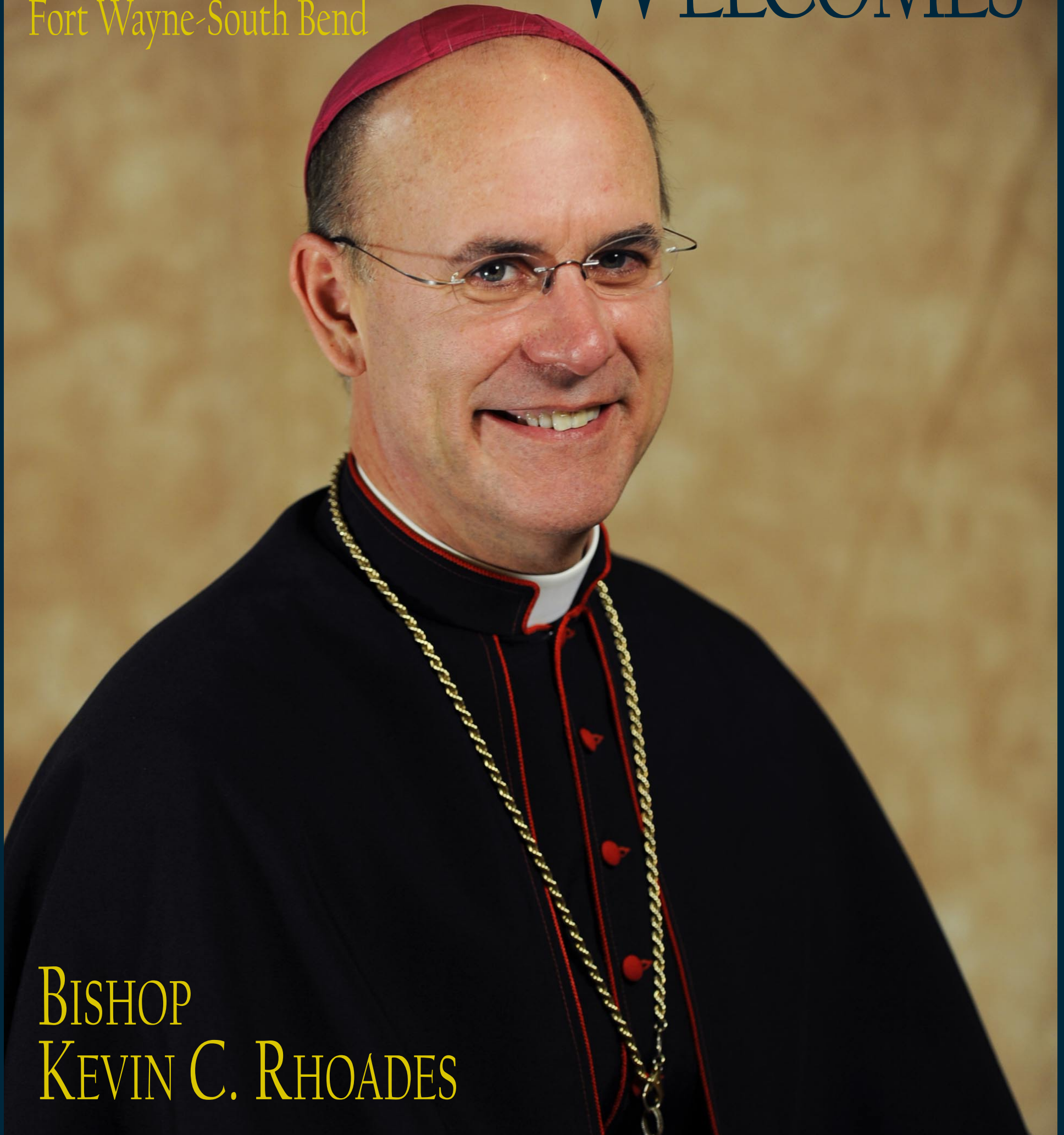
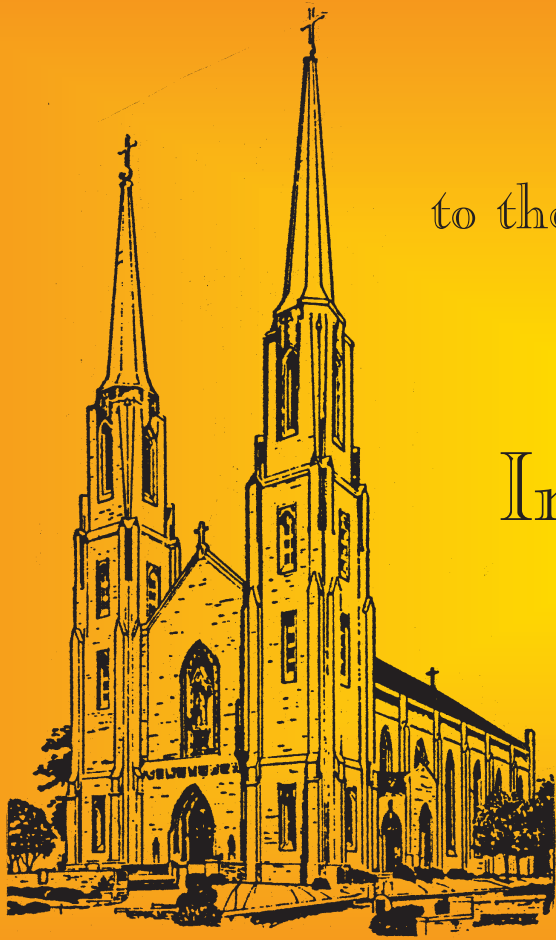


The Diocese
of
Fort Wayne-South Bend

WELCOMES



BISHOP
KEVIN C. RHOADES



Welcome
to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
and to the
Cathedral of the
Immaculate Conception.

*May you be blessed in your
Episcopal Ministry here.*

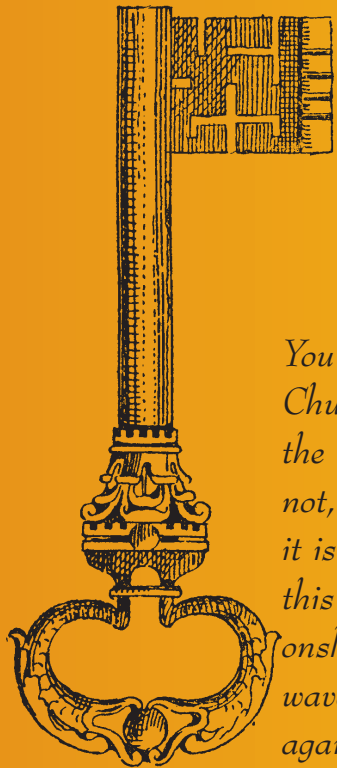
**MSGR. ROBERT C. SCHULTE,
THE STAFF AND THE PEOPLE
OF THE CATHEDRAL PARISH**

The priests and people of
SAINT MATTHEW CO-CATHEDRAL
in South Bend
joyfully welcome our new shepherd
Bishop Kevin Rhoades

You have undertaken the work of the episcopate, and taking your place at the helm of the Church, you guide the ship against the waves. Hold fast to the rudder of faith, so that the violent storms of this age cannot sink you. The sea is indeed deep and vast, but fear not, "for He founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters" (Ps24.2). For it is with good reason that the Lord's Church remains unmoved amid so many tempests of this world, built as it is upon the rock of the apostles, and she perseveres against the onslaught of the rushing waters by a foundation that is unshaken. She is dashed by the waves, but not destroyed by them, and while elements belonging to this world crash loudly against her, nevertheless she lays claim to the harbor of salvation, that most safe port where she receives those who are hard-pressed in her service.

Saint Ambrose, Letter 36 to Bishop Constantius

Ad multos annos!



LETTER FROM BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

In light of the mystery of the Holy Trinity, I will serve in your midst

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today the Church celebrates the solemnity of the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus' public life began with his baptism by John in the Jordan River. That event was a beautiful manifestation (a theophany) of the mystery of the most Holy Trinity. As the Son of God came out of the water, the Holy Spirit descended upon him in the form of a dove and the voice of God the Father came from heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son."

As I prepare to begin my ministry among you as bishop this coming Wednesday, I invite you to join me in turning your attention to the central mystery of our faith and life, the Most Holy Trinity. Each of us was baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and we invoke the Holy Trinity every time we make the sign of the cross. I will be installed as your bishop on the feast of a great bishop, St. Hilary of Poitiers, who wrote a magnificent book entitled "On The Trinity."

It is in light of the mystery of the Holy Trinity that I will serve in your midst. According to an ancient tradition of the Church, the bishop is to be an image of God the Father. I am very conscious that I have been called to lead you as a devoted father in the way of salvation. I am very humbled by this calling and I ask for your prayers as I begin this holy ministry.

Of course, Jesus, the Son, is the perfect image of the Father and reveals his merciful love to us. In this Year for Priests, we are reminded that priests are to be living signs in the Church of the Lord Jesus, the Head and Shepherd of the Church. As I begin my ministry among you, I also ask for your prayers for all of our priests and seminarians, that we may grow in holiness as living icons of Christ the Good Shepherd. And I especially ask for your prayers for an increase in vocations to the priesthood in our diocese, one of my highest priorities as your new bishop.

Jesus, the eternal and only-begotten Son, together with the Father, has poured out the Holy Spirit upon the Church. When I was ordained a bishop five years ago, I received by the power of the Holy Spirit the fullness of the sacrament of Holy Orders. It has been a tremendous joy and a great responsibility to act in the name and in the person of Christ as teacher, priest and shepherd. I realize that in doing so, it is the Holy Spirit who strengthens me in my weakness. He is the One who gives life to the church and enables us to fulfill our mission.

