Indianapolis

By the time the see was moved to Louisville, the Diocese of Bardstown had already decreased in size. From within its borders was erected the Diocese of Vincennes in 1834. The diocese encompassed the 22-year-old state of Indiana, and the eastern third of Illinois. Its first shepherd was Servant of God Simon Bruté, for whom Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis is named. Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein opened his cause for canonization in 2005.

The Church in Indiana was hardly new at that time. In 1732, St. Francis Xavier Parish became the first parish founded in what would become the state of Indiana. It was founded in the French outpost and fort town of Vincennes, a town strategically located on the Wabash River, which served as a major conduit



*'I couldn't pray for one without the other. They're all connected to me. They're all part of me. And they always will be.'*

*—Archbishop Charles C. Thompson on his connection to the Evansville Diocese, and the archdioceses of Indianapolis and Louisville*

of trade in the 18th century. More than 100 years after its founding, the well-established St. Francis Xavier Parish became the cathedral for the newly formed Diocese of Vincennes in 1834.

Just nine years later, the Illinois portion of the Diocese of Vincennes was carved away in 1843. Not long after, in 1857, the northern half of the state became the Diocese of Fort Wayne, which later became the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Like its neighboring state to the south, the population and economy of Indiana shifted north with time. While still called the Diocese of Vincennes, the see was directed to be moved to Indianapolis in 1878 under its new shepherd, Bishop Francis S. Chatard. The see was officially declared to be Indianapolis in 1898, thus changing the name to the Diocese of Indianapolis.

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral was constructed to become the cathedral. Until construction of the new cathedral was completed in 1907, St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis served as the pro-cathedral.

## The grandchild: Diocese of Evansville

Almost 50 years after the diocesan see was moved and the name was changed to the Diocese of Indianapolis, a papal decree elevated the diocese to the status of archdiocese in 1944.

Through the same decree, the Diocese of Evansville and the Diocese of Lafayette

were erected. (The Diocese of Gary was erected in 1957.)

Twelve counties and four deaneries comprise the Diocese of Evansville. Included within the diocese is the former see of the Diocese of Vincennes, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, commonly called the "Old Cathedral." It was declared a minor basilica in 1970 in honor of the significant role it played in the history of the Church in Indiana. The first four bishops of the Vincennes Diocese are buried in its crypt.

In 2016, four parishes were merged into St. Francis Xavier Parish. The basilica now serves primarily as the site for the Old Cathedral Library and Museum. The library is the oldest in the state, housing about 12,000 rare volumes, including a papal bull issued by Pope John XXII in 1319 and a book from the 1200s.

In 1987, Archbishop Thompson was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville. In 2011, he became the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Evansville, and on July 28 he will become the seventh archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

The three related dioceses have made their mark on him, and he on them, bringing even fuller meaning to his prayer on June 30: "I couldn't pray for one without the other. They're all connected to me. They're all a part of me. And they always will be." †

## Sincere Congratulations to Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, DD, JCL

From

*Archbishop Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL*

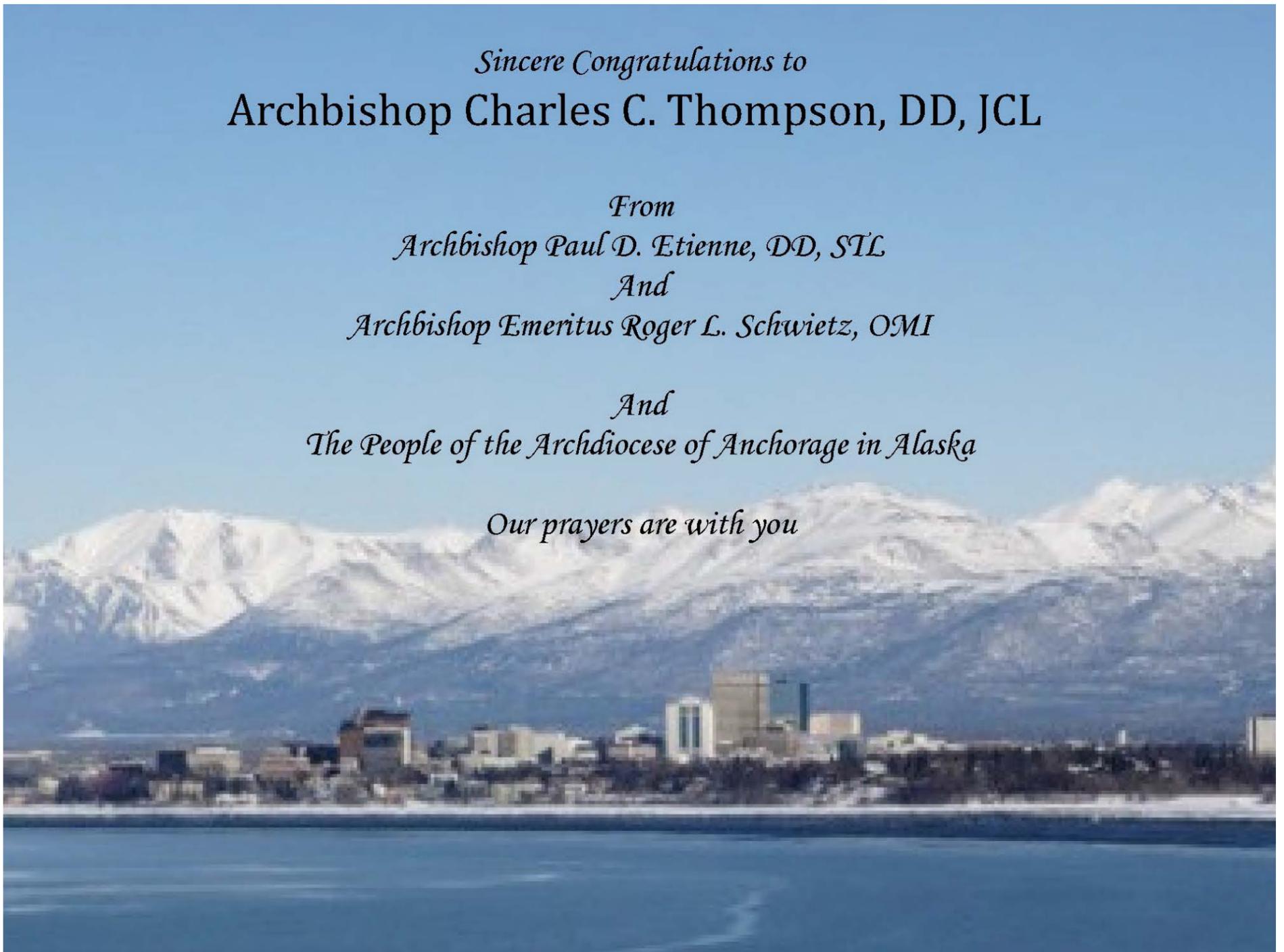
And

*Archbishop Emeritus Roger L. Schwietz, OMI*

And

*The People of the Archdiocese of Anchorage in Alaska*

*Our prayers are with you*



The Indianapolis  
East Deanery  
gives a warm  
welcome to



*Archbishop  
Charles C. Thompson*

with our prayers  
and support.

Holy Cross Central School

Holy Spirit

Our Lady of Lourdes

Scecina Memorial High School

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

St. Michael

St. Philip Neri

St. Rita

St. Thomas the Apostle

St. Therese of the Infant Jesus  
(Little Flower)



The Greensburg Catholic Community of St. Mary Parish and School would like to welcome Archbishop Charles Thompson to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, the Batesville deanery, and St. Mary Parish. Accept our prayers and gratitude for your service to the Church and our community of faith!



**The Dominican Friars**  
at

**ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CENTER**  
*The Newman Center at Indiana University  
Bloomington*

Welcome  
Archbishop Charles C. Thompson  
to the  
Archdiocese of Indianapolis

*Our thoughts and prayers are for you  
as you lead the Catholic Church in  
Central and Southern Indiana.*



*Welcome*  
**ARCHBISHOP  
CHARLES C. THOMPSON**



The Archdiocesan seminarians offer congratulations on the occasion of your Installation as our new Shepherd in Christ.



BISHOP DAVID L. RICKEN  
AND THE FAITHFUL OF  
THE DIOCESE OF GREEN BAY  
SEND HEARTFELT

*congratulations*

AND THE PROMISE OF PRAYER TO  
ARCHBISHOP  
CHARLES C. THOMPSON,  
IN HONOR OF HIS INSTALLATION AS  
THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ARCHBISHOP OF INDIANAPOLIS.

MAY GOD  
BLESS YOU!

Bishop David L. Ricken  
Bishop Robert J. Banks, Emeritus  
Bishop Robert F. Morneau, Emeritus Auxiliary  
and the priests, deacons, religious and  
lay faithful of the Diocese of Green Bay



Diocese of  
Green Bay

[www.gbdioc.org](http://www.gbdioc.org)



**The Serra Club of Indianapolis  
Welcomes  
Archbishop Charles C. Thompson**

We look to his leadership, inspiration and  
example to help us live our lives  
as defined by Jesus Christ.



St. Junipero Serra

We thank our Parish Priests & Deacons  
and all those who serve in  
consecrated life.

We seek those who have:

A desire to serve others; love for the Church;  
deep faith; and are men / women of prayer.

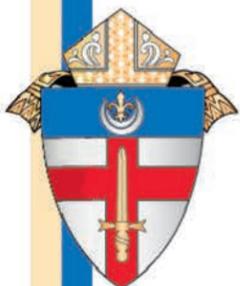
We encourage our youth to place  
Christian values forefront in their daily lives  
and to ask God for guidance.

**May God bless and guide Archbishop Charles  
Thompson in his service to the people of  
central and southern Indiana**



The Serra Club of Indianapolis  
[www.serraindy.org](http://www.serraindy.org)

To join us in support of Religious Vocations, please contact  
Michael Kirk [mkirk@archindy.org](mailto:mkirk@archindy.org)



*The* Most Reverend Roger J. Foy, D.D.,

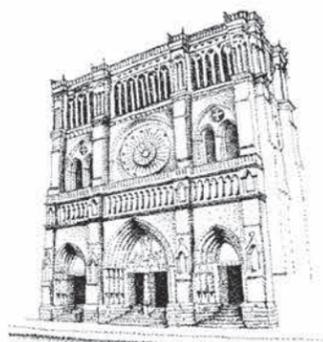
the priests, deacons, religious and lay faithful  
of the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky,

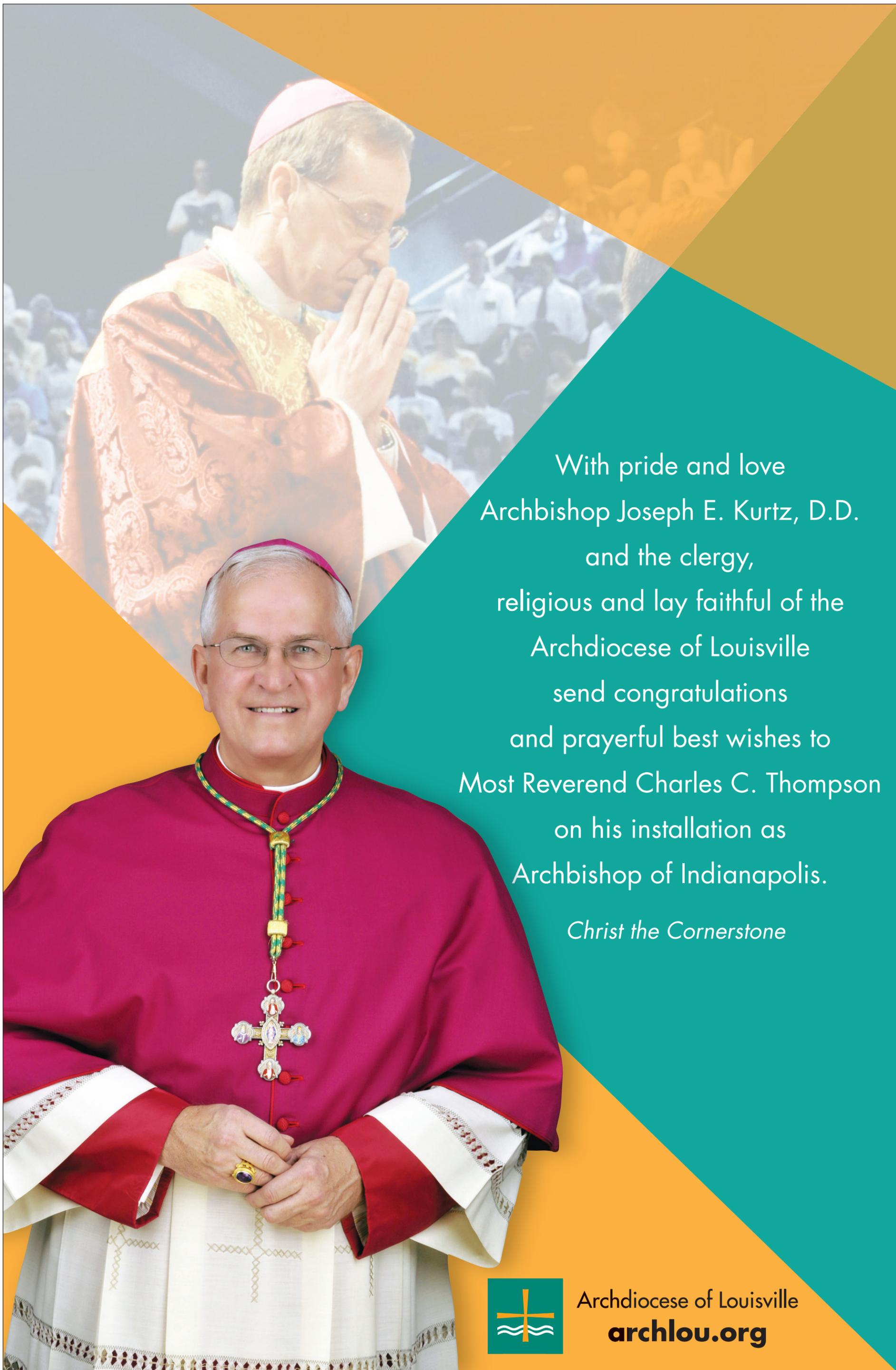
send our best wishes and prayers to the

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson as he is

installed the seventh Archbishop of Indianapolis.