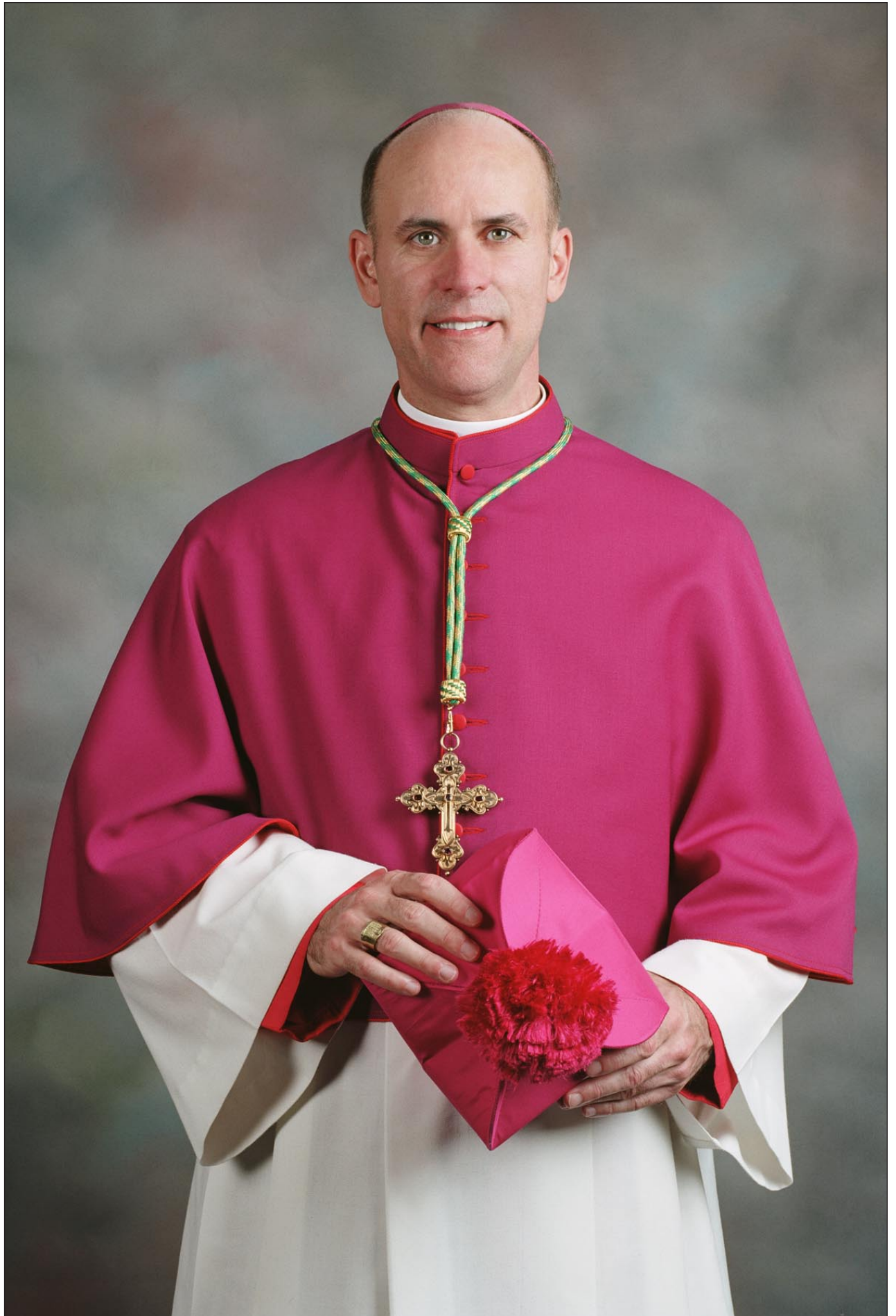
My brothers and sisters, I realize that I will have many responsibilities as I begin my episcopal ministry in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend this Wednesday. I believe that one of my main responsibilities is to pray for you. I pledge to you my prayers. I will remember you each day at holy Mass and in the Liturgy of the Hours. I will also pray for you when I pray the holy rosary. Please pray for me. It is through mutual prayer that we are united very closely with each other in the unity of the Most Holy Trinity.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, the beloved daughter of the Father, the mother of the Son, and the temple of the Holy Spirit, pray for us and accompany us on our journey together!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Kevin C. Rhoades

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop-designate of Fort Wayne-South Bend



BISHOP-DESIGNATE KEVIN C. RHOADES

Rhoades family ties bind with love

BY KAY COZAD

As Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades answered the call from Pope Benedict XVI to become the new bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend with a resounding “yes!” — leaving his home diocese of Harrisburg and his friends and family members makes for a rather bittersweet move. His sister Robin McCracken and cousin Mary Earnest speak candidly about their close family ties and Bishop Rhoades’ move to the Midwest.

Of course, says McCracken, “It’s definitely bittersweet. I’m glad they’ve chosen him. I will support him. But I’ll miss him a lot!” As a going away gift she bought her brother a computer camera for use with Skype, a free Internet calling service, so they can keep in touch.

McCracken, a nurse, and her husband William have three children, Johnny, Molly and Marykate, and are active members of Our Lady of Consolation Parish in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Though he shoulders much responsibility as bishop, his sister says of Bishop Rhoades, “He is my brother first. Family is important to him. He’s a regular person — he helps with dishes. He’s been to every birth, game and holiday of my family’s. He’s always right there with me.”

His natural involvement with her children endears him to her even more. “The kids love to stay with him at his home. He took Johnny to World Youth Day in Australia and hopes to take Molly to Spain. They are very comfortable with him, and excited that he’s bishop,” she says.

Growing up with Bishop Rhoades as big brother with five years between them, McCracken always felt that he watched out for her. “I’m close with Kevin. I look up to him,” she says. The only time she recalls him being in trouble is when he ate his favorite apple pie dessert too fast. As for the extended family, “He was always good with the older relatives. He would sit and listen to them. They loved him,” she adds.

She holds fond memories of family vacations that the young Rhoades would orchestrate. “Kevin was a big planner in those vacations. He loves history so he always added a historical spot to see on the way,” says

McCracken. The bishop continues to join the McCracken family for vacations when he can.

In the 1970s, young Rhoades and his sister turned their TV room into a disco. “We learned some of the dances. John Travolta would have been proud!” says McCracken. She and her family continue to enjoy his sense of humor and gentle teasing.

Another of her favorite memories of her brother involves their Grandma Sarah, who lived with them. “She was a baker and made these cinnamon buns. It was a whole day project and Kevin always helped.”

McCracken is touched that in recent years she and her brother occasionally bake those very buns together using their grandmother’s recipe.

The siblings enjoyed playing games together as children, as well. “We played Jeopardy, casino, pinocle and rummy. Mom always made sure there was at least one new game on Christmas,” recalls McCracken. Now, she quips, her brother beats her son in chess, a game he taught the boy to play. “Kevin measures Johnny’s progress by how long it takes to win. If it takes longer than the time before, then Johnny is progress-



This 1967 photo shows the Rhoades family, from left, Charles Rhoades, father, Kevin, Mary, mother, sister Robin and brother Chuck.

work, playing and singing together.

Earnest and her husband Kevin have two children, Sean, who is godson to Bishop Rhoades, and Meghan. Earnest is an active parishioner of St. Theresa Parish and the assistant principal at St. Joseph School in the Diocese of Harrisburg.

Earnest, who considered the young Rhoades her first best friend, says of him as a child, “He was fun, honest, very caring, very smart and someone I could trust.” As for the present Bishop Rhoades she adds, “My cousin is the same person he



The Rhoades family is shown at this Cape May vacation in July of 1994, three months before the death of Bishop Rhoades’ mother.



Seminarian Kevin Rhoades, after ordination to the diaconate by Cardinal Terrence Cooke of New York at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, is shown with family.

ing.”

As for games, Earnest, who is first cousin to Bishop Rhoades, reports, “We still tease him that he always got the Bible questions correct when we played or watched Jeopardy.” She recalls attending school together with her cousin and spending time after school at the young Rhoades’ house doing home-

always was ... very loving, compassionate and sensitive to the needs of others.”

As a child the bishop faced the consequences of having asthma, including being unable to have pets. However, McCracken and Earnest recall as children having an occasional fish or turtle. What tickles them most was “when we were young and a pet

died, there was always a funeral for it. Kevin would always be the priest,” they say.

It was no surprise to either his sister or cousin that his calling was to eventually be to the priesthood. Earnest recalls hints of the priesthood in his preteen years. “He was a dedicated altar server,” she says. “He was interested in the lives of the saints, too.”

Bishop Rhoades’ sister recalls his interest in Mass and prayer. She says in his second year at Mount Saint Mary’s (University) that he spoke with a priest and after praying at the college’s grotto, he had a growing sense of his calling. When he made the decision to enter the seminary, “an incredible peace came and he felt the Holy Spirit in him,” says McCracken. She recalls his unceremonious announcement that he would become a priest. “We had no pressure from our parents. They always said ‘We want him to be what God wants him to be,’” she says.

McCracken prayed for his vocation and attended all the ceremonies including his ordination. “That was really neat,” she says. But she said it was “heart-wrenching” when her brother travelled to Rome to study during his seminary years. Their mother gave her a trip to Rome to reunite the siblings as a Christmas gift.

Following his ordination into the priesthood, then Father Rhoades gave each family member an individual blessing. “When he blessed me it was very emotional for both of us,” recalls Earnest. “We both cried. Happy tears, of course.”

Of her cousin’s vocation Earnest says, “He loves the Catholic Church and its teachings. He has a personal relationship with God through his prayer life. He respects other people and is interested in serving them and bringing them closer to God.”

“He’s very energetic,” his sister adds. “Being bishop is almost

perfect for him because he's called to do all those things. He was like that as a kid. ... He is gentle, but he always speaks the truth."

The family reports their delight at having a clergyman in their midst. Earnest says, "He has baptized many family members and officiated at several weddings, including my own. Sadly, he has also been the celebrant at several funeral Masses for our parents, aunts and uncles. But with that came a special peace."

As for his move to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, McCracken says, "I'm not surprised by the move. His priority is God and his obedience to the church. He is totally committed to his vocation," she says.

Earnest reports, "We are very proud of what he has done for our diocese. ... I hope (in Fort Wayne-South Bend) there will be an increase in religious vocations under his leadership and the Catholic schools will flourish under his guidance."

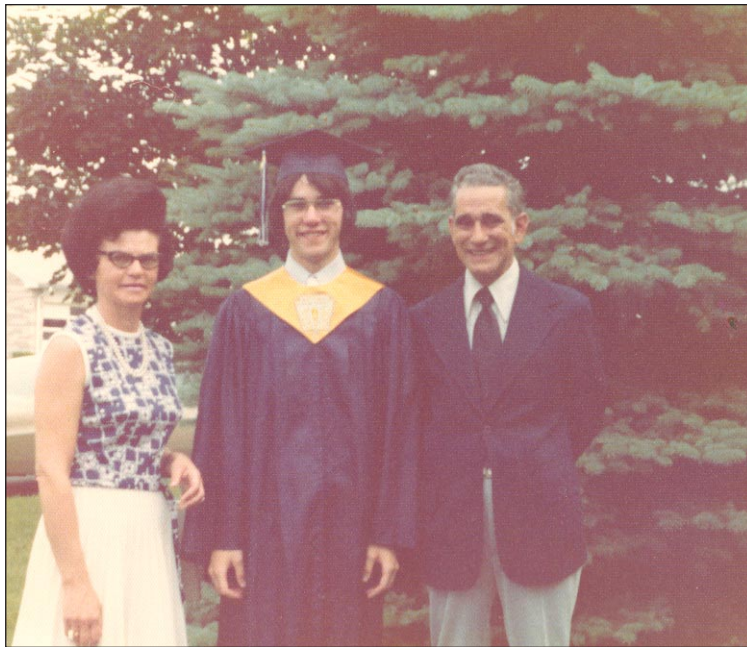
She adds jokingly, "My husband is a native of Indiana, so I know Indiana is big basketball territory. I expect the bishop will improve his game if he ever gets some free time to play."