*Let* your light shine.  
Matthew 5:16





With pride and love  
Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.  
and the clergy,  
religious and lay faithful of the  
Archdiocese of Louisville  
send congratulations  
and prayerful best wishes to  
Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson  
on his installation as  
Archbishop of Indianapolis.

*Christ the Cornerstone*



Archdiocese of Louisville  
**archlou.org**

# Archbishop Thompson's leadership in Evansville Diocese marked by collaboration and desire to help and serve others

By Sean Gallagher

Brenda Hopf is like many Catholics across central and southern Indiana.

She's 57, has been married for 34 years, has two children and is a grandmother. She's worked for 39 years on the shop floor of a furniture factory in Ferdinand, Ind., and is a member of Divine Mercy Parish in Dubois County in the Evansville, Ind., Diocese.

And like a growing number of Catholics, she has also experienced the merger of her former parish with another, and she knows the challenges and hardships that this can bring.

But unlike most Catholics who faithfully attend Sunday Mass in their parishes and live out their faith there and elsewhere throughout the rest of the week, Hopf has been a close witness to the pastoral leadership of her bishop.

From 2014-16, she and other diocesan leaders met monthly with Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, who was then the bishop of Evansville, to form a new mission statement and pastoral plan for the Church in southwestern Indiana.

"It was obvious to me that in his work, all begins with prayer, always asking for guidance from the Holy Spirit," said Hopf of Archbishop Thompson. "He approaches his work in a very down-to-earth manner and is a very good listener."

"He strikes me as a person who wants to leave no stone unturned before he moves forward with any plan or makes any decisions. It is very obvious to me that his life is Christ-centered. Bishop Thompson's approach to his work as a shepherd of the Church is inspirational in the fact he is such a good example of how we should all approach the work we do each day."

In recent interviews with *The Criterion*, Hopf, two priests of the Evansville Diocese, its superintendent of Catholic schools and the mayor of Evansville all made observations from several perspectives about the new archbishop of Indianapolis.

## A pastor to seminarians

Father Tyler Tenbarge was a junior at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis when Archbishop Thompson was appointed bishop of Evansville in 2011.

He later received priestly formation at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad and was ordained a priest in 2016.

During his time in the seminary, Father Tenbarge saw Archbishop Thompson as a pastor for him and his fellow Evansville seminarians.

"During his seminary visits, Bishop Thompson made it clear that he was there for us, that he supported and prayed for us, and yet he also was firm in his desire that we were learning much in classes, praying regularly, and listening to our formation staff's lead," Father Tenbarge said. "It was clear that he wanted good, holy, capable priests, and it was also clear that he sincerely wanted to help us become good, holy, and capable."

"He was being a pastor to me, and I greatly appreciated his supportive presence and wise guidance then, and during my first year of priestly ministry this year."

Father Tenbarge has tried to emulate in his own priestly life and ministry



Brenda Hopf



Then-Bishop Charles C. Thompson of Evansville, Ind., center, leads intercessory prayer during the city of Evansville's interfaith observance of the National Day of Prayer on May 4. Representatives of various faith traditions offered pray and reflection during the gathering at Trinity United Methodist Church in Evansville. Archbishop Thompson organized the yearly interfaith prayer service. (Message photo by Peewee Vasquez)

the humility and strategic leadership qualities Archbishop Thompson exhibits.

"His humility shows in his request for prayer at the close of nearly every public gathering, in his use of councils and advice from priests, deacons and lay faithful in making decisions, and in his presence," Father Tenbarge said. "Archbishop Thompson does not choose the front of the stage, although he is quite capable of handling it."

"Concerning his leadership, Archbishop Thompson governed with foresight and with a clear plan. I think that's why so many projects under his leadership have been so successful."

## Collaborative leadership

One of the most challenging projects that Archbishop Thompson took on was restructuring the parishes of his diocese. When a strategic planning process for the diocese began in 2013, there were 69 parishes in the Evansville Diocese. When it was completed in 2014, the number of faith communities stood at 46.

Although many parishes were merged in the process and its members had the opportunity to appeal the mergers to the Vatican, no such appeals were made across the entire diocese.

As Archbishop Thompson was approaching the time to make decisions about possible mergers, he visited each of the parishes that could be affected.

"The bishop was very compassionate as he listened to the heartaches of many who were sad to be losing their identity as a parish," Hopf said. "For the most part, people were very respectful, but this certainly could not have been an easy task for him and had to be physically and emotionally draining, not to mention time-consuming to travel the diocese for these meetings at the parish level."

"He knew people were grieving their loss, yet he also knew he had no choice but to move forward with the plan."

Father Bernard Etienne, vicar general for the Evansville Diocese under Archbishop Thompson, echoed Hopf's experience of his leadership in the Church in southwestern Indiana, saying it was "energetic and collaborative."

"He seeks broad counsel in major decisions and listens attentively to a wide variety of people," said Father Etienne, a brother of Archbishop Paul D. Etienne of Anchorage, Alaska, who is a former priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. "He seems to welcome and encourage interaction at the parish level when making decisions about the

direction of the diocese."

Father Etienne noted that Archbishop Thompson said he took this close approach to ministry in the Evansville Diocese from his earliest days, even though he had little experience there prior to his appointment.

"He quickly revealed himself to be a man deeply invested in the life of our parishes and presbyterate," said Father Etienne. "He was very accessible to us priests, engaged in activities in the community and all types of venues. From dinner at summer socials to larger community events, he could be found mixing with the people."

## 'Quest to help others'

The close collaboration that Archbishop Thompson exercised in leading the Evansville Diocese extended to the broader community in southwestern Indiana, according to Evansville mayor Lloyd Winnecke, who praised the outgoing Evansville bishop for organizing a yearly interfaith prayer service.

"This is an important event for our community, as it is [ordinarily] held on the city's riverfront at the site of the Four Freedoms Monument, one of Evansville's most iconic landmarks," said Winnecke, who is Catholic. "The fact that every faith community in the city participates is a testament to Archbishop Thompson's ... view of acceptance, peace and harmony."

The subjects of Winnecke's periodic meetings with Archbishop Thompson were varied, ranging from growth of parishes to the Indiana bishops' pastoral letter on poverty in the state.

"More often than not, our one-on-one discussions centered on community response to issues of social justice," Winnecke said. "We've enjoyed many conversations on issues of social justice, and how, as a broad community of believers, we can work together toward thoughtful, caring solutions."

"Listening to his thought process [and] what motivates him in his quest to help others makes me particularly proud that Archbishop Thompson has led the Evansville Diocese. It is apparent that he is a man deeply committed to improving not just the spiritual life of our residents, but also advancing and uplifting every facet of life for our city's most vulnerable."

Dr. Daryl Hagan, superintendent of schools for the Evansville Diocese, saw Archbishop Thompson reach out to serve the Hispanic community, a growing part of the Church of southwestern Indiana.

"Under his leadership, we expanded the Latino population in our schools from a handful of students when he arrived," said Hagan, "to now serving over 300 students in our 26 Catholic schools."

## 'A work of the Holy Spirit'

When he heard that Archbishop Thompson had been appointed to lead the Church in central and southern Indiana, Winnecke was proud that "my friend the bishop will soon become my friend the archbishop."

"He's impressive," Winnecke said. "He's led our diocese through an interesting period of transition, making difficult decisions after much fact-finding and discernment. He's led with humility, grace and a keen sense of wanting to help others. That's how he's led here, and I'm

confident that's how he will lead as the archbishop."

Father Etienne said he expected his outgoing shepherd would eventually be called on to lead a larger diocese.

"I just hadn't expected it this soon," he said. "Archbishop

Thompson will be greatly missed by the people of the Diocese of Evansville. However, his many gifts will be a blessing to the archdiocese. He certainly has the capabilities to embrace the expanded responsibilities that await him."

Father Tenbarge said the appointment of Archbishop Thompson was "a clear work of the Holy Spirit."

"I have no doubt this is where Christ is calling, and I am glad we were given such a great shepherd for the past six years," he said. "You can expect authentic humility, a pastor with a seemingly tireless work ethic and a really smart leader."

Hopf had mixed feelings when she heard that her bishop was leaving, excited to know that the shepherd with which she had worked was being given greater responsibilities, but also sad that he would no longer lead the Church in southwestern Indiana.

"He will work hard to guide the archdiocese in the missionary work of the Church," Hopf said. "Although the archdiocese is much larger than the Diocese of Evansville, I believe he will do his best to get out among the people as much as time will allow."

"They can count on the fact that he will take everything to prayer before making any decisions. When he makes decisions, he will be firm and not look back because of his approach of seeking out knowledgeable people for the task at hand, praying about it and then leading with 'Christ the Cornerstone' as his base." †



Mayor Lloyd Winnecke



Fr. Bernard Etienne



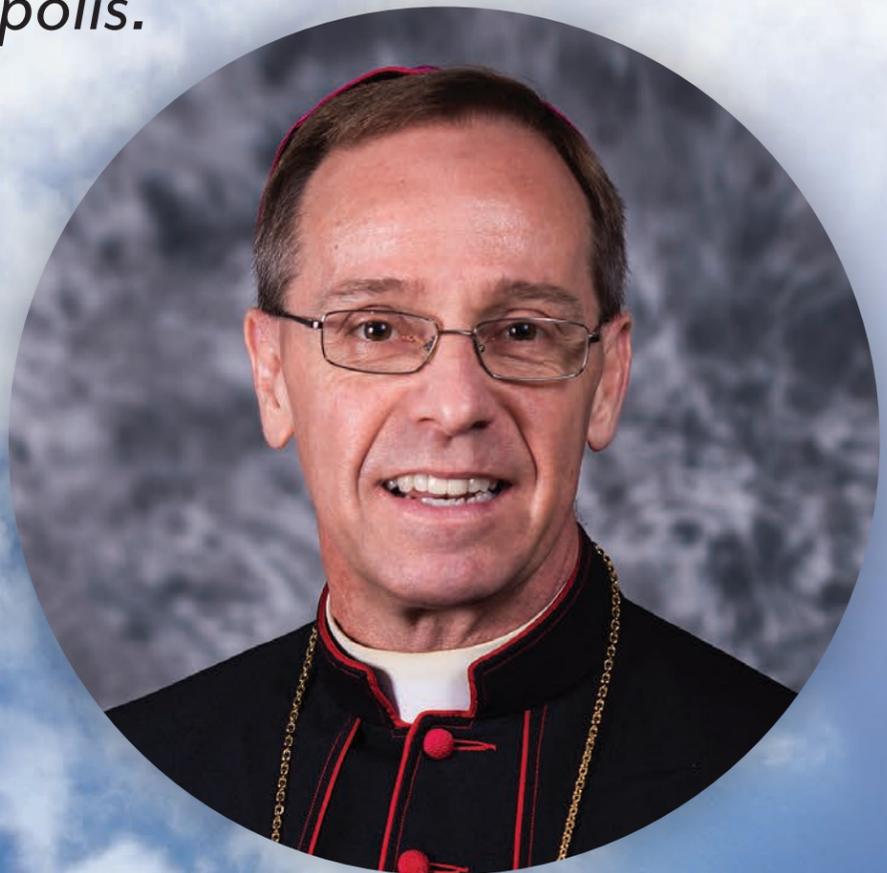
Dr. Daryl Hagan



Fr. Tyler Tenbarge

# *A Warm and Joyful Welcome to Archbishop Charles Thompson*

*We offer our humble prayers that God may guide and sustain you as you go forth to preach and heal in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.*



A division of Franciscan Alliance  
Franciscan Alliance is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration.

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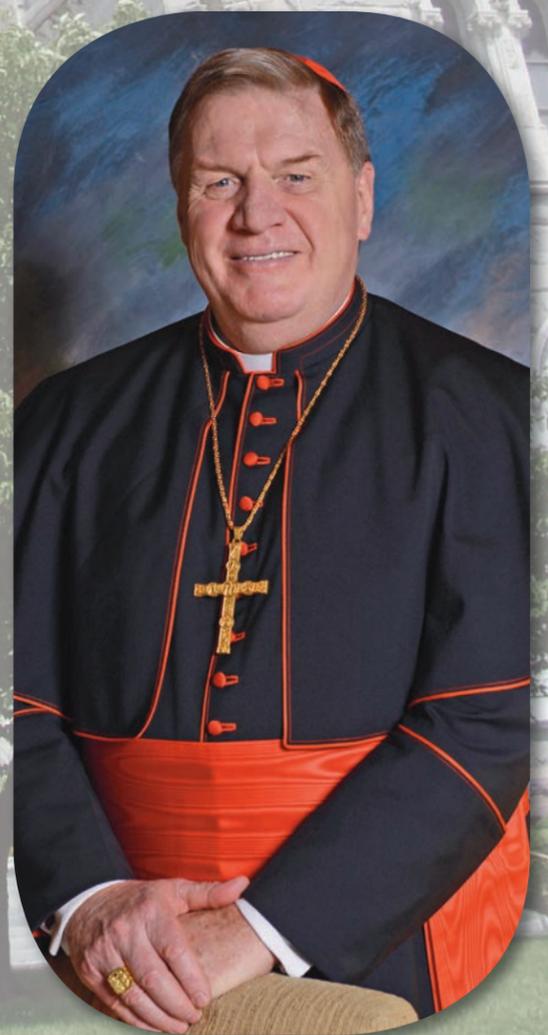
# *Archbishop Thompson,*

*The prayers of the Clergy, Religious  
and Lay Faithful of this local Church of Newark  
are with you as you begin your ministry as Shepherd  
of this Local Church of Indianapolis.*

*May Christ the Redeemer  
continue to bless you, my friend.*

*Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin*

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.  
Archbishop of Newark



# Past shepherds greatly influence Archbishop Thompson

By Sean Gallagher

To be formed for the priesthood, men spend several years in a seminary taking classes, ministering in parishes and other settings and entering more deeply into prayer and community life.

But when a priest is selected to serve as a bishop, he is to begin that ministry in four months or less, according to the requirements of the Church's *Code of Canon Law*.

Given the weighty responsibilities of a bishop in the pastoral care of an entire local Church, how do they prepare to carry them out in such a short span of time?

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson did this in part when Pope Benedict XVI selected him in 2011 to be the bishop of Evansville, Ind., by leaning on the example of bishops who had been influential in his priestly life and ministry.