Bishop's sister agrees saying, "He's trying hard to eat right and stay healthy. When he has free time he plays sports — tennis, racquetball. Tell them to play with him," she says.

His cousin believes that his pastoral strength lies in "his ability to reach out and relate to people of all walks of life and lead them closer to God." She says, "He just has this way of making everyone feel important and special. ... I know he would be a good shepherd for any diocese."

Carl Dakes, another of Bishop Rhoades' cousins joins the women and says, "I am so proud of all of my family including Bishop Kevin. We all were close growing up. ... We will miss him as he heads west. But at least I will see my cousin every football season, since we travel to South Bend once a year to cheer on the Irish of Notre Dame."

And says McCracken, "We hope to still see him a lot. He'll come back for my daughter Mary Kate's Confirmation and when my son Johnny graduates from high school." As for now, the family keeps the new bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in their hearts and in their prayers.



A graduate of Lebanon (Pa.) Catholic High School, Kevin Rhoades poses with his mother, Mary, and father, Charles.



The future-Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is shown here at his Confirmation.



Cardinal William Keeler, who was then the auxiliary bishop of Harrisburg, is shown here with newly-ordained Father Kevin Rhoades at his parish, St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Lebanon, Pa.

Bishop Rhoades' sister writes about their mother, Mary Rhoades

BY ROBIN MCCRACKEN

GAP, Pa. — "O Lord, you are the center of my life. I will always praise you, I will always serve you, I will always keep you in my sight." — Ps 16:1-2, 7-11

This psalm describes how one woman I knew very closely lived her life. This woman was Bishop Rhoades' and my mother, Mary Theresa Rhoades.

Mary was born Nov. 11, 1928, in Mahanoy City, Pa. She was the fifth child of Sarah and Carl Dakes. Her mother's parents were from Ireland and her father was from Greece. Mary attended St. Canicus School in Mahanoy City until 10th grade, as it only went up to 10th grade, and then finished high school at Mahanoy City High. There, she met and married her high school sweetheart, Charles Rhoades.

Mary was the mother of three children: Chuck, Kevin and Robin. She would sometimes comment, "I'll take as many children as God gives me." She loved all children and treated us as true gifts from God. We knew every day that we were cherished and loved. As children, she said our prayers with us every night. We got a hug, kiss, and she said, "I love you," every night as she tucked us in bed.

Our mother had a great dedication to Catholic education. All three of us had 12 years of Catholic education, graduating from Lebanon Catholic High School. (Kevin, of course, had many more years of Catholic education.)

Our mother worked in St. Mary's Elementary School for over 20 years. She was the coordinator of the Learning Center. She was also a very active member of St. Mary's Church in Lebanon, serving as a member on advisory boards, as a chairperson for fundraisers and as a Cub Scout leader. She encouraged us to be active participants in the church as well. Her sons were altar servers, and I was a lector and played the flute. The activities for the church always took precedence over any other activity.

Our mother truly made Christ the center of her life. The way she lived her life shows this over and over. Daily Mass, whenever possible, and regular confession

were her routine. Attendance at Sunday Mass and holy days of obligation were a given. Praying the rosary, devotions, Stations of the Cross during Lent and daily prayer were common activities in our home.

I could see her faith and great devotion to the Eucharist by the way she prayed during the consecration of the Mass. I remember asking her what she prayed about after holy Communion when she was kneeling. She told me, "This is the most special time we have with Jesus. He is right here with us. I pray for you and your brothers, your Dad and others. I ask him for help and thank him. Sometimes, I don't say anything and let him speak to me."

During the whole consecration and until the Eucharist was placed back into the tabernacle she knelt, even if no kneelers were available. We always wore our "Sunday best" to church, never jeans and sneakers. Once as a teenager I gave her a hard time about always having to get dressed up. She responded, "Yes, God does care more what your soul looks like, but you have nice clothes. What better place is there to wear them?"

Our summer vacation always included a stop at a basilica, shrine, cathedral or other site of Catholic history. One year we traveled to Disney World and on the way experienced the wonderful history of St. Augustine. Many vacations were trips to the Jersey shore. The first thing we planned was where and when we were going to attend Sunday Mass. Then we planned our beach time, the boardwalk, the rides and other entertainment.

When I was in college, she gave me the gift of a trip to Rome, paying for the trip out of money she had been saving. I was privileged to visit my brother Kevin for a whole week in Rome. She arranged for me to go there before she herself went.

Years later, she did go to Rome, thanks to her husband, and witnessed her son's ordination to the diaconate. She kept a diary of every experience she had in Rome and has several scrapbooks of her trip. Once while in Rome, Kevin excused himself for a moment and went

MOTHER, PAGE 6

MOTHER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

to talk with the Missionaries of Charity. When he came back, he had a very special person accompanying him: Mother Teresa! Mom was in such awe that she didn't know what to say. She hugged Mother Teresa and kissed her, and held her hand for a moment. Later that night she called me from Rome and told me she was with a true saint, saying, "I could feel God's presence in her."

Our mother lived for others. She and our father took people into our home when needed. When her mother Sarah could no longer live by herself, she was brought into our home without hesitation. Always loved and valued, she lived with us over eight years.

Another time, a young Catholic school teacher relocated to Lebanon and needed a place to stay until he found an apartment. He was made to feel so at home by my mother that he stayed for five years, leaving only to get married.

When mom's mother-in-law eventually could no longer live by herself, she too lived with us. Her niece stayed with us for a time as did an exchange student from Colombia, South America. Everyone was

welcome at our home. "I love company," mom would say. We were encouraged to bring our friends home. Many sisters, priests and seminarians would also come to our home and enjoy a game of pinochle with lots of fun

food appetizers that mom would prepare. She was always the laughter in a party with a contagious laugh and was never at a loss for an entertaining story.

When one of us received a sacrament, there was a huge celebration. We knew that this was a very important event and mom didn't hold back on the preparations. Every aunt, uncle, cousin and family friend was invited. The menu was planned weeks ahead, and she cooked a feast. Dozens of photos were taken, and she carefully arranged them in her many photo albums.

Every step of Kevin's pro-

God was always first
and her family
and others
were before herself.



On the day of ordination to the priesthood, Father Kevin Rhoades is shown with his father Charles and mother Mary.

gression to the priesthood was a cause for celebration. She never pushed or even suggested to Kevin that he be a priest. She simply let all of us know that God calls some to the priesthood or religious life, others to the

vocation of marriage or the single life. She encouraged us to be open to God's plan for us. I knew she prayed that if God did call one of us to the religious life, we would have the strength and faith to answer, and I believe her prayers were heard.

Kevin's ordination to the priesthood, and the wedding of her son, Chuck, as well as my wedding were highlights in her life.

A devoted and dedicated wife for almost 43 years, she treasured her grandchildren — Emily, Rachel, Johnny and Molly — and had what seemed to be unlimited energy in playing with them. Though she never met her youngest grandchild, Marykate, both of my daughters, Molly Theresa and Marykate, were named after her, Mary Theresa.

Material things were not important to mom. Whenever her



Father Kevin Rhoades poses with his mother, aunts and uncles of the his maternal family, the Dakes.

children asked her what gifts she would like for Christmas, a birthday or Mother's Day, she always responded, "A card and your prayers." One time she spotted Chuck walking from the floral shop about two miles away carrying a single red rose, her favorite flower. She was so happy he would go to this trouble for her that she cried.

Christmas preparations were a special part of our lives. The Nativity set was a focal point in our living room. After Christmas dinner we always had a birthday cake and sang "Happy Birthday,



While in Rome as a student, Bishop Rhoades worked with the Missionaries of Charity and introduced his mother to Mother Teresa.

Mom was diagnosed with gallbladder cancer Dec. 8, 1993. The doctors gave her less than one year to live, even with chemo and radiation treatments. "If this is God's will," she would accept it. Pain from the cancer was awful at times. Mom would ask for the pain medication but she would not complain. I could see that she was offering her suffering up for the Lord. It was a hard year for all of us. We prayed for a miracle, but she died on Oct. 30, 1994. Her death was difficult for us, but it was spiritually beautiful. Her loved ones surrounded her bedside, each saying a "good-bye for now," taking turns thanking her and comforting her. Her own son gave her Anointing of the Sick, and we prayed the rosary, placing a crucifix on her chest. Kevin blessed her again, and she died.

Mom never wavered from her values. God was always first and her family and others were before herself. She was the most totally giving person I will ever know. I thank God for his most precious gift of my mother. I thank my mother for the most special gift she gave us, the gift of her faith.

Robin McCracken, the sister of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, contributed this article on their mother.

Jesus."

When mom learned how to do ceramics, she created the beautiful Nativity sets. It took her over a year to create each set. One of her sets is proudly and prominently displayed in the bishop's residence, and one is in my own home.

Mom's favorite week of the year was Holy Week, and Easter was her favorite holiday. As a family, we always participated in the beautiful Catholic traditions and rituals of the triduum, and the vigil of Holy Saturday often brought tears to her eyes.

Bishop Rhoades is heartwarming friend

BY KAY COZAD

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Bishop Kevin Rhoades is a dynamic force to be reckoned with in matters of the Church. And his passion for his Catholic faith spills over into his friendships as well.

One longtime friend, Edwin Dominguez, has known the bishop for 25 years and remembers him as a young vibrant priest assigned to a small Hispanic mission church named Cristo Rey in Pennsylvania. As a teen Dominguez recalls, “His ability to speak fluent Spanish and his charismatic ways captured everyone’s heart and motivated the church community. Pretty much the way he has done wherever he goes.”

Dominguez and his wife Michelle have two daughters Sianna and Sheridan. The family members are active parishioners of St. Ignatius Loyola of Buchanan Valley and say they are grateful for bishop’s friendship. “Bishop married my wife and I, baptized both my children and many of my nieces and nephews. ... He has been a big part of our lives,” says Dominguez.

Michelle is a convert and credits the bishop’s strong faith example for her own faith journey. Her husband says, “Bishop Rhoades played an important role as she learned more of our faith and took RCIA classes. His example and support to Michelle along with the grace of God is why she is so knowledgeable and strong in her faith today.” Michelle received her first Communion and Confirmation from her friend Bishop Rhoades.