Among the bishops closest to him have been Louisville Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly, who retired in 2007 and died in 2011, and Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein. He also appreciates two bishops from further back in history: Bishop Benedict J. Flaget, the first bishop of the Bardstown, Ky., Diocese, which later became the Archdiocese of Louisville, and the Servant of God Simon Bruté, the first bishop of the Vincennes, Ind., Diocese, which later became the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Ultimately, however, Archbishop Thompson identified Christ as his primary influence on his approach to ordained life and ministry, a fitting focus for an archbishop whose episcopal motto is "Christ the Cornerstone."

## 'Pastoral hearts'

A common bond among all the bishops that have influenced Archbishop Thompson is what he describes as their "pastoral hearts."

"It was the pastoral heart, the heart of a shepherd," Archbishop Thompson said. "They cared about people."

"They approach things, not in a combative way, but first trying to pull out the goodness, the beauty, the truth of a situation or of a person. Yes, deal with a challenge, but first make sure that that person knows that they're cared about and respected."

He experienced that first with Archbishop Kelly, who was appointed to lead the Archdiocese of Louisville a year before Archbishop Thompson became a seminarian for the Church there.

Archbishop Kelly continued in that ministry until his retirement in 2007. He ritually laid hands on Archbishop Thompson when he was ordained a transitional deacon in 1986, a priest in 1987 and a bishop in 2011—less than six months before he died.

Earlier, he sent Archbishop Thompson to study canon law, appointed him as pastor of various parishes and as vicar judicial of the Louisville Archdiocese in 1993.

After retiring in 2007, Archbishop Kelly moved into the parish rectory where Archbishop Thompson lived. They resided

together for the next four years.

So, it is understandable that Archbishop Thompson looked to Archbishop Kelly in his early days as bishop in Evansville. He said that when he was facing a situation to deal with or a choice to be made early on, "More often than not, I'd think, 'This is what [Archbishop] Kelly would do.'"

"He cared about people," Archbishop Thompson said of Archbishop Kelly. "No matter how difficult the situation, he always kept before him the dignity of and respect for the human person. He had a gentleness about him. He had a sense of concern and kindness."

The two kept in touch after Archbishop Thompson began his ministry in the Evansville Diocese. In fact, Archbishop Kelly visited him there only a few days before he died.

The day before Archbishop Kelly died, he wrote a note to Archbishop Thompson. It arrived two days after he died.

"I keep it in my Bible," Archbishop Thompson said.

## 'A Benedictine ... through and through'

Who would have known at the time when Archbishop Emeritus Buechlein was installed as the fifth archbishop of Indianapolis on Sept. 9, 1992, that one of his successors was sitting close to him during the liturgy?

Archbishop Thompson, a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville at the time, was chosen to sit by Archbishop Buechlein because of the close relationship the two began to form 10 years earlier.

At the time, Archbishop Buechlein was a Benedictine monk and the president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad. Archbishop Thompson was beginning his priestly formation there for the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Four years later, Archbishop Buechlein was appointed bishop of Memphis, Tenn. Archbishop Thompson, then a transitional deacon, served as deacon during Archbishop Buechlein's episcopal ordination and installation Mass.

They later collaborated when Archbishop Buechlein asked then-Father Thompson to take on canon law projects for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

When Archbishop Thompson looks at the influence of his predecessor, he sees his deep immersion in prayer and the Church's liturgy that was formed in him at Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad.

"Archbishop Daniel is steeped in that," Archbishop Thompson said. "He's a Benedictine. He was raised in it. He was formed and shaped in it. So, he's carried that with him. He's a Benedictine monk through and through."

"That Benedictine sense of prayer and liturgy kind of permeates his being. That was an inspiration and model."

Over the years, the two have vacationed together, giving Archbishop Thompson the opportunity to see the importance of prayer in the daily life of

friend has exhibited in the Church in southwestern Indiana.

"In Evansville, he has shown the ability to deal ably and well with tough issues," Archbishop Buechlein said. "He shepherded the people and clergy through the hard project of consolidating and reorganizing parishes and assigning pastors to care for these parishioners. I know him to be a man of solid principle, much appreciated for his kindness and his gentle good humor."

Archbishop Buechlein said that these aspects of his friend's personality are part of his "Louisville charm and graciousness." Archbishop Thompson was ordained a priest of the Louisville, Ky., Archdiocese in 1987.

Louisville Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz appointed him his vicar general in 2008, a position in which Archbishop Thompson served until being appointed in 2011 to lead the Evansville Diocese.



Retired Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly of Louisville ritually lays hands on Father Charles C. Thompson on June 29, 2011, at Roberts Municipal Stadium in Evansville, Ind., during the Mass in which Father Thompson was ordained and installed as the fifth bishop of the Evansville Diocese. (Photo courtesy of Louisville Archdiocesan Archives)

Archbishop Buechlein.

But their relationship changed as Archbishop Buechlein experienced numerous health challenges that led him to live in Saint Meinrad's infirmary after his retirement in 2011.

"I miss not being able to collaborate with him and seek his advice and wisdom, because he's not capable of doing that," said Archbishop Thompson. "The friendship is still there. He's a great model. He suffers so heroically in his courage, his humility. He's not in denial of the situation, but there's a lot of gracefulness to it. You won't hear him complain."

## 'Frontier bishops'

On the evening of June 12, just hours before the announcement of his appointment as shepherd of the archdiocese, Archbishop Thompson prayed at the tomb of Bishop Simon Bruté in the Basilica of St. Francis Xavier in Vincennes, Ind., in the Evansville Diocese.

Bishop Bruté was appointed the first bishop of Vincennes in 1834. The Diocese of Vincennes later became the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Archbishop Thompson is thus the 12th successor of Bishop Bruté, whose beatification and canonization cause was opened by Archbishop Buechlein.

Bishop Bruté was a close friend of Bishop Benedict J. Flaget, the first bishop of the Bardstown, Ky., Diocese, which later became the Louisville Archdiocese for which Archbishop Thompson was ordained a priest. Before becoming a bishop, Bishop Flaget ministered in Vincennes.

Archbishop Thompson's first pastoral assignment after being ordained a priest in 1987 was as associate pastor of the Basilica of St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown, which Bishop Flaget had built in the middle of the Kentucky wilderness.

Bishop Flaget and Bishop Bruté were both born and raised in France, but followed God's call to serve as missionaries on the American frontier, something that Archbishop Thompson sees as relevant for the Church in central and southern Indiana in the 21st century.

"Bishops Flaget and Bruté were two

"He was humble," said Archbishop Kurtz of his former vicar general. "There was not a lot of ego in his work."

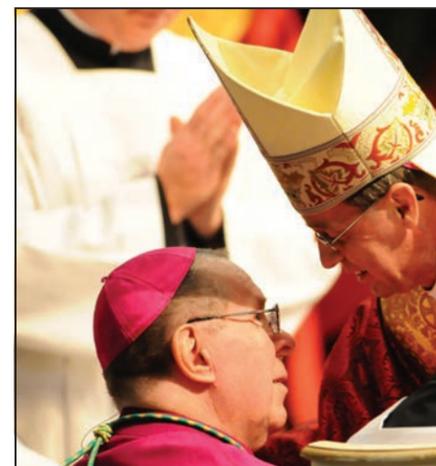
"He was extremely organized, and was able to not only be pastor of a rather large and complex parish, but also take on the role of vicar general at the same time. He was collaborative and approachable."

Archbishop Kurtz's reaction to learning about Archbishop Thompson's appointment to lead the Church in central and southern Indiana was the same as when he heard of his appointment to the Diocese of Evansville.

"I was thrilled and delighted," Archbishop Kurtz said. "I thought how blessed that local Church was to receive him as a bishop."

The Louisville shepherd said the faithful here will have an archbishop who will show them much pastoral care and concern.

"They can expect someone who will be a loving shepherd, who will want to



Newly ordained Bishop Charles C. Thompson of Evansville greets Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein of Indianapolis with a fraternal sign of peace on June 29, 2011. (File photo by Richard W. Morris Jr./The Message)

great frontier bishops, truly missionary disciples, who made great sacrifices to go out to the margins and peripheries of their day for the care of souls," he said.

## 'My focus is on Jesus Christ'

A priest looking back to his time in seminary can sometimes recall specific classes, ministry assignments, relationships or experiences of prayer that were pivotal in his priestly formation.

While Archbishop Thompson appreciates the influence of various bishops in his own formation in episcopal life and ministry, he said that their influence was subtle and deep.

"It was amazing to me how much they were forming me, shaping me and influencing me when I didn't even realize it," he said.

As important as various bishops, both contemporary and historic, have been to Archbishop Thompson, he said that his first influence is Christ.

"Ultimately it's not about any of them," he said. "My focus is on Jesus Christ. It's not any other bishop or archbishop. The legacy I'm looking to carry on is the one of Jesus Christ. That's ultimately what it's about." †

# Indiana, Kentucky bishops praise leadership of Archbishop Thompson

By Sean Gallagher

At 56, Archbishop Charles C. Thompson is currently the youngest archbishop in the United States.

His relative youth, though, doesn't keep other bishops from praising his pastoral leadership of the Evansville, Ind., Diocese since 2011 and expressing high hopes for his ministry for the Church in central and southern Indiana.

"The appointment of Bishop Thompson to the Metropolitan See of Indianapolis is a great blessing and cause for rejoicing for the archdiocese," said Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein of Indianapolis, who has had a close relationship with Archbishop Thompson for many years.

Archbishop Buechlein, who lives in retirement in the infirmary of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, has been impressed by the leadership his

come and know and listen to the priests and all the faithful of the archdiocese," Archbishop Kurtz said. "I think they can expect someone who is very organized and will look to promote ministries in order to continue this work of seeking disciples who are missionaries."

When Archbishop Thompson was ordained a bishop in 2011, he succeeded Bishop Gerald A. Gettelfinger as the shepherd of the Evansville Diocese.

Originally a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Bishop Gettelfinger praised Archbishop Thompson for his open mind and heart.

"He is his own man, but he certainly carries with him what he's learned from others," Bishop Gettelfinger said. "He's a learner, is not afraid to learn and is not afraid to teach as well."

"He's a listener. He listens. And then he's not afraid to move after he gets his information." †

# Growing up in 'Kentucky Holy Land' shaped archbishop's faith

By Natalie Hoefler

Fence-framed fields dot the rolling green hills as distant bells call monks to prayer. Meanwhile, bird twitters and cicada trills comprise an ongoing outdoor hymn.

It's just another day in the life of the Holy Land—of Kentucky.

Few had heard of such a place when, during a press conference on June 13 at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis, newly-named Archbishop Charles C. Thompson identified himself as being from the "Kentucky Holy Land."

The Criterion staff recently traveled to this region—comprised of Marion, Nelson and Washington counties—to discover more about this region, its history, and how growing up there shapes the faith of its natives.

### 'An integral part of their life'

The story begins in the 1770s and 1780s, when Catholics from southern Maryland moved west to seek more land for their large farming families.

Soon Catholic colleges, seminaries, orders and communities were established in the area they settled. The most famous of these are the Sisters of Loretto in Marion County and the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth in Nelson County, and Gethsemani Abbey in Nelson County, established by Trappist monks and home of famed theologian and author Thomas Merton.

Such history is not just the stuff of textbooks for the folks of the Kentucky Holy Land. It is common knowledge and a source of pride.

"My family came here in 1785. The farm was in our family for 230 years until two years ago," says archbishop's distant cousin Charles Michael "Mike" Cecil, 71, a member of St. Charles



Structures of Gethsemani Abbey in Trappist, Ky., peek through the trees of the monastery grounds. The abbey, established by Trappist monks in 1848, resides in Nelson County, one of the three counties comprising the "Kentucky Holy Land." (Photo by Natalie Hoefler)

Parish in St. Mary in Marion County, where Archbishop Thompson went to elementary school.

Standing next to Mike is another Charles Michael Cecil, 70, one of the archbishop's 90 first cousins. He, too, goes by "Mike," but offered to be referred to as "Michael" to spare confusion.

"This is the epicenter of the Holy Land right here," Michael says, pointing with pride to his home church of St. Charles. Established in 1786, it is the second

oldest parish in the Kentucky Holy Land.

In Bardstown, in neighboring Nelson County, Basilica of St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral parish member and lifelong Nelson County resident Kenny Fogle speaks of the denseness of the Catholic population in the three-county area.

"I can honestly say I probably didn't even know somebody that wasn't Catholic until I went to high school," he says.

"You're indoctrinated in [the faith] from day one, and it just gets reinforced every

day by your parents, at your school, at your church."

Father Terry Bradshaw, 63, a native of Marion County and pastor of the basilica parish, believes the Catholic "faith of the early settlers sustained them. It probably wasn't seen so much as optional as essential. It was seen as an integral part of their life."

He says he wondered what led Kentucky

Continued on the next page

**Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary**

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**Archbishop Thompson**  
as our new leader.

We look forward to your guidance  
in continuing the formation of  
these young men.

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and Prayers to*

**ARCHBISHOP  
CHARLES C. THOMPSON**

ON HIS BEING NAMED  
THE SEVENTH ARCHBISHOP  
OF INDIANAPOLIS

*from*  
*Bishop Donald J. Hying*  
*and the Diocese of Gary*

Continued from the previous page

Holy Land natives to hold such pride in their roots.

"I figured it out," he says. "It's family and faith."

**'Faith is just built in'**

In this region, faith and family are inextricably combined.

True to traditional Catholic pro-life form, families here tend to be large: Mike is the youngest of seven, and Michael is the oldest of 11.

Standing next to them outside St. Charles is fellow parishioner and another first cousin of the archbishop, Steve Thompson, 59. He is the youngest of seven. His family was particularly close to the archbishop's family, and he used to watch his younger cousin "Chuck" after school.

"We all went to church together, whole families," he says. "Every Sunday morning, you went to church—that's just the way it was."

Michael agrees.



Father Joseph Batchedor follows in the entrance procession for Mass on July 9 at the Basilica of St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown, Ky., in Nelson County, one of three counties that comprise the "Kentucky Holy Land." Bardstown served as the see for the Diocese of Bardstown—which extended from Detroit to New Orleans—from 1808 to 1841. The basilica is 201 years old.



Steve Thompson, left, and Charles Michael Cecil, both first cousins of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, stand where the archbishop's childhood home was located in Marion County, Ky.

"Cousins live across the hill from cousins," he says. "Faith is just built in, so to speak."

The same experience was true for Louise Nally, 83, one of seven children and a lifelong member of Holy Trinity Parish in Fredericktown (known locally as "The Burg") in Washington County.

"Everybody was Catholic and married a Catholic, and they were Catholic 'til they died," says Nally, who has been the parish organist for the last 68 years. She and her husband of 62 years are "both from 'The Burg,' went to the same church, school, everything."

Father Thomas Clark, a retired priest of 55 years for the Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky., in which the Kentucky Holy Land resides, also grew up in Fredericktown.

"There was a pride in being Catholic—and still is," he says. "It was very much a part of your identity. It didn't matter where you were from, or who your family was, or whether you had money or didn't have money. There was a common connection of being Catholic, and that was your identity."

**'Catholicism gets in your blood'**

Being Catholic in the Holy Land of Kentucky isn't just a label—it becomes the fabric of one's being, says Father J. Mark Spalding, the current vicar general of the Archdiocese of Louisville and native of Fredericktown and Holy Trinity Parish.

"All those wider influences of the Church touch our being, both consciously and subconsciously," he says. "Catholicism gets in the blood in a wonderful way. You appreciate the teaching, but also the life and breath of the Church."

Nally's niece and fellow lifelong Holy Trinity member Ann Mudd, 77, agrees. She says being so steeped in Catholicism made her "stronger in my faith, much stronger. ... I just want to keep on learning and learning. To me it is a place of refuge, a place of fortitude."

For Michael, growing up Catholic in the Holy Land of Kentucky means Mass "either caps off a week honoring God, or it propels you into the next week. To me, it's an emptiness if I don't go to church on a Sunday."

With people so active in their faith, religious vocations have flourished in this area.

"The majority of young boys where I grew up toyed with the idea of becoming a priest," says Fogle. "I think almost all of us did to some degree."

Outside of St. Charles Church, Michael, Mike and Steve start citing names of men and women they know from the area who became priests and religious sisters. Within a minute, they name at least 15. And all three men have current or past priests in the family in addition to Archbishop Thompson.

Nally recalls three of the 16 women in her husband's class becoming religious sisters.

"My husband and I were taught only by sisters until we graduated from high school,"



Deacon Richard Fagan, left, and Father Thomas Clark prepare the altar for the Liturgy of the Eucharist while Louise Nally plays the organ—as she has done for 68 years—during Mass at Holy Trinity Church in Fredericktown, Ky., in Washington County on July 9. Washington County is one of three counties that make up the "Kentucky Holy Land." (Photos by Natalie Hoefler)

she says. "And these were public schools, and we were taught religion every day. It was just like a Catholic school."

The depth of faith in this region has reached out beyond the three counties, and even beyond the state of Kentucky, says Father Bradshaw. He lists Evansville, Owensboro, St. Louis, Peoria and Baltimore as places where priests from this area became episcopal leaders. One even founded The Catholic University of America in Washington.

**'All for the good of the Church'**

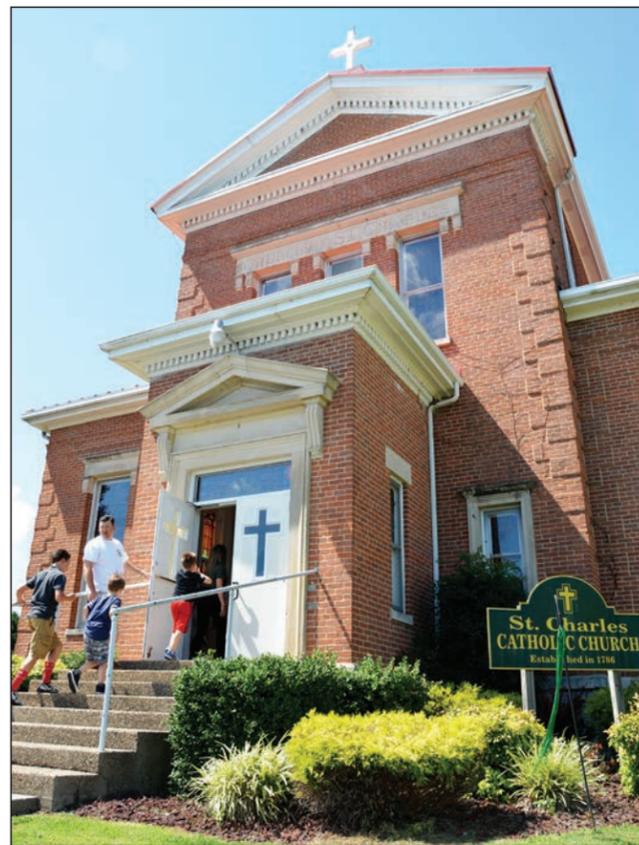
Rewind to Indianapolis on June 13, where Archbishop Thompson is speaking at a press conference.

He is asked how he would describe himself to help members of central and southern Indiana get to know him.

Perhaps it is more clear now why growing up in the Kentucky Holy Land dominates his answer. Large families, pride in his roots, the foundations of faith and family—all shine through in his answer:

"I'm from a very Catholic family. My mother is one of 16 children. My dad is one of 13. I have 90 first cousins, well-over 200 second cousins.

"My family is from the most Catholic county in Kentucky—Marion County, part of 'the Kentucky Holy Land.' ... I think at one point, one of our historians researched—over 50 percent of all [of the Archdiocese of



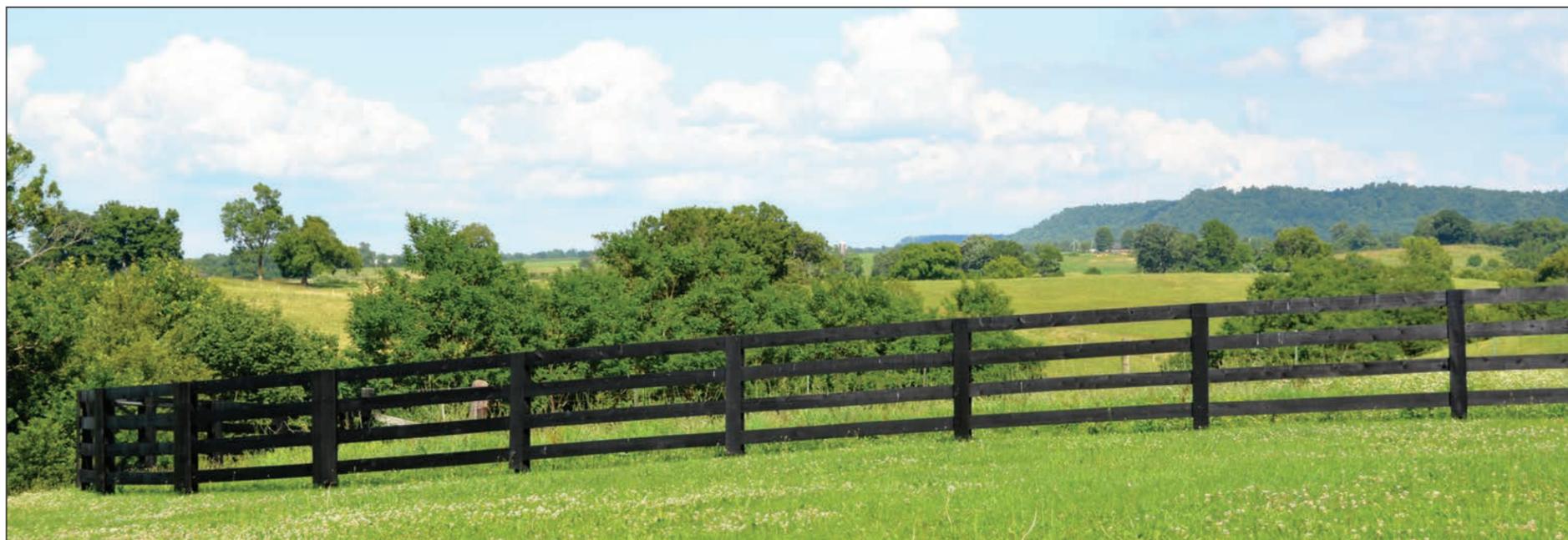
A family enters St. Charles Church in St. Mary, Ky., for a Saturday evening Mass on July 8. The parish, where Archbishop Charles C. Thompson attended elementary school, is located in Marion County, known as the "most Catholic" of the three counties that comprise the "Kentucky Holy Land." Established in 1786, it is the second oldest parish in the region.

Louisville's] priests and religious had roots in one of those three counties.

"I was born in Louisville. We moved out to Marion County, and we moved back to Louisville when I was 12. I was walking home from school one day and somebody tried to 'save' me. My mother had to explain to me that there was something other than [being] Catholic."

Father Spalding praises his fellow Kentucky Holy Land native.

"No dust will gather on [Archbishop Thompson], I'll tell you that," he says. "And it will all be for the good of the Church." †



This view from where Archbishop Charles C. Thompson's childhood home stood in Marion County, Ky., captures the rolling hills and green pastures typical of the "Kentucky Holy Land" region.

# WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS!



*Archbishop  
Charles C. Thompson*

God bless you and know that the parishes of the Seymour Deanery are praying for you. May the Holy Spirit continue to sustain and guide you.

Que Dios lo bendiga y sepa que las parroquias del Decanato de Seymour están orando por usted. Para que el Espíritu Santo lo continúe sosteniendo y guiando.

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- Prince of Peace, Madison
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- St. Ann, Jennings County
- St. Joseph, Jennings County
- St. Patrick, Salem
- American Martyrs, Scottsburg
- St. Ambrose, Seymour
- Most Sorrowful Mother of God, Vevay

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*and the clergy,*

*religious and laity of the*

*Diocese of Rockford offer*

*prayers and best wishes*

*to Archbishop*

*Charles C.*

*Thompson, on*

*becoming the seventh*

*archbishop of the*

*Archdiocese of Indianapolis.*



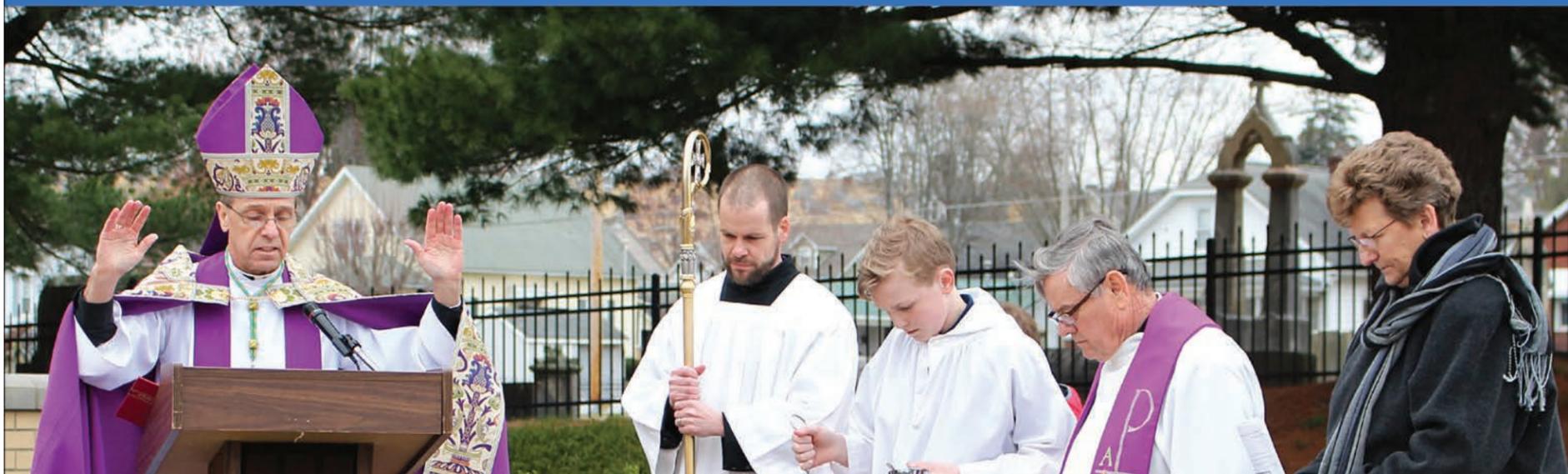
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Rockford, IL 61125  
(815) 399-4300



# Welcome, Archbishop Charles Thompson!



## The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods congratulate Archbishop Charles C. Thompson!

We celebrate with the Church and the city of Indianapolis on Bishop Charles C. Thompson's being named the seventh Archbishop of Indianapolis. This winter, Bishop Thompson dedicated the statue of Saint Mother Theodore Guérin, our foundress, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, during the 175th celebration of Catholic education in Jasper, Indiana. Mother Theodore started the first mission school in Jasper in 1842.