Of the many everyday memories the friends share, Dominguez holds his memory of their trip to Rome most dear. He describes one particular experience saying, “... the experience that stands out for me the most with bishop was when we prayed the rosary on our knees as we moved up the Holy Stairs. Devout pilgrims mount the steps on their knees, praying. It is a very slow process and can be very difficult and painful to your knees. As we prayed and approached the top of the stairs I could see that both bishop and I were struggling to get to the top. We both tried to imagine what Jesus went through and how his feet passed where we were kneeling. It was very spiritual and humbling. I was struggling



PROVIDED BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

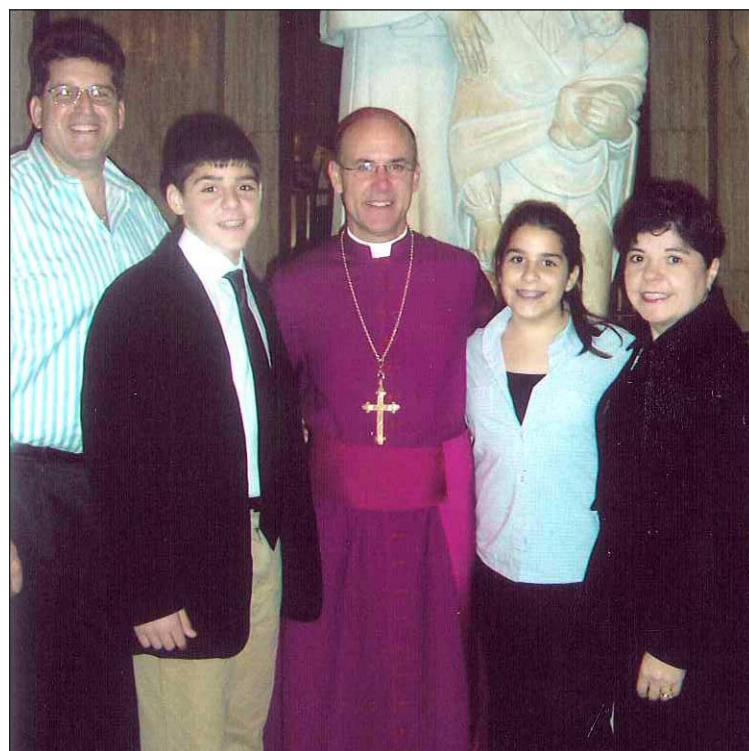
Enjoying a Penn State football game earlier in the fall, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades poses with his friends Dave Deluce, left, and Edwin Dominguez, right.

and sweating profusely. Bishop was definitely doing better than me. I looked to my left and saw several nuns passing us on the stairs as if we had stopped. It was unbelievable how they progressed so quickly up the stairs without even a bead of sweat. When we finally reached the top we went to the gift shop. I motioned toward the nuns and said ‘There must be something in the water!’ Bishop turned to me and laughed. We entered the gift shop that the nuns operated and one of the nuns saw me sweating and offered me a towel. Bishop shared with her what I had said and she and bishop laughed as they spoke to each other in Italian.”

This genuine kindness and his “remarkable way of communicating with people of different ages, background and race” makes Dominguez’s friend an inspiring leader. Dominguez says, “I have known bishop for quite a while and every time I hear his homilies I am moved.”

But he says his most impressive quality is his obedience to the church.

“No matter what is asked of him he gives all of himself to the church unselfishly, unconditionally and without doubt. He has always and will put our God first above all else. I have never



PROVIDED BY JOHN DISANTO

The DiSanto family, John, Alessandro, with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Bianca and Maria pose for a photo.

known anyone that has come to him in need that he has denied. I am privileged to have had him as my priest, bishop, but most of all my friend.”

John DiSanto couldn’t agree more. DiSanto and his wife Maria, and their children

Alessandro and Bianca, active parishioners of Holy Name of Jesus Parish, have shared a close friendship with Bishop Rhoades for five years. He says of his friend, “He has a youthful energy and enthusiasm about the Catholic faith. He wants the

faith to be vibrant and alive.”

DiSanto first met Bishop Rhoades following his installment as bishop of the Harrisburg Diocese in 2004. After a “pleasant time at dinner” the two became friends.

DiSanto finds a commitment to the people of the diocese in his friend and says, “He is a defender and evangelizer of the Catholic faith. He builds bridges with other faiths and engages youth in the faith.”

His accessibility makes him every man’s bishop says DiSanto. “After Mass at the cathedral he’ll stand out on the street and shake everyone’s hand.” In addition to his accessibility another strength, says DiSanto, is bishop’s multilingualism. He celebrates Masses in Italian, Vietnamese, Spanish and English. He also reaches out to the disabled Catholics with sign language as well, he says.

On a more personal note, DiSanto delights in the fact that his children exchange e-mails with the bishop to debate theology, which currently revolves around the true location of Mount Sinai. They joke that if anything were to happen to their parents they would want to live with Bishop Rhoades.

The bishop’s well-known generous nature warms the DiSanto family’s heart as they recall when on a pilgrimage to Washington, D.C., on his daughter’s birthday, the family enjoyed a dinner out with the bishop. After eating only a portion of her birthday cake, the bishop and the two DiSanto children embarked on a mission to find a homeless person to finish the cake. Unfortunately the first person they offered the cake to was lactose intolerant. Soon a young man in a crowded van politely took the cake.

DiSanto has business dealings with the bishop as a regional real estate developer, who is currently in charge of the \$50 million high school building project in the Harrisburg Diocese. “I’ve seen him in so many different roles,” he says, adding, “He’s full of ideas and wants to get things done.”

As he prepares to say farewell to his friend John DiSanto says of Bishop Rhoades, “He is a man of God. It’s hard for him to leave his family. But I know he will be successful. As the Fort Wayne-South Bend people get to know him they’ll love him like we do.”

Harrisburg staff bids farewell to Bishop Rhoades

BY KAY COZAD

HARRISBURG, Pa. — For the past five years diocesan office staff in the Diocese of Harrisburg has worked closely with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in an effort to shepherd the faithful of the area. Most hold the feeling that his appointment to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is “bittersweet.” Here’s what some diocesan office heads had to say about Bishop Rhoades’ ministry.

Maria Wood

Maria Wood has been Bishop Rhoades’ executive assistant since his return from Rome in 1988. She says of the bishop, “To work with Bishop Rhoades has been such a wonderful blessing in my life. To witness firsthand his faith, devotion and love of the Catholic Church has had a profound impact on my faith. Bishop makes our faith real. He reaches out to the poor, homeless and imprisoned in a very genuine, humble and quiet way. He leads people back to the Catholic faith with his compassion and understanding. He lives his faith every day!

“What you see is what you get with Bishop Rhoades. He is prayerful, kind and gentle but he is also a strong defender of Catholic morals and teachings and does not withdraw from adversity. He is a shepherd for all people.

“While it will be very difficult for him to leave his family, friends and the faithful of the Harrisburg Diocese, he is at peace. He is a faithful servant and accepts that he is being called to serve in another area of the Lord’s vineyard. He is looking forward to serving the faithful of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

“I wish him well and I will miss him! The people of Fort Wayne-South Bend have inherited a gem!”

Father Neil Sullivan

Father Neil Sullivan is the director of the Office of Worship and serves as master of ceremonies for Bishop Rhoades. He recalls meeting the bishop years ago at Holy Family Parish in Harrisburg, where he was an organist. After then Father Rhoades celebrated Mass as a visiting priest from neighboring St. Francis Parish, Father



TIM JOHNSON

The Diocese of Harrisburg diocesan offices and the Cardinal Keeler Center are shown in this December photo.

Sullivan told his mother, “I just met the nicest priest and he seemed so very happy.”

Father Sullivan finds the bishop to be very prayerful and not only an academic but has great wisdom. “I have complete trust in him because of his wisdom,” he says. Bishop Rhoades, he says, is a gentle, sincere, authentic person. One who is never too busy or tired to be present to the people around him.

“I’ve never met anyone like him before,” says Father Sullivan who further describes the bishop as genuine, kind and loving. “There is a noble simplicity to him,” he says. He admires his discipline and strong work ethic. “He gets things done,” he says. But more than that he feels there is a great holiness about him that inspires others to be holy.

“I am grateful for him. Serving him has changed my life. I’m a better person, priest, Catholic because of him. He is a great friend,” says Father Sullivan.

As for his move to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Father Sullivan wishes him all the best and knows that he will love the people of the Midwest with true charity of the heart as he has those of Harrisburg. “He will breathe the Spirit into Fort Wayne-South

Bend,” says the priest, “And what is already blooming will blossom further.”

Father Edward J. Quinlan

Father Edward J. Quinlan, who has served as secretary of education for the past 12 years, has known Bishop Rhoades since the early seminary days at Mount Saint Mary’s in Emmitsburg. Later as principal of Bishop McDevitt High School Father Quinlan took up residence with then-Father Rhoades, who pastored St. Francis Parish. He says, “The people of the parish loved him dearly. Here, I saw just what a wonderful priest he is and was blessed to assist him.” Later during the time Bishop Rhoades was rector of the seminary, Father Quinlan saw first hand “his pastoral skills and administrative competence.”

As for the bishop’s interest in the Office of Education, Father Quinlan says, “Bishop Rhoades has always held Catholic education in high regard.” The critical role education plays in the lives of inner city children is linked to his support of religious educa-



Father Edward J. Quinlan

tion for those attending public schools.

Bishop Rhoades made visits to schools on a regular basis as well as attending educational conferences, celebrating Mass for the monthly principals meetings, holding lunches for National Merit Scholarship finalists and more.

Bishop Rhoades, says Father Quinlan, has been direct in his insistence that what is proclaimed is the teaching of the church. “Bishop Rhoades is the first to speak of his love of our Lord and his Blessed Mother,” he says, adding, “He has a great respect for those entrusted with special responsibilities in the diocese. I experience that personally.”

His thoughts on the bishop’s move to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend — “I am confident that he will do no less for Fort Wayne and South Bend than he did for us in Harrisburg. ... I hope he finds good friends among the priests of the diocese and a kindly reception by the people of Fort Wayne and South Bend. You will be blessed with your new shepherd.”

Father Ray Lavoie

Father Ray Lavoie has been director of the Vocations Office in the Diocese of Harrisburg for the past five years and like

Father Quinlan has known Bishop Rhoades since his seminarian days. He says, “Bishop Rhoades has a great love for the priesthood and also the people of the diocese he serves. He has a deep understanding of who a priest is and what he does. He has a desire to encourage young men to take the call.” Vocations rose from 11 seminarians to 27 in the five years Bishop Rhoades presided in Harrisburg.

Bishop Rhoades has been active in the vocations ministry by leading the youth to see the pope on World Youth Days, interacting with the youth during Confirmations and other events. He supports the office by making seminary visits and being actively involved in the discernment programs in the diocese. “He has a deep fatherly relationship with the seminarians,” says Father Lavoie, adding, “He’s very supportive.”