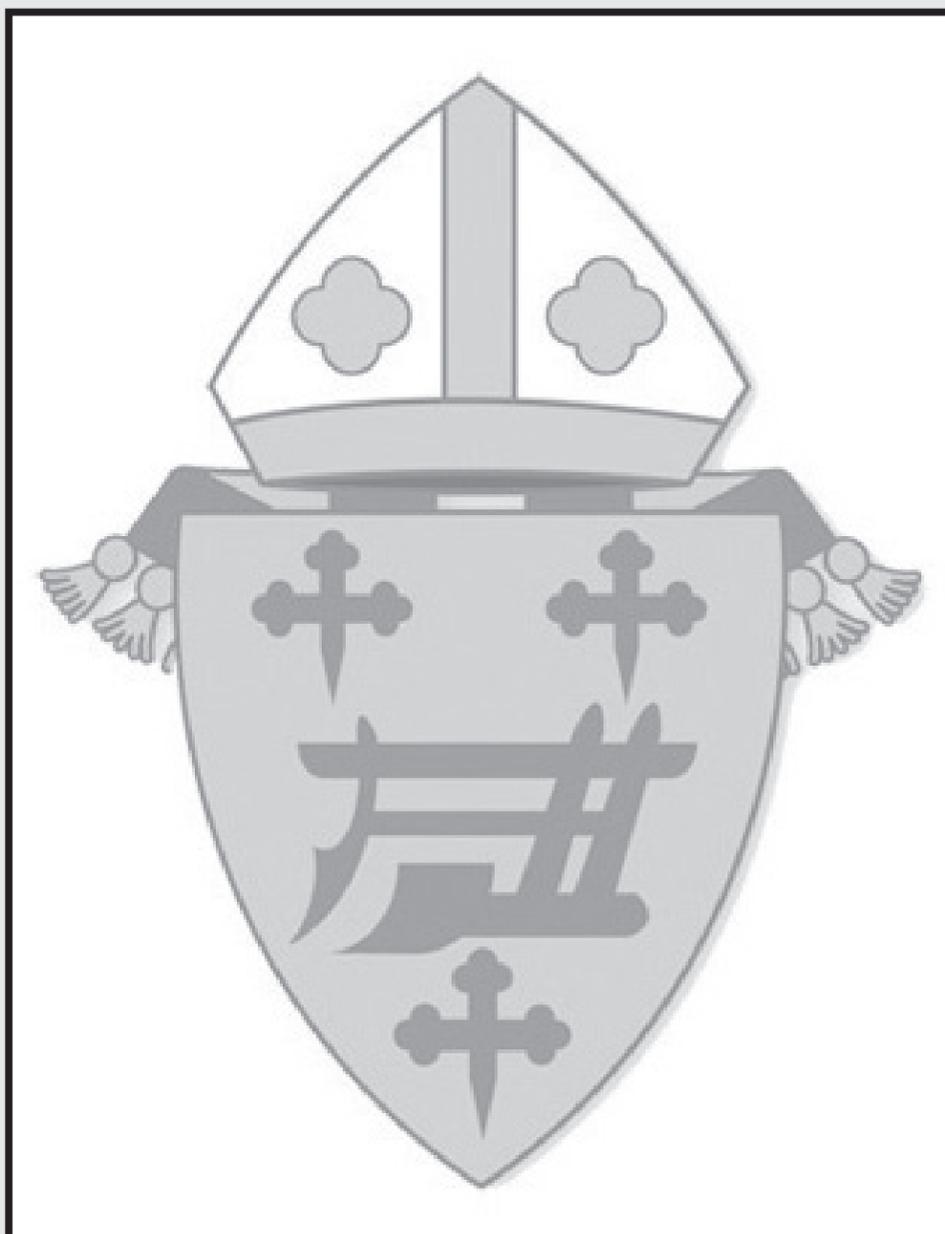
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## Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

*Congratulations  
and prayers from  
the faithful of the  
Archdiocese of  
Cincinnati*





Welcome

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

Our Blessings and Our Prayers  
Are with You

from

all the employees at the  
Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara  
Catholic Center



*"Christ the Cornerstone"*  
(Eph 2:20: Ps 118:22)



The Most Reverend William F. Medley  
and the Roman Catholic Church  
of the Diocese of Owensboro

Extend Heartfelt Congratulations  
and Prayers of Support to  
*Archbishop-elect Charles C. Thompson*  
on your ordination and installation  
as the Seventh Archbishop of Indianapolis

"May the Lord who has begun this work  
in you bring it to fulfillment."

- Rite of Ordination



# Congratulations

## Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

Our local church, now the Terre Haute Deanery, came to birth in faith through the influx of men and women of missionary spirit. We were graced by pioneers in faith – Saint Mother Theodore Guérin, Servant of God Bishop Simon Brute and the faithful clergy and women religious who broke the ground and nurtured the faith through teaching and preaching.

We are ready, under your leadership, to continue to nurture the faith.

May God bless you as you assume the gift and challenge of pastoring the people of Central and Southern Indiana. We promise our loving and prayerful support.

Annunciation, Brazil

St. Joseph University Parish,  
Terre Haute

Sacred Heart, Clinton

St. Margaret Mary, Terre Haute

Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
Terre Haute

St. Mary-of-the-Woods  
Village Parish

St. Benedict, Terre Haute

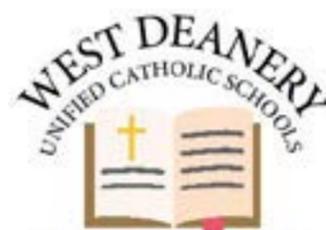
St. Patrick, Terre Haute

St. Joseph, Rockville

St. Paul the Apostle,  
Greencastle

Terre Haute Deanery  
Pastoral Center

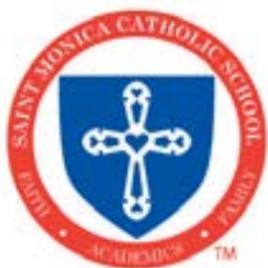
# Congratulations to his excellency, the Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson, seventh archbishop of Indianapolis. Best wishes from the West Deanery!



St. Thomas More Parish



Cardinal Ritter Junior/Senior High School



St. Monica Catholic School



St. Monica Parish



St. Anthony

St. Anthony Catholic School



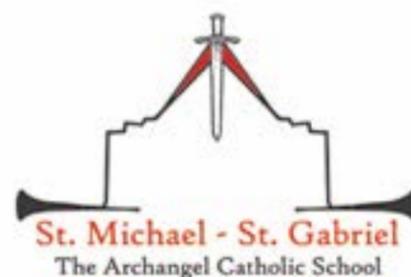
St. Anthony Parish



St. Susanna Catholic School



St. Susanna Parish



St. Michael- St. Gabriel Archangels Catholic School



St. Gabriel Parish



Holy Angels

Holy Angels Catholic School



Church of the Holy Angels Parish



St. Christopher Catholic School



St. Christopher Parish



St. Malachy Catholic School



St. Malachy Parish



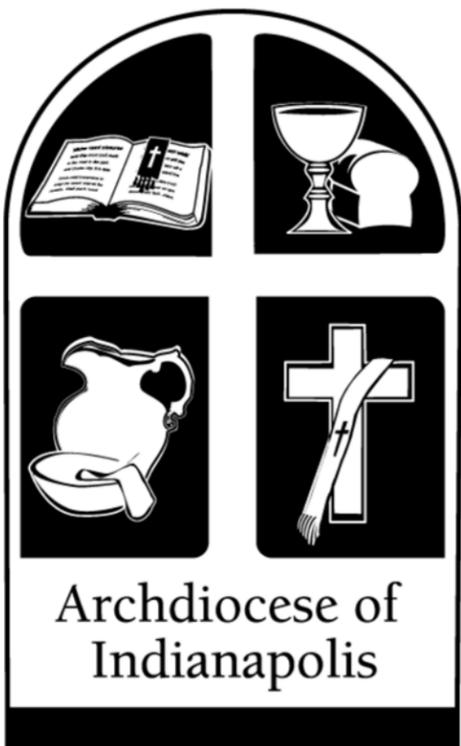
St. Michael Parish



St. Joseph Parish



Mary, Queen of Peace Parish



The Deacons, their wives and the  
Deacon Formation Program

*Welcome*

**Archbishop Charles C. Thompson**

on his assignment as the new  
Shepherd of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.



*We also take this opportunity to assure  
him of our prayers and support as  
he assumes his new ministry.*

**Congratulations**

and

**Welcome**

**Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, D.D., J.C.L.**

The parishes of the Batesville Deanery  
joyfully welcome you as our Shepherd and  
hold you faithfully in our prayers!

- All Saints, Dearborn County • Holy Family, Oldenburg • Immaculate Conception, Millhousen • Oratory of S.S. Philomena and Cecilia, Brookville • St. Anthony of Padua, Morris • St. Catherine of Siena, Decatur County • St. Charles Borromeo, Milan • St. John the Baptist, Osgood • St. Joseph, Shelbyville • St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg • St. Louis, Batesville • St. Mary Greensburg • St. Mary of Immaculate Conception, Aurora • St. Maurice, Napoleon • St. Michael, Brookville • St. Nicholas, Ripley County • St. Peter, Franklin County • St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Bright • St. Vincent De Paul, Shelby County

# Louisville colleagues and parishioners say work ethic, humility, focus on others are at heart of archbishop's ministry

By Katie Rutter

Special to *The Criterion*

Longtime friend Father Bob Ray is confident that the new spiritual leader of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis will never lord his position over his people. Father Ray describes Archbishop Charles C. Thompson as a man of constant humility.

"He will always be 'Chuck,' " said Father Ray with a laugh.

Father Ray and others who knew "Father Chuck" from his earliest years as a priest describe him as a servant-leader. He was ordained in 1987 as a priest for the Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky., and, during his 24 years in Kentucky, he served in seven parishes, three high schools and in positions in archdiocesan administration.

"He's got an unbelievable work ethic," said Joan Kelly, a member of Holy Trinity Parish in Louisville. Then-Father Thompson led her parish, one of the largest in the Louisville Archdiocese, from 2002 until his appointment as the bishop of Evansville, Ind., in 2011.

During many of those years, Father Thompson simultaneously ministered as priest-chaplain at Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville, an all-girls high school. Adding on to his responsibilities, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz appointed him in 2008 as vicar general, second in authority in the archdiocese.

"I would bet 95 percent of the parishioners would not know that he was also vicar general," related fellow Holy Trinity parishioner Dan Kelley. "There was no sense that he was diverting any attention from what

he needed to do to lead the parish."

"He was at every Mass, he was at every meeting," Joan Kelly summarized.

Father Chuck even found time to greet the students of Holy Trinity School in the morning as they arrived.

"I don't know how he did everything," said Amy Nall, assistant principal and dean of studies at Sacred Heart Academy. She described the many ways that Father Thompson was present to the high school community while he was priest-chaplain, including celebrating Mass on holy days, being present for special occasions and leading the staff in prayer before the school year started.

"His focus is always on the people with whom he's working," Nall said. "So when you stand to talk to Father Chuck in the vestibule or in the hall at school, you're his focus."

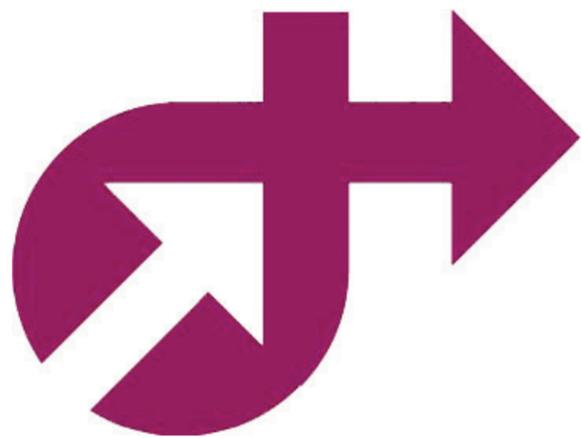
Some of the stories of Father Chuck's kindness have left an indelible mark on the memories of those who knew him. Father William Burks, pastor of St. John Paul II Parish in Louisville and a longtime friend, recalled a story from about two decades ago. He had a meeting with Father Thompson at the main offices of the Louisville Archdiocese. Father Burks' mother was waiting for him in a car, and he made a brief mention of that to Father Thompson.

"He said, 'Let me get out there real fast and say hi to her,' just as nice as can be," Father Burks recalled, impressed at the gesture from a man with so many things

See LOUISVILLE, page 39



Then-Father Charles Thompson, left, pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in Louisville, poses with Christine Kelly after she received her first Communion in the spring of 2003. (Photo courtesy Joan Kelly)



The Indiana Catholic Conference

**Congratulates**

**Archbishop  
Charles C. Thompson**



**Prayers & Best Wishes!**



**Welcome  
Archbishop Thompson**

**On behalf of all the Catholic  
Scouts, Scouters and their families  
within the Archdiocese, the  
Catholic Committee on Scouting  
extends our heartfelt welcome.**

**We offer our prayers for  
continued blessings as you  
shepherd us into the future.**

To learn more about Scouting in the Catholic Church  
within the Archdiocese of Indianapolis visit us at:

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# ABUNDANT BLESSINGS

“With eyes of faith consider the greatness of your mission and the wonderful amount of good which you can accomplish.”

*Blessed Basil Moreau*



## Cathedral High School sends blessings, prayers and best wishes to Archbishop Charles C. Thompson.

As one of the oldest and largest continuously operating Catholic high schools in Indiana, we have been teaching and living our Holy Cross values since 1918. Today, as we near our 100th year, we send Archbishop Thompson wishes for “abundant blessings” promised by Father Moreau, founder of the Brothers of Holy Cross.

 Cathedral  
**100**  
YEARS  
— 1918-2018 —



Blue Ribbon School of Excellence;  
1988, 2004, 2016



*“I don’t know how he did everything .... His focus is always on the people with whom he’s working. So when you stand to talk to Father Chuck in the vestibule or in the hall at school, you’re his focus.”*

—Amy Nall, assistant principal and dean of studies at Sacred Heart Academy in Louisville, Ky.

## LOUISVILLE

continued from page 37

on his to-do list. “He went out of his way to say ‘hello.’”

Prior to his appointment as vicar general, Father Thompson served as the judicial vicar and director of tribunals for the Archdiocese of Louisville from 1993-98. The role of judicial vicar included answering difficult Church law questions, including weighing requests for the annulment of marriages.

“He had a real pastoral approach to canon law. He was very careful to read individual situations and the complexity of situations,” said Father Ray. “He listens first and tries to figure out the context of the situation he’s dealing with.”

“I know Archbishop Thompson to be a good listener and able to hear and reflect

back to all the engaged parties what the situation appears to be, and what are some good ways to solve it,” explained Dr. Brian Reynolds, chancellor of the Louisville Archdiocese.

Former parishioner Jodi George also pointed to the archbishop’s ability to listen and respond to all sides of a disagreement, describing him as “fair and balanced.” She recalled a difficult situation that he handled in her faith community, St. Augustine Parish in Lebanon, Ky., where decreased enrollment was threatening the future of its school.

“He led with a very firm perspective on why that school is there, and what has to be done in order to keep it there,” she said, crediting him with keeping the school’s doors open. “He was extremely firm, but yet understanding.”

Difficult situations and judgments never dampened Father Thompson’s keen



*‘The archdiocese is all of your parishes working together. But it takes a shepherd who can unite folks. I think that’s what his gift to you will be.’*

—Dr. Brian Reynolds, chancellor of the Louisville Archdiocese



Then-Father-Charles Thompson processes in to celebrate his first Mass on May 30, 1987, at St. Bernard Church in Louisville, Ky. Pictured, from left, Father Joseph Fowler, the parish’s pastor; then-Bishop Daniel M. Buechlein of Memphis, Tenn.; and Father Thompson. (Photo courtesy Father Dale Cieslik)

sense of humor, nor his passion for sports. Multiple parishioners noted his dedication to the University of Kentucky, which has an ongoing rivalry with the University of Louisville. His dedication to UK’s sports teams often led to humorous statements about the required vestments for liturgical celebrations.

“When he had to wear red, which is the University of Louisville color, he would always make a comment that that’s the only time you’re ever going to see him wearing red,” laughed Dan Kelley.

“When my daughter was little and he was just getting to know her, because [her school] was the Holy Trinity Eagles, he would call her a buzzard,” said Joan Kelly, breaking into laughter herself. “She just didn’t know how to handle it. It was hilarious to watch.”

None of the parishioners expressed surprise when they learned their beloved

Father Chuck was appointed to lead an archdiocese. They even sent their congratulations to the Church in central and southern Indiana, confident that the people were gaining a leader who constantly followed God.

“The faith comes first,” Dan Kelley said. “He’s not an executive that happens to be a priest. He’s an extraordinary priest that happens to be very good at making executive decisions and being a leader of the people.”

“The archdiocese is all of your parishes working together. But it takes a shepherd who can unite folks,” summarized Reynolds. “I think that’s what his gift to you will be.”

(Katie Rutter is a freelance writer and member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington.) †



A blessed and wonderful  
welcome  
to our calm lamb

**Archbishop Charles C. Thompson**

as you begin to lead our Church in  
Central and Southern Indiana!

We are so joyful at the announcement  
that you are our shepherd!

Do count on our prayers, respect and  
love for you all the time!

Sincerely in JMJ,

Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy Community  
Indianapolis

The Intercultural Ministry Office  
of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis



Asian Pacific Islanders Ministry | Black Catholic Ministry |  
French -Speaking Ministry | Hispanic Ministry

Welcome! Le da la Bienvenida!  
Se félicite! Chào mừng!

Archbishop  
Charles C. Thompson

“Upon this rock, I will build my  
Church.”

Mathew 16:18

# Timeline of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

## Bishops and Archbishops

1834 Bishop Simon Bruté

1839 Bishop Célestin de la Hailandière

1847 Bishop John Stephen Bazin (Retired d. 1882)

1849 Bishop Jacques de Saint-Palais

1878 Bishop Francis Chatard

1910 Co-Adjutor Bishop Joseph Chartrand (Succeeds)

1933 Auxilliary Bishop Joseph Ritter (Succeeds)

1946 Archbishop Paul Schulte (To St. Louis d. 1967)

1967 Co-Adjutor Bishop George Biskup (Retired d. 1979)

1980 Archbishop Edward O'Meara (Retired d. 1984)

1992 Archbishop Daniel Buechlein

2012 Archbishop Joseph Tobin (Retired To Newark)

2017 Archbishop Charles Thompson

1834 - Diocese of Vincennes is founded, taking up all of Indiana and eastern Illinois

1843 - Diocese of Chicago is founded, leaving the Vincennes diocese all of Indiana

1857 - Diocese of Fort Wayne is created from the northern half of Indiana

1898 - The see city of the diocese is moved from Vincennes to Indianapolis

1944 - Diocese of Evansville is created from the southwestern portion of the state; Indianapolis is made an archdiocese

## Popes

Gregory XVI

1846 Pius IX

1878 Leo XIII

1903 Pius X

1914 Benedict XV

1922 Pius XI

1939 Pius XII

1958 John XXIII

1963 Paul VI

1978 John Paul I (Retired)

1978 John Paul II

2005 Benedict XVI

2013 Francis

## U.S. and World History

1837 Martin Van Buren is elected

1841 St. Theodora opens academy

1857 Dred Scott decision

1865 U.S. Civil War ends

1879 First commercial light bulb patented

1897 St. Therese dies

1903 First flight

1912 RMS Titanic sinks

1918 World War I ends

1929 Great Depression begins

1939 World War II begins

1952 Queen Elizabeth II begins reign

1965 The Second Vatican Council ends

1977 Apple II home computer launches

1991 World Wide Web launched

2001 September 11 terrorist attacks

2015 Pope Francis visits the U.S.

1834

1850

1900

1950

2000

2017

# Saint Meinrad monk makes vestments for installation

By Sean Gallagher

When Archbishop Charles C. Thompson is installed as the seventh archbishop of Indianapolis on July 28 in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, he will wear a chasuble, stole and miter made especially for the occasion by Benedictine Brother Kim Malloy of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad.

Brother Kim has been making liturgical vestments since 1980, just a few years before Archbishop Thompson first arrived at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology as a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky.

In addition to making vestments for the new archbishop for the installation Mass, Brother Kim has also made three other chasubles and two dalmatics. The three chasubles will be worn by priests who will accompany the new archbishop and Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States. The dalmatics will be worn by two deacons who will assist at the liturgy. All of the vestments are made in a style commonly used during the Renaissance.

Saint Meinrad Archabbey offered to provide a set of vestments for the installation Mass a day after the June 13 press conference at the Archbishop

Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis at which Archbishop Thompson's appointment was announced.

"It's quite a privilege," said Brother Kim of the opportunity to make the vestments. "I have this thing about individual creations rather than off the rack. I like to see things that artists make to use in the liturgy. I prefer that."

Father Patrick Beidelman, executive director of the archdiocesan Secretariat for Worship and Evangelization, was pleased that Saint Meinrad will have a special role during the installation Mass.

"It's yet another thing that underscores the close bond that Saint Meinrad Archabbey and the Archdiocese of Indianapolis have," he said. "There are so many ways in which that monastic community and this local Church collaborate in the mission of the Church. It's just fitting that Saint Meinrad should have such a significant role in giving thanks and praise to God for our new archbishop."

Father Beidelman has appreciated Brother Kim's artistry since he was a seminarian at Saint Meinrad in the 1990s. When he was ordained a transitional deacon in 1997, he was



A chasuble created by Benedictine Brother Kim Malloy of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad sits on July 20 on a table in the rectory of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. Archbishop Charles C. Thompson will wear this chasuble during the July 28 Mass in the cathedral in which he will be installed as the seventh archbishop of Indianapolis. (Photos by Sean Gallagher)

vested with a dalmatic created by Brother Kim.

"I've always admired his artistic ability, his craftsmanship and the faith that supports it," Father Beidelman said. "His life is just dedicated to the worship of God, and enabling others to worship God with all their hearts. To be able to see the beauty of his work, especially in vestments used for Mass, is another way in which we're called into the mystery of God."

Brother Kim delivered the vestments to the cathedral on July 20, a little more than a week before the installation Mass. He planned to attend the July 28 liturgy and looked forward to seeing his creations used in the worship of God.

"It's always nice to see them wear them, especially on the first time," said Brother Kim. †



A miter created by Benedictine Brother Kim Malloy of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad sits on July 20 on a table in the rectory of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Indianapolis. Archbishop Charles C. Thompson will wear this miter during the July 28 Mass in which he will be installed as seventh archbishop of Indianapolis.

*'There are so many ways in which that monastic community and this local Church collaborate in the mission of the Church. It's just fitting that Saint Meinrad should have such a significant role in giving thanks and praise to God for our new archbishop.'*



—Father Patrick Beidelman, executive director of the archdiocesan Secretariat for Worship and Evangelization

## THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES And THE MISSION OFFICE OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith • Missionary Childhood Association • Society of St Peter the Apostle • The Missionary Union of Priests and Religious

*Would like to congratulate  
our new  
Archbishop Charles C. Thompson*



Fr. Gerald J. Kirkhoff, Director  
Mrs. Dana Danberry, Office Manager  
Sister M. Loretto Emenogu, Mission Educator

*The Missionaries of the world  
are pleased!*

## Congratulations, Archbishop Thompson!



We extend our prayers to you and to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as you begin your new ministry as Archbishop.

*"Let us prefer nothing to the love of Christ, and may Christ bring us all to everlasting life."*

—Rule of St. Benedict 72:11

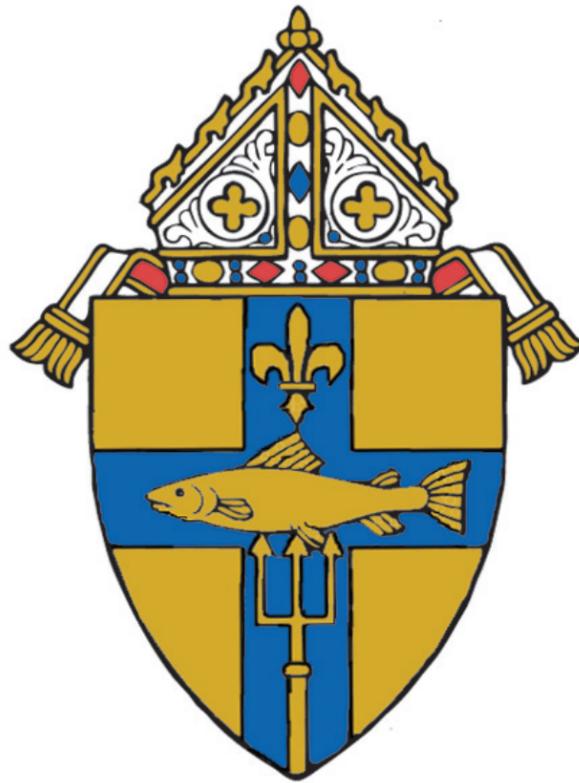


SISTERS OF ST. BENEDICT  
FERDINAND, INDIANA

# Welcome Archbishop Thompson



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SCHOOL



ST. JOHN PAUL II  
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PROVIDENCE



ST. JOSEPH  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL



## New Albany Deanery Schools

Our Lady of Providence High School, Clarksville  
St. Anthony of Padua School, Clarksville  
St. Joseph School, Corydon  
St. Mary of the Knobs Catholic School, Floyds Knobs

Sacred Heart Catholic School, Jeffersonville  
Holy Family School, New Albany  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, New Albany  
St. John Paul II Catholic School, Sellersburg

# The John & Kara Traub Family and



### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ATTENDED/ATTENDING

	JOHN TRAUB LITTLE FLOWER - '80 BISHOP CHATARD H.S. - '84		KARA (TEKULVE) TRAUB ST. PIUS X - '80 BISHOP CHATARD H.S. - '84 ST. MARY'S, N.D. - '88	
NICK TRAUB ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD	COLIN TRAUB ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD		KAITLIN TRAUB ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD	LINDSEY TRAUB ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD
JIM TRAUB LITTLE FLOWER LATIN SCHOOL ST. JOSEPH COLLEGE ANNE (NOHL) TRAUB HOLY SPIRIT LADYWOOD ST. MARY-OF-THE-WOODS JIMMY TRAUB HOLY SPIRIT CATHEDRAL MICHAEL TRAUB HOLY SPIRIT CATHEDRAL DANNY TRAUB HOLY SPIRIT JOSEPH TRAUB LITTLE FLOWER SCECINA MEMORIAL	JEFF TRAUB LITTLE FLOWER SCECINA VICKI (JACOB) TRAUB ST. SIMON JACOB TRAUB ST. MATTHEWS BISHOP CHATARD JULIE TRAUB ST. MATTHEW BISHOP CHATARD JENNY TRAUB ST. MATTHEWS BISHOP CHATARD JILL TRAUB ST. MATTHEWS BISHOP CHATARD GRANDPA TRAUB ST. PHILLIP NERI CATHEDRAL GRANDMA (McKIBBEN) TRAUB OUR LADY OF LOURDES ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL	KEITH TEKULVE ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD UNIV. OF DAYTON KATHY (BARNES) TEKULVE ST. LAWRENCE BISHOP CHATARD KRISTYN TEKULVE ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD BRIAN TEKULVE ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD ERIN TEKULVE ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD KELLIE TEKULVE ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD GRANDPA TEKULVE ST. MARY'S GREENSBURG GRANDMA (NEIMAN) TEKULVE ST. MARY'S GREENSBURG	BARB (TRAUB) BRAUN LITTLE FLOWER SCECINA MEMORIAL PAT BRAUN LITTLE FLOWER SCECINA MEMORIAL JASON BRAUN ST. PIUS X CATHEDRAL MARIAN UNIVERSITY KIM (THOBEN) BRAUN IMMACULATE HEART BISHOP CHATARD MINDY BRAUN ST. PIUS X CATHEDRAL RYAN BRAUN ST. PIUS X KURT TEKULVE ST. PIUS X BISHOP CHATARD	CAROL (TRAUB) RICHARDSON LITTLE FLOWER SCECINA MEMORIAL JOHN RICHARDSON ST. PHILLIP NERI SCECINA MEMORIAL KRISTY (EHRET) RICHARDSON HOLY SPIRIT SCECINA MEMORIAL KEVIN RICHARDSON HOLY SPIRIT SCECINA MEMORIAL KATIE RICHARDSON HOLY SPIRIT SCECINA MEMORIAL SCOTT (SLAB) KEHL ST. BERNADETTE SUSIE (TRAUB) KEHL LITTLE FLOWER BISHOP CHATARD MEGAN KEHL KODY KEHL COLLEEN KEHL ST. LOUIS DE MONTFORT



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Charles C. Thompson  
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# The catechism teaches that the role of a bishop is threefold



## Teach

The catechism says that a bishop's first task is "to preach the Gospel of God to all men" (#888). The head of a diocese not only instructs his faithful through homilies and regular columns, but also through occasional official documents. Matters of importance on the issues of the day are decided by him, knowing that God's assistance is always given. (#892)



## Sanctify

"The bishop and [his] priests sanctify the Church by their prayer and work, by their ministry of the word and of the sacraments" (#893). This is especially true in the Eucharist: the local Church is fully present when a bishop celebrates Mass with all his his priests, deacons and faithful from around the diocese. He is also the ordinary minister of confirmation.



## Govern

All final decisions of importance in the local Church, including matters of liturgy, finance, organization, as well as parish openings and closings, rest on the bishop. While in union with the pope, the authority he exercises "personally in the name of Christ, is proper, ordinary, and immediate" (#895), and always in a spirit of fatherly love and care.