As for his feeling about the bishop’s appointment to this diocese, Father Lavoie says, “I experience him as a spiritual father. He has a great love for the people he serves. He’s a hard worker and demands that of others. He is very inspiring. When I found out he was leaving, I felt like I was losing a father.”

Father Ray Lavoie believes that by his simple presence Bishop Rhoades will attract more seminarians. “He has a great love of Jesus Christ and a dynamic energy. He wants to build up the church. He rejoices in his Catholic faith, and it’s contagious!”

Ginny Duncan

Ginny Duncan, who has been the director of the Office of Ministry with People with Disabilities for over two years

says, “Bishop Rhoades has a tremendous heart for people with disabilities.” With a background in speech and hearing, Duncan is a proficient sign language interpreter and first met Bishop Rhoades when she was invited to be a member of a task force created by him to develop this ministry in Harrisburg. She recalls interpreting his first Mass in the cathedral there, where he



Ginny Duncan

Background and history of the Diocese of Harrisburg

Established in 1868 and located in central Pennsylvania, the Diocese of Harrisburg covers 15 counties and 7,700 square miles. Their neighbors are the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and the Dioceses of Allentown to the east, Scranton, to the north, Altoona-Johnstown to the west, and the Archdiocese of Baltimore to the south. Harrisburg is the capital of the commonwealth, and within the diocesan boundaries are to be found historic Gettysburg and Conewago Chapel, Hanover, famous for its shoes and horses, and Hershey, famous for chocolate. The Susquehanna runs through the diocese and some of the richest farmland in the world is found in Pennsylvania Dutch country in Lancaster County.



STAFF

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approached some deaf parishioners and finger spelled his name to them. Duncan learned that the bishop had taken a signing class and worked with deaf children as a seminarian.

Bishop Rhoades established the disabilities ministry in 2007 after learning about the needs of the deaf community and others in the diocese challenged with disabilities. His support and involvement of the ministry encourages Duncan who says, "He is an amazing supporter. He's proactive, too."

Bishop Rhoades was instrumental in inviting a deaf priest he had met to celebrate Mass at a retreat for deaf Catholics in the Harrisburg area. He also sent the pastor of the cathedral to Gullaudet to study sign language to better serve the deaf community with Masses, confession and counseling.

Other groups the ministry is

currently serving includes parents of autistic children. Bishop Rhoades is insistent that all people have the sacraments and catecheses available to them.

Duncan says working with Bishop Rhoades has been exciting. "He is easy to talk to and commands respect by his presence. He is a holy man. But he's so friendly. He listens to ideas and encourages you to move forward with them."

Under bishop's tutelage the deaf community in Harrisburg churches has grown exponentially and the office is working on having an advocate available in each parish of the diocese to field concerns of the disabled. "He's a charismatic leader. He leads with kindness, humor and sensitivity. I hope he continues all the good work he's done here in the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocese. I wish him well," says Duncan.

Lucia Murphy

For the past year Lucia Murphy has been the director of the Office of Evangelization and Special Ministries, where she

oversees the direction and leadership training of 13 different ministries. Coming from a corporate background, she has a great respect for Bishop Rhoades' forward thinking. "He listens to research and demographics," she says. "He allows that to inform his decisions.

"He has an easy personal style about him," she says, adding, "He's a gentle person. He is spiritually advanced and a compassionate leader. He calls you by name."

Murphy considers the bishop "very available," reporting that he celebrates many different special Masses including in prisons, for Blacks and for Hispanics as well. "In prisons, with the poor and the Latinos, he does it very humbly. It means the world to the folks," Murphy says.

"He walks the walk," She says, "He has a sincere desire to serve people. He is high energy."



Lucia Murphy

As for his move to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Murphy, who was raised in the Midwest says, "I'm thrilled for him. I know the Midwest and what the people are like — warm and welcoming. He's in for a real treat." Murphy hopes that Bishop Rhoades will remain open and allow the people of his new diocese to embrace him. "He's going to love it," she says.

Mark Totaro

Mark Totaro has served the Diocese of Harrisburg for five-and-a-half years as secretary of Catholic Charities. Though he works closely with Bishop Rhoades, he knew him as a diocesan priest prior to his installation as bishop five years ago.

Totaro says, "We (at Catholic Charities) provide help and create hope to those who cannot help themselves. This is deeply rooted in Bishop Rhoades because he served at some of the neediest parishes in the diocese. He is attuned to the needs of the poor, speaks fluent Spanish and

has a special place in his heart for the "least among us."

He finds the bishop to be "very charitable" saying, "He always desires to serve the poor and initiate programs and initiatives to serve their needs. He promotes services for the poor, justice for immigrants, Masses and services for the Hispanic population. He also works hard for those with disabilities to participate fully in the church."

Bishop Rhoades is seen by Totaro as a "great supporter and cheerleader for Catholic Charities" and available, open and extremely accessible.

Of his move he says, "He is a deeply religious man. He will bring a great sense of awareness of the church. He has a very high-energy level and one of his biggest faults (if you can call it a fault) is that he can't say no.

"He is fair, compassionate and a good listener. He is not a 'know it all' and listens to all sides and positions before rendering decisions. The people of Fort Wayne-South Bend will love him."

Bishop has a gift in shepherding Hispanic people

BY DIANE FREEBY

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — “The Spanish community has a friend in Bishop Rhoades!”

Father Bernardo Pistone, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church in Gettysburg, Pa., says many will greatly miss their outgoing shepherd as he heads to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Known for his accessibility to English and Spanish-speaking Catholics alike, Bishop Kevin Rhoades has been involved with the Hispanic Apostolate of the Diocese of Harrisburg since his earlier days as a priest.

According to Father Pistone, Bishop Rhoades has a gift for tending his entire flock, reaching out to the Hispanic community in a special way.

“First of all, he learned the language and the culture,” says Father Pistone. “We as priests need to not only learn the language, but to understand their spirituality. The small things, as simple as blessing a statue, a car or a rosary ... this happens all the time in the Spanish community. He has an incredible gentleness and sensitivity that as soon as you encounter him, you have his total attention.”

When Father Rhoades became Bishop Rhoades in 2004, he did not forget the Hispanic community. According to Father Pistone, the first parish he visited was St. Francis Xavier, on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

“He asked to be ordained on the feast of St. Juan Diego,” recalls Father Pistone. “He could have been ordained on the feast of Our Lady of Immaculate Conception or any other day, but he chose to be ordained on the feast of the poorest Indian that God ever made. And then three days later he came back here. This was his first public Mass.”

One of the purposes for the Hispanic Apostolate in the Diocese of Harrisburg is to promote quality and competence in Hispanic ministry through networking, training and the sharing of information and resources, according to the diocesan Web site. The members are made up of pastors, other religious and lay representatives. Father Pistone says he is grateful for the dedicated leadership Bishop Rhoades provided.

“He ran the Hispanic Apostolate meetings while he was here, the last five years,” explains Father Pistone. “Normally bishops don’t do that. The previous administration I was involved with did not do that. He did. He was the



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY FATHER BERNARDO PISTONE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is shown in this 2006 photo with a Hispanic family from the Diocese of Harrisburg.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is shown in this May of 2007 photo with Hispanic children from the Diocese of Harrisburg.

chairman of the meeting. Also, he put together, with the help of some of us, the parish apostolate plan. The first in this diocese as well. This is what we need to do to keep the Hispanics in the church, to evangelize them and not to lose them to other evangelicals, which we have unfortunately done in the U.S. because of the lack of sensitivity to the Hispanic ways and Hispanic culture. We have lost many of them.”

Father Pistone says it is not just the Hispanic community who benefits from Bishop Rhoades humble hands-on approach.

“He is the most accessible man as a priest and as a bishop,” says Father Pistone. “He’s the same guy who invited Mother Teresa to come to Mount Saint Mary’s (University), and she did! He’s the same across the board, no matter who he’s dealing with. The love of the poor and the love of God is wonderful.”

Father Pistone believes Bishop Rhoades is a teacher who sanctifies by giving witness more than words.

“This is true also in the English-speaking community,” explains Father Pistone. “Imagine a bishop saying Mass on Christmas day in the prison system. He’s done that. It was his own initiative. He wanted to spend Christmas in the prison system. That doesn’t happen. For the last three to four Christmases he has been saying Mass not in the cathedral but inside the prison.”

Father Pistone believes Bishop Rhoades’ biggest strength is dedication to his people, no matter what language they speak.

“He has set up a model for the church,” says Father Pistone. “Some bishops are not like this. Some say ‘this is America, we speak English and this is the same for everybody,’ which drives people away.”

Currently, the Diocese of Harrisburg has several parishes with Mass celebrated in Spanish.

“We have one totally Hispanic parish in Lancaster (San Juan Bautista) and nine other parishes that provide Mass in English and in Spanish,” says Father Pistone, who has no shortage of ways to describe the friend and bishop who helped make it happen.

“He is the most incredible ... real ... holy person that’s ever walked the Diocese of Harrisburg,” Father Pistone says of Bishop Rhoades. “He goes and works in the soup kitchen as bishop, which he started many years ago. On his day off, he goes to minister to the poor, Hispanic person.”

THE OFFICE OF BISHOP:

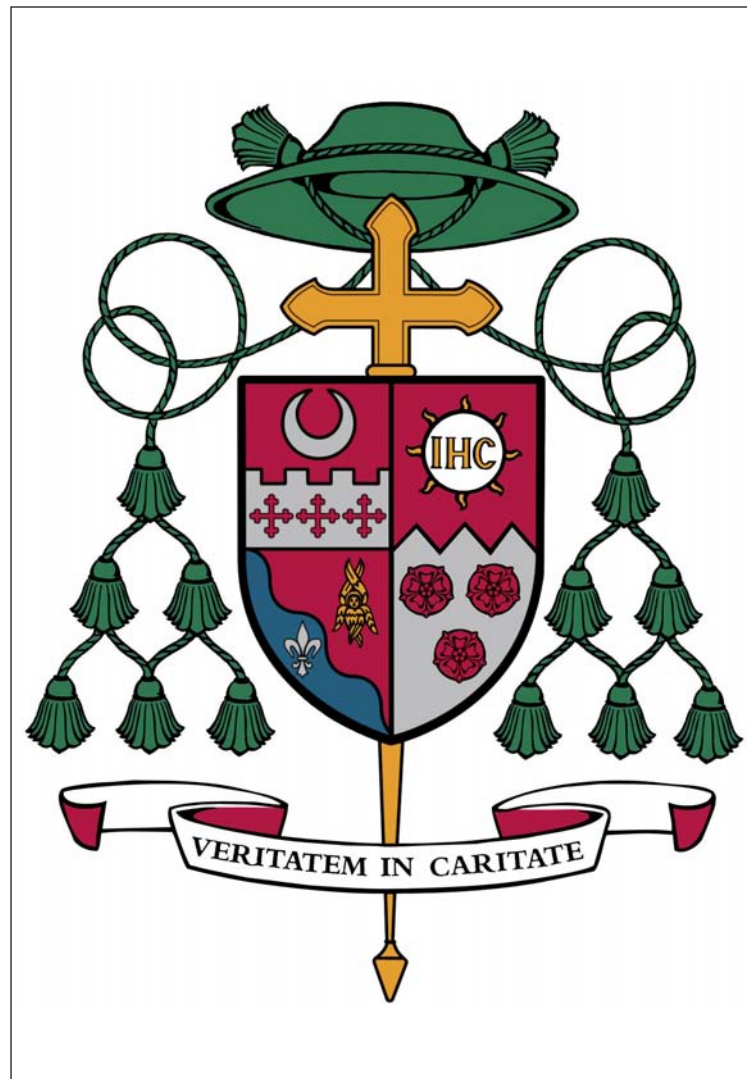
Historical reflections

BY MSGR. MICHAEL HEINTZ

Within the earliest Christian communities which the apostles left behind, a threefold “order” of ministry developed: bishop, presbyter (i.e., priest), deacon. This is evidenced first in some of the later New Testament texts, although the exact nature of each ministerial “order,” as well as their precise interrelationship, are largely matters of scholarly conjecture.