Graphic by Brandon A. Evans



and



# Congratulates

ARCHBISHOP

# CHARLES C. THOMPSON

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CATHOLICCEMETERIES.CC

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435 West Troy Avenue, Indianapolis, 46225

Our Lady of Peace Cemetery  
**317-574-8898**  
9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis, 46240

on the web at:  
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**317-387-7000**

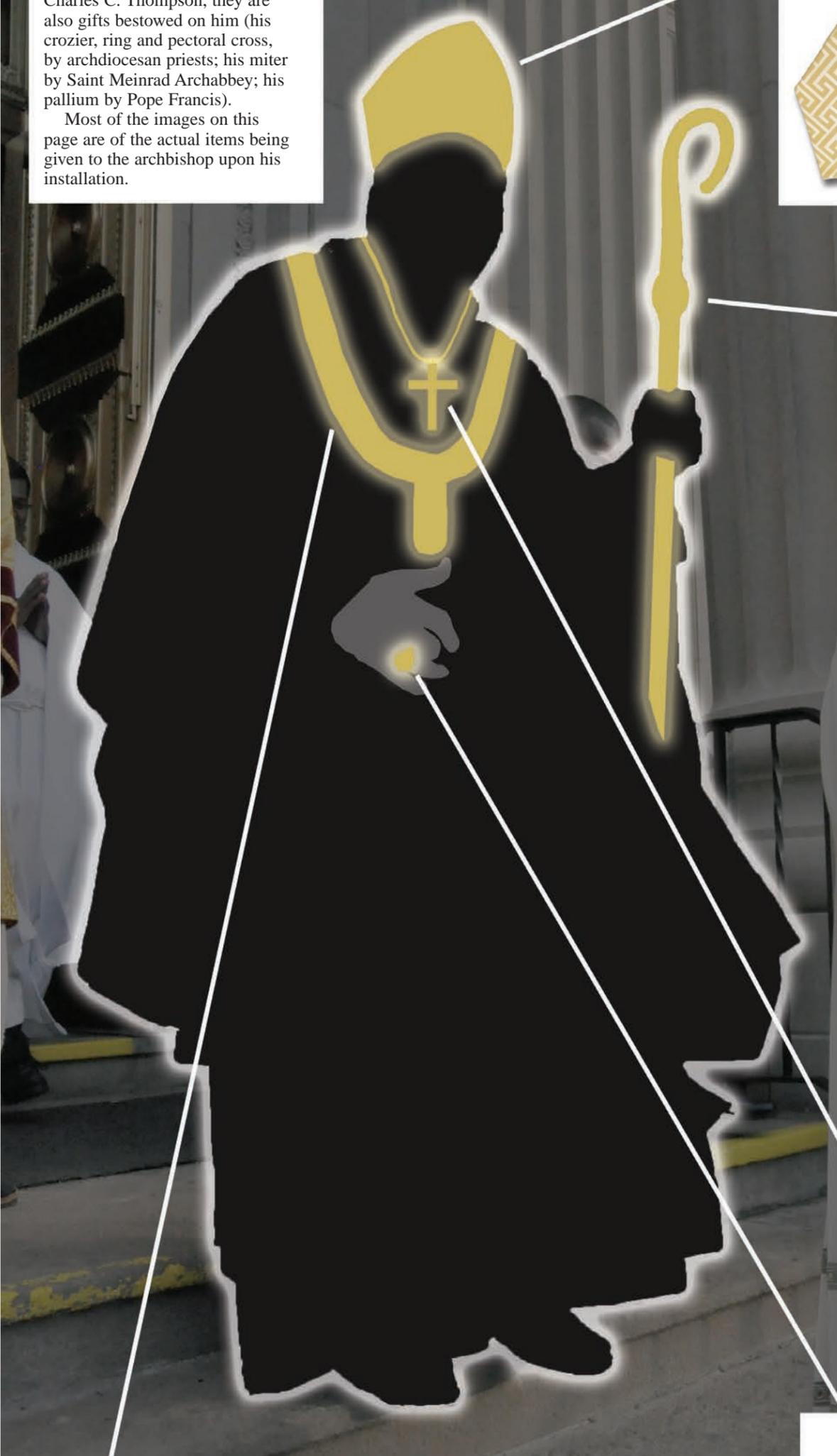
Broad Ripple • Carmel • Decatur Township • Floral Park • Geist  
Hamilton Memorial Park • Market Street • Memorial Park  
Oaklawn Memorial Gardens • Speedway  
Washington Park East • Washington Park North • Zionsville

# The office of archbishop comes with several notable symbols

The role of a bishop is accompanied by several prominent symbols, each of which has a special meaning.

In the case of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, they are also gifts bestowed on him (his crozier, ring and pectoral cross, by archdiocesan priests; his miter by Saint Meinrad Archabbey; his pallium by Pope Francis).

Most of the images on this page are of the actual items being given to the archbishop upon his installation.

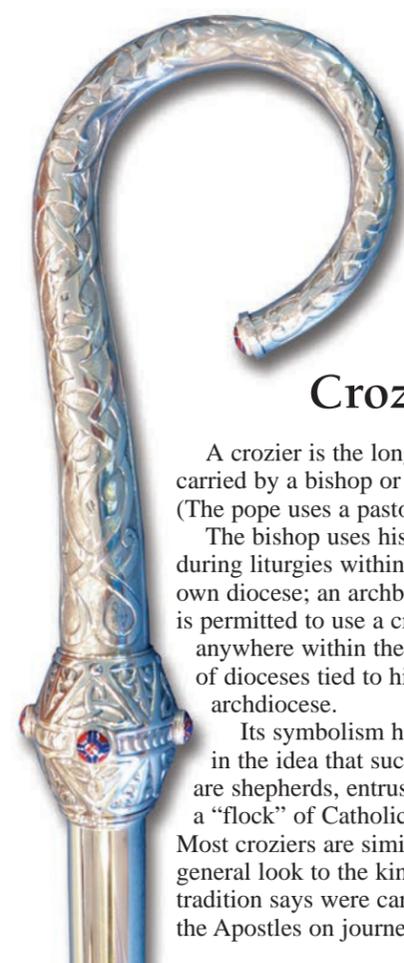


### Miter



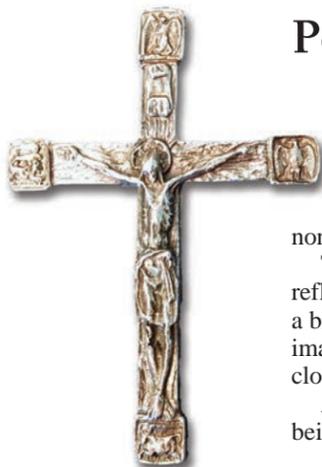
A miter is the traditional pointed hat worn by the pope, bishops and abbots during liturgies. It is thought that the miter may have its roots in the headband worn by ancient Greek athletes. Since the 10th century, it is used to symbolize the dignity of the office of bishop. At his installation, our archbishop has a simple white and gold cloth miter.

### Crozier



A crozier is the long staff carried by a bishop or abbot. (The pope uses a pastoral staff.) The bishop uses his crozier during liturgies within his own diocese; an archbishop is permitted to use a crozier anywhere within the province of dioceses tied to his archdiocese. Its symbolism has roots in the idea that such leaders are shepherds, entrusted with a "flock" of Catholic faithful. Most croziers are similar in general look to the kind that tradition says were carried by the Apostles on journeys.

### Pectoral cross



The pectoral cross of a bishop is not normally visible during Mass, as it's under his vestments, but it is an item worn in non-liturgical dress. The large cross is a reflection of the dignity of a bishop's office, and as an image of Christ it is worn close to the heart. Archbishop Thompson is being given a silver cross.

### Pallium



The only item on this list that is exclusive to an archbishop is the pallium, a circular band made from wool. It is worn by an archbishop during Mass in his archdiocese; it symbolizes his role as a shepherd as well as his connection to the pope. The wool is taken from lambs and is blessed by the Pope on the feast of St. Agnes each year. Before they are given to new archbishops, they are placed for a time at the tomb of St. Peter in Rome. Archbishop Thompson will have it placed on him at his installation Mass. The file photo to the left by Mary Ann Garber shows now-retired Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein wearing his pallium.

### Ring



A bishop's ring is a symbol of his authority, and is also seen as alluding to his "marriage" to his diocese and of becoming a father to its faithful. Archbishop Thompson's ring is a replica of that given to bishops who participated in the Second Vatican Council. It features SS. Peter and Paul standing with Jesus.



# St. Vincent Welcomes Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

*We offer our prayers and support as you begin your ministry in shepherding the people in the Indianapolis Archdiocese. May your journey be richly blessed — body, mind and spirit.*



## Events Calendar

For a list of events for the next four weeks as reported to The Criterion, log on to [www.archindy.org/events](http://www.archindy.org/events).

### July 29-August 7

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Providence Spirituality and Conference Center, 1 Sisters of Providence, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Used Book Sale sponsored by Linden Leaf Gifts**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., books not pre-priced, but donations accepted. Information: 812-535-2932 or [lindenleafgifts@spsmw.org](mailto:lindenleafgifts@spsmw.org).

### August 1

Mission 27 Resale, 132 Leota St., Indianapolis. **Senior Discount Day**, every Tuesday, seniors get 30 percent off clothing, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., ministry supports Indianapolis St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry and Changing Lives Forever program. Information: 317-687-8260.

St. Lawrence Parish, 6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. **Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Indianapolis, Life in the Spirit Seminar**, session two of eight, 7-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-546-7328, [mkeyes@indy.rr.com](mailto:mkeyes@indy.rr.com).

### August 2

Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Solo Seniors**, Catholic, educational, charitable and social singles, 50 and over, single, separated, widowed or divorced. New members welcome. 6 p.m.

Information: 317-243-0777.

### August 4

Women's Care Center, 4901 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. **First Friday Mass**, 5 p.m., Msgr. Joseph Schaedel presiding, optional tour of center to follow. Information: 317-829-6800, [www.womenscarecenter.org](http://www.womenscarecenter.org).

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral chapel, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Lumen Dei Catholic Business Group**, 6:30 a.m. Mass, 7:15-8:30 a.m. breakfast at Lincoln Square Pancake House, 2330 N. Meridian, Indianapolis. Information: 317-435-3447 or [lumen.dei@comcast.net](mailto:lumen.dei@comcast.net).

Most Holy Name of Jesus Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. **First Friday devotion**, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 5:30 p.m.; reconciliation, 5:45-6:45 p.m.; Mass, 7 p.m.; Litany of the Sacred Heart and prayers for the Holy Father, 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **First Friday** celebration of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mass, 5:45 p.m., exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, following Mass until 9 p.m., sacrament of reconciliation available. Information: 317-888-2861 or [info@olgreenwood.org](mailto:info@olgreenwood.org).

St. Lawrence Church, 6944

E. 46th St., Indianapolis. **First Friday Charismatic Renewal Praise and Mass**, praise and worship 7 p.m., Mass 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-546-7328, [mkeyes@indy.rr.com](mailto:mkeyes@indy.rr.com).

### August 4-5

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, 523 S. Merrill St., Fortville. **Summer Festival**, Fri. 7-11 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m., home-cooked meals, raffle, games, bingo, Monte Carlo on Fri. (\$20 per person). Information: 317-485-5102.

### August 5

Primo Banquet and Conference Center, 2615 National Ave., Indianapolis. **Hearts and Hands of Indiana "House to Homes Dinner and Fundraiser"**, benefiting housing rehabilitation efforts near St. Anthony Parish, 6-10 p.m., door prizes, silent auction, audience games, \$100 ticket allows two people entrance, dinner and drinks. Information and tickets: Amanda Langferman, 317-353-3769, [alangferman@heartsandhandsindy.org](mailto:alangferman@heartsandhandsindy.org) or [www.heartsandhandsindy.org/houses-to-homes](http://www.heartsandhandsindy.org/houses-to-homes).

St. Michael Church, 145 St. Michael Blvd., Brookville. **First Saturday Marian Devotional Prayer Group**, Mass, prayers, rosary, confession,

meditation, 8 a.m. Information: 765-647-5462. **Terre Haute Helpers of God's Precious Infants**, 7:30 a.m. Mass at the Carmelite Monastery, 59 Allendale, Terre Haute; 8:45 a.m. car pool from St. Patrick Parish, 1807 Poplar St., Terre Haute, to Bloomington Planned Parenthood, 421 S. College Ave., arriving 10:15 a.m.; return to St. Patrick Parish around noon. Information: Tom McBroom, 812-841-0060, [mcbroom.tom@gmail.com](mailto:mcbroom.tom@gmail.com).

### August 6

St. Bernard Parish, 7600 Hwy. 337 N.W., Depauw. **Picnic and Raffle**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., country fried chicken and ham dinners, homemade noodles and pies served in an air-conditioned dining room until 2 p.m., carry out available, drawing for \$10,000 with only 300 \$100

tickets, silent auction, games for kids and adults, 50/50 raffle, gun raffle, handmade quilts, games of chance, live music 11 a.m.-1 p.m.. Information or ticket purchase: 812-347-2326 or [SaintBernardCatholicChurch@gmail.com](mailto:SaintBernardCatholicChurch@gmail.com).

St. Boniface Parish, 15519 N. State Road 545, Fulda. **Parish Picnic**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. CT, soup, food, quilts, music, games. Information: 812-357-5533.

### August 8

St. Lawrence Parish, 6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. **Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Indianapolis, Life in the Spirit Seminar**, session three of eight, 7-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-546-7328, [mkeyes@indy.rr.com](mailto:mkeyes@indy.rr.com).

Church of the Immaculate Conception, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. St. Mary-of-the-

Woods. **Monthly Taizé Prayer Service**, theme "Praying for Peace in the World and in Our Hearts," 7-8 p.m., silent and spoken prayers, simple music, silence. Information: 812-535-2952, [provctr@spsmw.org](mailto:provctr@spsmw.org).

St. Paul Hermitage, 501 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. **Ave Maria Guild**, 12:30 p.m. Information: 317-223-3687, [vlgmimi@aol.com](mailto:vlgmimi@aol.com).

### August 9

Bent Rail Brewery, 5301 Winthrop Ave., Indianapolis. **Theology on Tap Catholic Speaker Series: "Service to Others, Serving Those in Need,"** Heidi Smith and Andrew Costello presenting, 7 p.m., free admission, food and drink available for purchase, registration not required. Information: [www.indycatholic.org/indytot/](http://www.indycatholic.org/indytot/), [mkinast@archindy.org](mailto:mkinast@archindy.org). †

## Six Divorce and Beyond sessions to be offered in Indianapolis on Aug. 8-Sept. 12

Divorce and Beyond, a program made available through the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life and Family Life, will be offered at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis, from 7-9 p.m. on six consecutive Tuesdays from Aug. 8 through Sept. 12.

Each meeting builds on the prior week's session. The topics for discussion are the process of divorce,

self-image, stress, anger, blame, guilt, loneliness and forgiveness.

The cost of the six-week session is \$30, which includes a book.

For more information or to register, contact the Office of Pro-Life and Family Life Office at 317-236-1586, or e-mail [dvanvelse@archindy.org](mailto:dvanvelse@archindy.org).