The leader of each community, its “overseer” (in Greek, “episkopos”), was the forerunner of today’s diocesan bishop. In each of the communities established by the apostles (or their followers), the individual was appointed with the oversight of the community we would today call the “bishop”: He possessed the authority and responsibility of leading a particular community of believers, both in terms of public prayer (the celebration of the Eucharist) and in terms of teaching and instructing the community in the way of the Lord Jesus.

The bishop was assisted in his work by deacons, who seem primarily to have been ministers of charity (assisting the poor and the sick), and who may have helped with the details of organization and administration of the local Christian community; the sixth chapter of Acts offers an account of their remote origins. The role of presbyters seems to have developed more slowly than that of deacons, but most scholars suggest that they were senior members of the community who served as an advisory “council” to the local bishop (perhaps analogous to the “elders” — that’s what presbyter means in Greek — of the Sanhedrin of Jerusalem). We might imagine the earliest bishops much like today’s pastors of large urban parishes, who are assisted by associate pastors and deacons. As the Church spread geographically (from a primarily urban phenomenon to more remote areas) and the numbers of Christians increased, many of the tasks reserved to the bishop were delegated to the presbyters. For example, the bishop was originally the primary minister of the sacraments. With the toleration and later recognition of Christianity by the Empire, the



growing number of Christians made it impossible for him to know and care for all of them, and it became necessary for the presbyters to assume a number of his duties (such as the celebration of the Eucharist, preaching, etc.).

Around the year A.D. 107, Ignatius, bishop of Antioch, had advised the Christians at Smyrna to “do nothing related to Church life apart from the bishop. That Eucharist alone is valid which is celebrated by the bishop or by the one to whom he has entrusted it.” Ignatius clearly sees “connectedness” to the bishop as a way of maintaining fidelity to authentic Christian worship. The bishop was very much the presider par excellence of the liturgical assembly. About a century later, Irenaeus of Lyons also emphasized the theological significance of the episcopate: in the face of competing portrayals of Jesus and his teaching, Irenaeus pointed out that it is most obviously through the bishops, as successors of the apostles (and who were themselves the

most reliable witnesses of Jesus and his Gospel), that one can find out answers to the question “What would Jesus teach” or “What would Jesus do.” This notion of “apostolic succession (‘diadoche’ ‘apostolike’),” elaborated most clearly by Irenaeus, is central to Catholic theology. The bishops, the Second Vatican Council (1962-65) reaffirmed, “in virtue of the unbroken succession going back to the beginning, are regarded as transmitters of the apostolic line.” — “Lumen Gentium” 20. The bishops, as guarantors of the apostolic faith, have a sacred obligation faithfully to hand on what they themselves have received (this is at the root of what Catholic theology means by “traditio” or “paradosis,” the “handing on” of the faith).

Individual bishops throughout the world, while entrusted with the leadership of a particular community of faith (diocese), nonetheless are in service of the whole church in teaching and safeguarding the shared faith of the Catholic community. Under

the leadership of the Bishop of Rome (the pope), the bishops work as part of a “college,” i.e., a brotherhood of those who share their ministry in the order of bishops. This shared identity and mission is reflected in a letter which Cyprian, bishop of Carthage, wrote to Stephen, Bishop of Rome (pope) around the year A.D. 254: “the large number of bishops is bound together by the glue of mutual harmony and the bond of unity ... and they should, as helpful and compassionate shepherds, gather the Lord’s sheep into one flock ... For although there are many of us shepherds, we nonetheless nourish one flock, and we have the obligation to guide and nurture each and every one of the sheep whom Christ has purchased with his blood and through his passion.”

The Second Vatican Council, utilizing the classical tripartite definition of ordained ministry as teaching, sanctifying and governing, described the role of the ordained ministry primarily in terms of the order of bishops. Bishops share in the fullness of Christ’s priesthood, and it is by delegation that the ordained priesthood and diaconate assist and support the work of the local bishop. That is why, practically speaking, the central moments of faith in the life of a diocese occur at the cathedral church: ordinations, the chrism Mass, the rite of election, et al. These liturgical celebrations expressly and powerfully exemplify the local church in its fullness — the entire assembly of faithful, the local clergy and religious, gathered in unity around the one altar, under the leadership of the bishop, shepherd of the local church. And it is there, around that altar, that the church carries out its most important and effective work, together sharing in the one sacrifice of Christ.

“If any one aspires to the office of bishop, he desires a noble task.” — 1 Tm 3.1. Later writers were occasionally less sanguine. St. Augustine, who himself served as a bishop for over 30 years, spoke repeatedly of the “sarcina episcopatus”: the “weight” or burden of being a bishop. Being a bishop, Augustine repeatedly asserted, was an enormous responsibility. The word “bishop,” he once wrote, is not a title of honor but rather the name of a work to be

done. To be bishop was to be, first and foremost, servant of the Church, reaching out to all in the Church but in a special way to its weakest members. A later devoté of Augustine, Gregory the Great, bishop of Rome from 590 until his death in 604, wrote a “manual” of pastoral care for other bishops, which became a standard guide throughout the Middle Ages. In it he outlined the qualities necessary in one chosen for the episcopate: a candidate for the office of bishop should be “pure of heart, exemplary in his way of life, prudent in his silence, helpful when speaking, near to everyone in his compassion, raised above all others in his life of prayer; a humble friend to the virtuous, while strong in his opposition to evil. He should not neglect his interior life by distractions which are external, nor should he, in caring for his own inner life, ignore the needs of others.” A tall order to fill, indeed, and reminiscent of Paul’s self-description as “all things to all people.” — 1 Cor 9:22.

One of the documents produced during the Second Vatican Council was a decree on the pastoral office of bishops (“Christus Dominus,” Oct. 28, 1965). This text, drawing heavily on the theology of the Church outlined the previous year in “Lumen Gentium,” taught about the relationship of each bishop to the whole Church, of their relationships among themselves (collegiality) and, in particular, their relationship to the bishop of Rome (reiterating the Catholic principle that the bishop of Rome acts as head of the college of bishops); it further spoke of the work of individual bishops in their respective dioceses and their coworkers: auxiliary bishops, priests, deacons, religious, and those laypersons who possess a particular competence helpful to the Church’s mission.

Msgr. Michael Heintz, PhD, is the rector of St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend.

How are bishops appointed?

The following is prepared by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops:

Introduction

The ultimate decision in appointing bishops rests with the pope, and he is free to select anyone he chooses. But how does he know whom to select?

The process for selecting candidates for the episcopacy normally begins at the diocesan level and works its way through a series of consultations until it reaches Rome. It is a process bound by strict confidentiality and involves a number of important players — the most influential being the apostolic nuncio, the Congregation for Bishops and the pope. It can be a time-consuming process, often taking eight months or more to complete. While there are distinctions between the first appointment of a priest as a bishop and a bishop's later transfer to another diocese or his promotion to archbishop, the basic outlines of the process remain the same.

Key terms

- **Apostolic nuncio** — the pope's representative to both the government and to the hierarchy of a given nation; a key person in deciding what names are recommended to the Congregation for Bishops for possible episcopal appointment.

- **Auxiliary bishop** — a bishop appointed to assist a diocesan bishop.

- **Congregation for Bishops** — a department of the Roman curia, headed by a cardinal. The

head of the congregation, called the "prefect," is presently Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re of Italy. Among the congregation's responsibilities are moderating all aspects of episcopal appointments; assisting bishops in the correct exercise of their pastoral functions; handling "ad limina" visits (regular visits to Rome by bishops every five years); and establishing episcopal conferences and reviewing their decrees as required by canon law. Its membership consists of approximately 35 cardinals and archbishops from around the world. U.S. Cardinals on the congregation are William Wakefield Baum, Edmund Szoka, James Stafford and Bernard Law.

- **Diocesan bishop** — pastoral and legal head and representative of a diocese.

- **Province** — a territory comprising one archdiocese, called the metropolitan see, and one or more dioceses, called suffragan sees. The Code of Canon Law spells out certain limited obligations and authority that the metropolitan archbishop has with respect to the dioceses within his province. The United States is divided into 33 ecclesiastical provinces.

- **Terna** — a list of three candidates for a vacant office, including the office of bishop.

Stage 1: Bishops' recommendations

Every bishop may submit to the archbishop of his province the names of priests he thinks would make good bishops. Prior

to the regular province meeting (usually annually), the archbishop distributes to all the bishops of the province the names and curricula vitae of priests which have been submitted to him. Following a discussion among the bishops at the province meeting, a vote is taken on which names to recommend. The number of names on this provincial list may vary. The vote tally, together with the minutes of the meeting, is then forwarded by the archbishop to the apostolic nuncio in Washington. The list is also submitted to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Stage 2: The apostolic nuncio

By overseeing the final list of names forwarded to Rome, the apostolic nuncio plays a decisive role in the selection process. He not only gathers facts and information about potential candidates, but also interprets that information for the congregation. Great weight is given to the nuncio's recommendations, but it is important to remember that his "gatekeeper" role, however, does not mean that his recommendations are always followed.

For diocesan bishops

- After receiving the list of candidates forwarded by a province, the apostolic nuncio conducts his own investigation into the suitability of the candidates.

- A diocesan bishop must justify to the apostolic nuncio his

need for an auxiliary bishop. This is easier if he is requesting a replacement for a retired or deceased auxiliary.

- A report is requested from the current bishop or the administrator of a diocese on the conditions and needs of the diocese. If the appointment is a replacement for a diocesan bishop or archbishop about to retire, consideration will be given to the incumbent's recommendations. Broad consultation within the diocese is encouraged with regard to the needs of the diocese, but not the names of candidates.

- The report is to include the names of individuals in the diocese with whom the nuncio might consult and how to contact them.

- Previous bishops of the diocese are consulted.

- Bishops of the province are consulted.

- The president and vice president of the USCCB are consulted.

- If the vacancy to be filled is an archdiocese, other archbishops in the United States may be consulted.

- At this point, the nuncio narrows his list and a questionnaire is sent to 20 or 30 people who know each of the candidates for their input.

Stage 3: Congregation for Bishops

Once all the documentation from the nuncio is complete and in order, and the prefect approves, the process moves forward. If the appointment

involves a bishop who is being promoted or transferred, the matter may be handled by the prefect and the staff. If, however, the appointment is of a priest to the episcopacy, the full congregation is ordinarily involved.

A cardinal relator is chosen to summarize the documentation and make a report to the full congregation, which generally meets twice a month on Thursdays. After hearing the cardinal relator's report, the congregation discusses the appointment and then votes.

The congregation may follow the recommendation of the nuncio, choose another of the candidates on the terna, or even ask that another terna be prepared.

Stage 4: The pope decides

At a private audience with the pope, usually on a Saturday, the prefect of the Congregation for Bishops presents the recommendations of the congregation to the Holy Father. A few days later, the pope informs the congregation of his decision. The congregation then notifies the nuncio, who in turn contacts the candidate and asks if he will accept. If the answer is "yes," the Vatican is notified and a date is set for the announcement.

It often takes six to eight months — and sometimes longer — from the time a diocese becomes vacant until a new bishop is appointed.

Archbishop Buechlein of Indianapolis presides at installation Mass

The role of the archbishop

BY MSGR. OWEN CAMPION

Presiding at the installation of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in Fort Wayne's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Jan. 13 will be Archbishop Daniel Mark Buechlein, OSB.

As the fifth archbishop of Indianapolis, Archbishop Buechlein heads the Province of Indianapolis, which includes, in addition to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the dioceses of Evansville, Gary and

Lafayette in Indiana.

Installing bishops within the province is the archbishop's right, not to be superseded by a cardinal, the apostolic nuncio or any other bishop.

The structure of having provinces, and archbishops at the head of provinces that include several dioceses, is very old in the church. In fact, the name "province" goes back to the days of the Roman Empire. The structure exists to emphasize the unity of the church, and specifically the union between local bishops and the pope, and if need be, to provide a mechanism for order in church business.

Archbishops have the place of honor in their provinces, and



ARCHBISHOP DANIEL MARK BUECHLEIN, OSB

their title derives from the fact that they are bishops of dioceses established by the Holy See to be archdioceses and centers of provinces. However, they are first among equals when it comes to jurisdiction in the province. No archbishop, for example, is the superior of the bishop of one of the dioceses in the province, although he does have certain responsibilities and privileges.

Bishops of local dioceses must send certain reports to him as a check and balance. If he notices a gross problem in one of the dioceses in his province, especially if it pertains to management by the local bishop, the archbishop is expected to

express his concerns to the Vatican. However, without direct authorization from the pope, the archbishop would have no authority to interfere in any situation in a diocese, except in a few circumstances, and such circumstances are very rare.

For example, if the bishop of a diocese in the province dies, or retires, or resigns, the circumstance of how to administer the diocese until another bishop can be appointed by Rome becomes an issue.

The Holy See can act in such an instance, as it did in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend when Bishop John M.

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D'Arcy retired, by appointing the retiring bishop as administrator. However, this may not always be possible, obviously not if the bishop has died.

Then, the administrator is selected by the College of Consultors in the diocese. This body, appointed by the bishop and composed only of priests, has several responsibilities, but perhaps the most significant is to select an administrator if the office of bishop in a diocese becomes vacant and if an administrator has not been named by the Holy See.

The election process, however, is not open ended. If the consultors deadlock, the archbishop is required to step into the proceedings and to name an administrator. Again, this occurs only in the most unusual of situations.

Archbishops supervise the procedure by which bishops of the province recommend names of priests to the Vatican for consideration to be bishops. He solicits names, coordinates discussions about possible candidates, and he submits the results of discussions to Rome.

When a bishop in the province dies, retires or resigns, the archbishop is an important adviser to the Holy See in the selection of a new bishop. By the same token, if the question of creating a new diocese within the province is raised, the archbishop's advice is sought. He is regarded as a reliable and informed, but neutral, third party.

Church law ordinarily assigns the archdiocesan tribunal the right of hearing appeals on cases decided in diocesan courts within the province. Most often, diocesan tribunals today hear cases involving the validity of marriages. Decisions rendered by the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocesan tribunal are appealed to Indianapolis. After Indianapolis, appeals are made to Rome.

Of course, archbishops serve as diocesan bishops in their own archdioceses.

Archbishops wear a distinctive vestment, a circular white woolen stole, with pendants hanging front and black, on which black crosses are embroidered. The pope himself confers the pallium on each new archbishop. Since Pope Paul VI, these vestments have been conferred in ceremonies in Rome's St. Peter's Basilica on the feast of Ss. Peter and Paul on June 29.

The location of the ceremony,

the feast day itself, and the personal involvement by the pope all signify the closeness of each archbishop to the papacy.

When Archbishop Buechlein installs Bishop Rhoades, the archbishop will be wearing his pallium, given him by Pope John Paul II on June 29, 1987.

Bishop Rhoades already is an ordained bishop. Were he not yet a bishop, it would be Archbishop Buechlein's right to ordain him to the episcopacy.

For instance, a priest of the Indianapolis archdiocese, Father Paul Etienne, was installed as Bishop of Cheyenne, in Wyoming, on Dec. 9. Since the Cheyenne Diocese is within the Province of Denver, Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, OFM Cap, of Denver, both ordained Bishop Etienne to the episcopacy and then installed him as the eighth bishop of Cheyenne.

(Auxiliary bishops, however, are usually ordained to the episcopacy by the bishops whom they will serve. The apostolic nuncio installs archbishops.)

The archbishop, by right of office, presides at the funeral of a diocesan bishop within his province. Of course, he may delegate any of these functions to another bishop. For instance, when retired Bishop Francis R. Shea of Evansville died in 1994, Archbishop Buechlein allowed Evansville Bishop Gerald A. Gettelfinger to officiate at the funeral Mass.

Archbishop Buechlein is a native of Indiana, born on April 20, 1938. He entered the Benedictine community at St. Meinrad Archabbey and solemnly professed as a monk on Aug. 15, 1963. He was ordained a priest on May 3, 1964.

For some years, he taught theology at the seminary at St. Meinrad, and he was president-rector of the seminary when Pope John Paul II appointed him the third bishop of Memphis on Jan. 20, 1987.

Since the Memphis diocese is within the Province of Louisville, then archbishop, now retired, Thomas C. Kelly, OP, of Louisville, ordained and then installed Bishop Buechlein in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on March 2, 1987.

The same pope named Bishop Buechlein to be the fifth archbishop of Indianapolis on July 14, 1992, and the then Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Pio Laghi, who was later named a cardinal and is now deceased, installed him at the Cathedral of Ss. Peter and Paul in Indianapolis.



DIocese OF GARY
9282 BROADWAY
MERRILLVILLE, IN 46410-7088
219-769-9222
FAX: 219-769-2066

Bishop of Gary

December 18, 2009

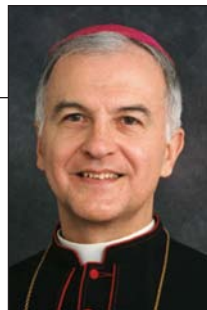
Dear Bishop Rhoades,

I am delighted to extend, in my own behalf and in behalf of the clergy, religious, and lay faithful of the Diocese of Gary, sincere and prayerful congratulations to you on your appointment by Pope Benedict XVI as Ninth Bishop of our neighboring and mother Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. I am confident that you will receive a warm Hoosier welcome from all in your new diocese.


I look forward to working with you as a brother bishop in the Province of Indianapolis and on the Board of the Indiana Catholic Conference. I welcome your rich experience as a former seminary rector and bishop of your home Diocese of Harrisburg. Your background as the point bishop of the very successful Pennsylvania Catholic Conference will be most helpful to us.

Please be assured of our prayers in your behalf and in behalf of the priests, deacons, religious, and laity whom you will shepherd in the Church of Fort Wayne-South Bend. May you know much peace and joy in proclaiming Jesus' Gospel of peace, hope, reconciliation, and salvation.

Fraternally yours in the Lord Jesus,
Dale J. Melczek
Most Reverend Dale J. Melczek
Bishop of Gary



Most Reverend Dale J. Melczek
Bishop of Gary



DIocese OF EVANSVILLE
100 N. HANCOCK STREET
EVANSVILLE, IN 47713-1410
765-742-0275
FAX: 765-742-7513

Bishop of Evansville

December, 2009

GERALD ANDREW
By the Grace of God
and the Favor of the Holy See
Bishop of Evansville

Dear Bishop Kevin,

Welcome to the Province of Indianapolis!

It is both a privilege and a joy to welcome you to the Church of Indiana. I look forward to collaborating with you.

The Church of Evansville welcomes you!

The Church here is very rural in its general configuration, but we also bring the hospitality so familiar to you in your home state of Pennsylvania. We also have the large urban centers as well, bringing both their joys and challenges.


You will also have the joy and challenge of having in your diocese, the presence of the University of Notre Dame.

May the Good Shepherd walk with you as you shepherd the Church of Fort Wayne-South Bend!

Fraternally yours in Christ,
Gerald Andrew
Most Reverend Gerald A. Gettelfinger
Bishop of Evansville



Most Reverend Gerald A. Gettelfinger
Bishop of Evansville



ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS
The Church in Central and Southern Indiana
1600 N. HANCOCK STREET, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46202-2267
P.O. Box 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1410
317-236-1400

Office of the Archbishop

December 18, 2009

To the People of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend:

The entire Church of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis welcomes Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to Indiana and we extend to him our heartfelt congratulations, prayers and blessings.

I look forward to working with Bishop Rhoades and getting to know him better in the coming years. I am grateful that God has called him to Indiana. Bishop Rhoades has been a faithful servant of the Church and he will be a good spiritual shepherd for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. His experience in higher education makes him uniquely qualified to serve here.

It is fitting that Bishop Rhoades comes to the Church in Indiana during the "Year for Priests." Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed the "Year for Priests" in celebration of the 150th anniversary of St. John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests worldwide, and to strengthen the commitment of all priests to be steadfast and faithful witnesses to the Gospel in today's world.