Registration forms can be obtained online [www.archindy.org/plfl/ministries-divorce.html](http://www.archindy.org/plfl/ministries-divorce.html). †

*Thank you, Father,  
for answering our prayers.*



Archbishop Thompson,

For months, we asked God to send us a new archbishop. One who would be our new shepherd whose watchful care would bring us His blessing. One who would be an example of goodness, and would fill our hearts and minds with the truth of the Gospel. And now you're here!

We are so thankful for you, and welcome you to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis family with open arms. We look forward to working with you in carrying out God's mission for our Church.

In His Love,  
*The Office of Stewardship and Development*

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time/ Msgr. Owen F. Campion

# The Sunday Readings

Sunday, July 30, 2017

- 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
- Romans 8:28-30
- Matthew 13:44-52



The First Book of Kings is the source of this weekend's first reading. As might be supposed, the two books of Kings deal heavily with the kings of unified Israel: Saul, David and Solomon. But while these two books concentrate on these three kings, the books in fact are not political histories.

The authors of these inspired books were not interested in politics, except when politics furnished some religious consideration or another.

For the authors, religion was the most important consideration in life, the Hebrew religion, by which God related to the people, and they to God. Nothing else in the long run made any difference.

David and Solomon were almost magical figures in the ancient Hebrew mind. David was the king who confirmed his own and the nation's covenant with God. Solomon, who continued his father's religious policy, was regarded as the wisest of men.

Under David and Solomon, at least in the estimate of the Hebrews themselves, the unified kingdom of Israel had status among the nations of the ancient Middle East.

In this weekend's reading, Solomon realized that God was supreme, despite his own intelligence and access to power. Therefore, Solomon asked God not for power or wealth, but for the wisdom to govern well. Again to emphasize the place of religion, governing well meant bringing the people to God, and God to them.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans furnishes the second reading. The reading begins with a verse long a favorite source of consolation for Christians: "We know that God makes all things work together for the good of those who love him" (Rom 8:28). Paul wrote this epistle in part to encourage the Christian Romans as they faced the scorn of the culture of the time and increasing pressure from political authorities.

These verses in this reading call for strong faith and for commitment to the fact that earthly life is not the be-all and end-all for humans.

For its last reading, the Church offers a reading from St. Matthew's Gospel. The reading contains three short parables. These parables are found only in Matthew.

Key to understanding the message is in noting the eagerness of the pearl merchant to possess the truly precious pearl. He sells everything in order to buy this priceless pearl.

The Gospel presents the kingdom of heaven as an extraordinarily valuable pearl. If we are wise, we will put everything else aside and seek the pearl that is the kingdom.

"Put everything else aside" is the operative phrase. We must invest every part of ourselves in our quest for God. We must "sell everything," so to speak, to be true disciples.

The reading further reminds us that the world is filled with saints as well as sinners, and even the kingdom of God on Earth. God, and only God, will balance the picture.

## Reflection

These readings confront us directly with the fact that our kingdom is not of this world, just as Jesus insisted before Pilate that the Redeemer's kingdom was not of this world. As followers of Jesus, as part of the Mystical Body of Christ, we are in the same situation.

The Scriptures reveal to us this world is not enduring. Only the wise see that the enduring kingdom is God's spiritual kingdom, but surrounded by the glitter of worldly "success" and "profit," it is easy to forget that the "rewards" one day will vanish—no exceptions.

When we devote our lives totally to God, we simply are facing facts.

What we build on earthly gain inevitably is built on shifting, lifeless sand. This is the blunt fact. God's kingdom will not pass away. It is the most precious pearl, worth everything in our lives and hearts. †

## Daily Readings

### Monday, July 31

St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest  
Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34  
Psalm 106:19-23  
Matthew 13:31-35

### Tuesday, August 1

St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor of the Church  
Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28  
Psalm 103:6-13  
Matthew 13:36-43

### Wednesday, August 2

St. Eusebius of Vercelli, bishop  
St. Peter Julian Eymard, priest  
Exodus 34:29-35  
Psalm 99:5-7, 9  
Matthew 13:44-46

### Thursday, August 3

Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38  
Psalm 84:3-6, 8-11  
Matthew 13:47-53

### Friday, August 4

St. John Vianney, priest  
Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37  
Psalm 81:3-6, 10-11  
Matthew 13:54-58

### Saturday, August 5

The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major  
Leviticus 25:1, 8-17  
Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 7-8  
Matthew 14:1-12

### Sunday, August 6

The Transfiguration of the Lord  
Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14  
Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 9  
2 Peter 1:16-19  
Matthew 17:1-9

## Question Corner/Fr. Kenneth Doyle

# The Church does not require both spouses to apply for an annulment

Our coffee group wants to know why, when a divorced couple wants a Church annulment, both parties need to apply. If a marriage is annulled, isn't it over and done with for both the husband and the wife? Is it just for the money, we wonder, that each of the two former spouses must apply? (Nebraska)



Please let your coffee group know that they are wrong on two counts. First, only one of the former spouses need apply for a declaration of nullity (commonly called an annulment) of his or her previous marriage. When an annulment is granted, it is a declaration, not so much that the previous marriage is "over and done with," as that it never existed sacramentally from the start.

When an application is submitted, the other spouse is notified by the diocese and offered the opportunity to give his or her own account of what led up to the marriage, any special circumstances (pregnancy, family pressure, faulty views of marriage, etc.) and what "went wrong" with the relationship.

Often enough, that second spouse chooses not to respond, but the case still moves forward on the testimony of only one spouse.

As for it being "just for the money," it is true that in the past most dioceses attached a rather nominal fee—particularly when there was a need to cover the cost of hiring professional psychologists or lay canonists to evaluate the testimony. (That fee was regularly waived in cases of financial difficulty.)

In 2015, Pope Francis recommended that the annulment process be completely free of charge, and many dioceses, including the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, have implemented this.

Has the Catholic Church ever considered for canonization an individual who had not been a Catholic? If not, why not? Are we still suggesting that only Catholics go to heaven? (Arkansas)

Let me answer your last question first. The Catholic Church's teaching is most clearly expressed in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Quoting from the Second Vatican Council's "Dogmatic Constitution on the Church," the catechism states: "Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or his Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart,

and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience—those too may achieve eternal salvation" (#847).

This was not a new idea dreamed up by the fathers of Vatican II; St. Paul had taught in the Letter to the Romans (Rom 2:6-7) that God "will repay everyone according to his works: eternal life to those who seek glory, honor and immortality through perseverance in good works."

As to the question of the Church's proclaiming non-Catholic saints, the Church does not declare people outside the full communion of the Church as saints. This practice is based both on its teaching and on longstanding practice.

Why not? Well, the Church formally canonizes saints (normally after a lengthy study) when it declares that the person's life has demonstrated extraordinary virtue, and that miracles can be documented following that person's death and can be attributed to his or her intercession. In making this declaration, the Church is offering to the Catholic faithful a model worthy of imitation. This includes a person's beliefs. While the Church respects the freedom of people outside of its communion to adhere to beliefs different from its own, it would not recommend the faithful to hold these beliefs themselves.

Additionally, it is unlikely that a non-Catholic faith community would acknowledge the Catholic Church's authority by submitting one of its followers to this rigorous Catholic scrutiny, and for the Catholic Church to seize this role on its own might be resented as an overreach.

(Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com) and 30 Columbia Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.) †

## Readers may submit prose or poetry for faith column

The *Criterion* invites readers to submit original prose or poetry relating to faith or experiences of prayer for possible publication in the "My Journey to God" column.

Seasonal reflections also are appreciated. Please include name, address, parish and telephone number with submissions.

Send material for consideration to "My Journey to God," *The Criterion*, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367 or e-mail to [criterion@archindy.org](mailto:criterion@archindy.org). †

## My Journey to God

# Saints Among Us

By Sandy Bierly

There are saints among us,  
Little known by man,  
Such as the priest who offers bread and wine,  
As our gift of sacrifice,  
That becomes the Body and Blood of Christ,  
To nourish our souls,  
So that we become another Christ,  
By serving one another with love.

These saints among us,  
Teach, lead, and guide,  
Inspiring us to take on Christ,  
Through the holy Eucharist,  
Sending us on mission,  
To take Christ to the world,  
Through our love and sacrifice,  
While building up the Body of Christ.



(Sandy Bierly is a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany. Then-Bishop Charles C. Thompson of Evansville, Ind., elevates the consecrated Eucharist during Mass at St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville on Feb. 1. On July 28, he was installed as the seventh archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.)

(Photo courtesy The Message)



## Ties to the Hoosier State

Three shepherds with ties to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis pose for a photograph at a reception at the U.S. Embassy to the Holy See in Rome on June 29. Archbishop Paul D. Etienne of Anchorage, Alaska, left; Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, N.J.; and Archbishop Charles C. Thompson of Indianapolis concelebrated Mass in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican with Pope Francis that day, marking the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul. Archbishops Thompson and Etienne and Cardinal Tobin were among the new archbishops from around the world who received their pallium from the pope. The actual imposition of the pallium will take place in his archdiocese. Archbishop Etienne is a former priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, and Cardinal Tobin was shepherd of the Church in central and southern Indiana for four years before being named to lead Newark last November. (Photo courtesy Sr. Nicolette Etienne, O.S.B.)



The Bloomington Deanery's parishes and schools extend joyful prayers and best wishes to **Archbishop Charles C. Thompson** on being installed as Archbishop of Indianapolis.

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- St. Charles Borromeo Parish and School, Bloomington
- St. John the Apostle Parish, Bloomington
- St. Paul Catholic Center, Bloomington
- Our Lady of the Springs Parish, French Lick
- St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Mitchell
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# Ministering with our universal shepherd



Pope Benedict XVI greets then-Bishop Charles C. Thompson of Evansville, Ind., during a Feb. 9, 2012, meeting with U.S. bishops on their *ad limina* visits to the Vatican. Bishops from Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin were making their *ad limina* visits to the Vatican to report on the status of their dioceses. (CNS photo /L'Osservatore Romano)

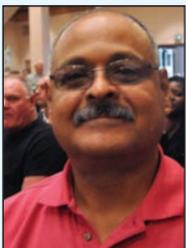


Pope Francis greets Archbishop Charles C. Thompson of Indianapolis as he presents a pallium to him at the conclusion of a Mass marking the feast of SS. Peter and Paul in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on June 29. A pallium is a woolen band worn over the shoulders that symbolizes an archbishop's close connection with the pope and his duty as the shepherd of an archdiocese. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson of Indianapolis walks away after receiving a pallium from Pope Francis at the conclusion of a Mass marking the feast of SS. Peter and Paul in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on June 29. New archbishops from around the world received a pallium from the pope. The actual imposition of the pallium will take place in the archbishop's archdiocese. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

## Catholics in central and southern Indiana express hope for new archbishop



Enrique Hernandez

"I think it's great. We've been without an archbishop for quite a while. He's someone that we absolutely needed. He can guide us through these difficult times in our Church and our communities. That's what we expect."

—**Enrique Hernandez**, a member of St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus



Monica Higgins

"I would like to tell Archbishop [Charles C.] Thompson congratulations on his new role, and I hope that his transition is going smoothly. I am praying for him and wishing him success with leading our Church community here in Indianapolis."

"The youth in the Catholic Church, when given the chance to be heard, can share new ideas or visions to either better the Church or gather more people to participate in the community."

—**Monica Higgins**, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and a student at Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School, both in Indianapolis



Lisa Roll

"I feel like our archdiocese has a lot of great things going on. Cardinal [Joseph W.] Tobin got a lot of good things started. I was sad to see him go, because he was such a powerful force. But I'm excited to see what new things can happen now that we have a new archbishop."

"I hope he encourages vocations and supports them. That's a big thing for me. I love to see large ordinations. That's the fruit of a lot of hard work. I would love to see that continue."

—**Lisa Roll**, a member of St. Michael Parish in Bradford

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P.O. Box 1410, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-1410

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Saint Joseph Catholic Church

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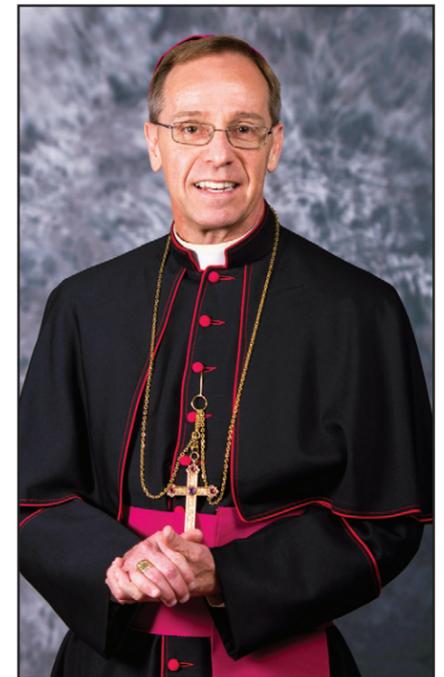
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# Congratulations and Best Wishes!

## Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

from Diocesan staff members and the  
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- Sts. Mary and John, Evansville  
  
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### Catholic Campus Ministry:

- University of Evansville, Evansville
- University of Southern Indiana, Evansville

### North Deanery

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- Our Lady of Hope, Washington  
*Washington Catholic Elementary*  
*Washington Catholic Middle & High School*
- St. Francis Xavier, Vincennes  
*Flaget Elementary School*  
*Rivet Middle and High School*
- St. Joan of Arc, Jasonville
- St. John the Evangelist, Loogootee
- St. Mary, Sullivan
- St. Peter, Linton
- St. Peter, Montgomery
- St. Philip Neri, Bicknell

### Catholic Campus Ministry:

- Vincennes University, Vincennes

### East Deanery

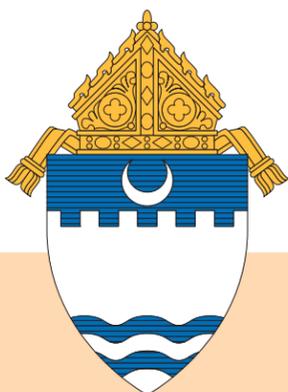
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- St. Francis of Assisi, Dale
- St. Isidore the Farmer, Celestine
- St. Joseph, Jasper
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- Corpus Christi, Evansville  
*Corpus Christi School*
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- St. Francis Xavier, Poseyville
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- St. Wendel, St. Wendel  
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Best Wishes as you begin your new ministry!  
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