St. John Vianney wrote simply and beautifully about the importance of the priest. "The priest is not a priest for himself, he is a priest for you," he wrote. Like the humble parish priest St. John Vianney wrote about 150 years ago, Bishop Rhoades is not a bishop for himself, he is a bishop for you.

May God continue to bless the people of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and Bishop Rhoades as you journey together to fulfill God's will.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Daniel M. Buechlein
Most Reverend Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Indianapolis



Most Reverend Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB
Archbishop of Indianapolis



DIocese OF LAFAYETTE-IN-INDIANA
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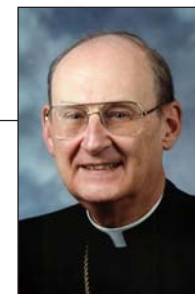
Office of the Bishop

STATEMENT

As a daughter of the traditional Diocese of Fort Wayne, in my own name and in the name of the priests, religious and laity of the Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana, I welcome Bishop Kevin Rhoades to our state. Having noted the involvement of Bishop Rhoades in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and his experience both prior to being ordained a Bishop and since, there's no doubt in my mind that he will bring enrichment to the Church here in our Hoosier State. Fort Wayne-South Bend truly is blessed.

As you write your chapter in the long and magnificent of the "Mother Diocese," Bishop Rhoades, may the Lord bless you with both vigor and wisdom.

William L. Higi
WILLIAM L. HIGI
Bishop of Lafayette-in-Indiana



Most Reverend William L. Higi
Bishop of Lafayette

General history of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

BY VINCE LABARBERA

By decree of Pope Pius IX, Jan. 8, 1857, the northern half of the state of Indiana was erected into the Diocese of Fort Wayne, the boundaries being that part of the state north of the southern lines of Fountain, Montgomery, Boone, Hamilton, Madison, Delaware, Randolph and Warren counties. The remaining southern half of the state made up the Diocese of Vincennes. (This old See — the original designation of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis — has been designated a titular see.) In 1944, the apostolic decree

of His Holiness Pope Pius XII established the Diocese of Lafayette from the southern 24 counties of the Diocese of Fort Wayne, approximately dividing the size of the diocese in half.

Another division occurred in 1957, the year the sixth bishop of Fort Wayne, Bishop Leo A. Pursley, was installed and the diocese celebrated its 100th anniversary. At that time, four northwestern counties of Indiana were taken from the Diocese of Fort Wayne to form the new Diocese of Gary.

Three years later, the Diocese of Fort Wayne was renamed the

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and St. Matthew Parish in South Bend was designated the co-Cathedral along with the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. With this change, the second auxiliary bishop of the Diocese, Bishop Joseph R. Crowley, was consecrated two years later and was assigned to St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend.

Today the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend comprises 14 counties of northeastern Indiana and has a Catholic population of nearly 160,000, comprised of

57,345 Catholic families and households. The area covers 5,792 square miles with a total population of 1,262,788.

There are 80 parishes in the diocese, three chapels and two oratories. The clergy consists of one bishop, 75 diocesan priests, 21 international priests and five other priests serving in the diocese. The total number of priests in the diocese is 238, which includes 37 priests from nine religious orders. There are 13 permanent deacons.

The diocese also includes approximately 413 women from

19 religious orders.

There is one seminary for religious orders in the diocese with 17 candidates for the priesthood.

The diocese serves five colleges and universities — made up of 16,557 students — four Catholic high schools with a total enrollment of 3,180 students, and 40 parishes with parochial schools with 9,701 elementary-school students. In addition, there are three Catholic hospitals, three other healthcare facilities and four homes for the elderly.

HISTORY OF THE BISHOPS OF THE DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND COMPILED BY MONICA EICHMAN AND VINCE LABARBERA

John Henry Luers



Born Sept. 29, 1819, Lutten, Germany
Ordained priest Nov. 11, 1846, Cincinnati, Ohio
Ordained Bishop of Fort Wayne Jan. 10, 1858
Died June 29, 1871

John Henry Luers, the first bishop of Fort Wayne, was born in Lutten, Germany, in 1819. His family immigrated to the United States in 1833, settling on an Ohio farm.

While on his way to Mass one day in 1835, Luers met Archbishop John Purcell of Cincinnati, a meeting at which the young man told the ordinary of his desire to be a priest. After studying at St. Francis Xavier Seminary in Brown County, Ohio, Luers was ordained to the priesthood in 1846.

The young Father Luers was then assigned to a flourishing parish in Cincinnati, which boasted 4,000 to 5,000 parishioners by the end of his time as pastor there.

During this period, he was near the seat of the Cincinnati diocese and developed a strong friendship with Purcell.

With the establishment of the Diocese of Fort Wayne in 1858, Luers was a natural choice for its first bishop. However, the new bishop's concern was greatly aroused when he reached the then-small city of Fort Wayne, the seat of the new diocese. Confronted with a small Catholic flock, rampant anti-Catholicism and some corruption, Luers feared that little could be done to cultivate the young diocese. Because of this, he spent much time early in his episcopate trying to have diocesan boundaries redrawn or his own appointment changed.

Nevertheless, though the bishop was not entirely satisfied with his episcopal designation, it was said by Bishop Alerding in his history of the diocese that Luers "spared himself no labors official or menial, religious or domestic, of the house or of the field, of the city or of the country. Well is it remembered by those who were present on one autumn Sunday in St. Mary's Church at Lafayette, how his face and his hands were so bronzed by the labors of the field's harvest work at the orphan farm near Rensselaer, that he hardly passed for white." Hence, due to Luers' pugnacious spirit, the diocese began to grow.

In addition to his strong work ethic, the pious bishop held a profound love for the Mass. As Alerding notes in his history, Luers often expressed devoutly, "God derives more glory from the celebration of the Mass, than all the praises of the angels in heaven. Ought not priests to give God that glory no matter at what per-

sonal inconvenience?"

His dedication to the church and fervent love for God overflowed into the diocese as it experienced great expansion. In his 13 years as ordinary of the diocese, Bishop Luers oversaw the establishment of 39 churches (with six more in construction), 10 chapels, 40 schools, one hospital and one college. Among these was the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, which was constructed at a cost of \$54,000 and consecrated in 1860.

Luers' episcopate was brought to an end in June of 1871 when he died at the age of 51. Though at times unhappy with his diocese, the bishop had overseen tremendous change as it swelled from 18,000 to 50,000 Catholics, a truly remarkable growth for such a short time.

Joseph Dwenger



Born April 7, 1837, St. John's, Ohio
Ordained priest Sept. 4, 1859
Ordained Bishop of Fort Wayne April 14, 1872
Died Jan. 22, 1893

With the passing of Bishop Luers, Joseph Dwenger was named the second bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne.

Born in Mercer County, Ohio, of German immigrants on April 7, 1837, little Joseph was welcomed by his parents with great joy, his father telling a neighbor, as Alerding reports in his history of the diocese, "Last night God sent us a little bishop!" However, Dwenger suffered the death of both parents before his 11th birthday, at which time he was placed in the care of the Society of the Precious Blood, fulfilling the desire of his mother.

In 1859, Dwenger was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Purcell and in 1872 was consecrated as bishop of Fort Wayne, his father's words at his birth coming true.

Though many believed him to be coarse and rude, Dwenger was a kind and confident man who was able to overcome the many obstacles that faced him when he began his episcopacy. Known for his imposing figure and the vitality with which he conducted his duties, Dwenger was successful in correcting the financial troubles that met him on his arrival in the diocese. As Archbishop Purcell commented to Father Sorin of Notre Dame, Dwenger "tends to imagine he knows more than anyone else, and that with one hand he can lift more than anyone else."

Having been an orphan himself, Dwenger had a special place in his heart for other orphans. During his episcopate, he established many orphanages and schools throughout the dio-

cese, including the St. Joseph's Asylum for Boys in Lafayette, then a part of the Diocese of Fort Wayne, and the St. Vincent's Asylum for Girls in Fort Wayne.

Feeling strongly that the faith must be incorporated into every facet of education, Dwenger enlisted the aid of various religious orders throughout the diocese in staffing the schools with religious sisters. Through his undying efforts, many parochial schools were launched. In one account of his successful labors, it was said that most parishes with as few as 30 families enjoyed the benefits of a parish school.

In 1890, Dwenger was struck with severe heart and lung complications, which left him virtually incapacitated until his death on Jan. 23, 1893. At the time of his death, he was remembered fondly by many, having founded as many as 12 parishes and many more diocesan schools during his time as bishop. In addition, the number of diocesan clergy jumped from 48 to 80.

Dwenger had served his people devotedly, adhering to the truth unequivocally. At the beloved bishop's funeral, Bishop Rademacher told the faithful, "His will was strong and unbending, when he believed himself in the right, and especially when he defended what he considered right and just."

Joseph Rademacher



Born Dec. 3, 1840, Westphalia, Mich.

Ordained a priest Aug. 2, 1863, Fort Wayne

Ordained Bishop of Nashville, June 24, 1883

Appointed Bishop of Fort Wayne, July 15, 1893

Died June 12, 1900

Born Dec. 3, 1840, in Michigan, Joseph Rademacher was ordained a priest by Bishop Luers in 1863 in Fort Wayne. In 1872, he was named chancellor of the Diocese of Fort Wayne and, in 1883, was consecrated the bishop of Nashville and then the Diocese of Fort Wayne in 1893.

Unlike Dwenger, Rademacher was a mild-mannered man who preferred not to conduct his role as administrator. Despite this, he governed the diocese well during his short — just over five — years as bishop.

Remembering Rademacher as a generous and kindhearted man, in his history of the diocese, Alerding tells of a time when a poor man went to Rademacher, seeking money. Feeling compassion for him, Rademacher generously gave the seemingly distraught man his only \$2 and one of his two coats. When later told that the man was a swindler, Rademacher, in his exceedingly charitable opinion of humanity, stated that he could not believe it of the man.

On another occasion, as Alerding reports, Rademacher was given \$10 by a couple who, while enjoying Rademacher's company on Christmas, noticed that he had only scraps for shoes. Though they had insisted that the good man use the money to buy himself more suitable apparel, he gave most of it to a poor family who, he believed, needed it more than he.

So good and selfless was the bishop that he never wanted others to worry about him. Thus, he made it a point to be always affable, no matter the circumstances.

As evidenced through his many acts of benevolence, Rademacher was a selfless man who truly saw himself as the servant of his people.

In addition to his great humility and generosity of spirit, Rademacher was also a highly intelligent man. Alerding recalls in his history a time when he visited the good bishop after having just studied the history of France. As the two spoke of a decisive battle, Rademacher corrected Alerding on two factual points, one being the date. Accordingly, Alerding asked, "Tell me, pray, Father Rademacher, how did you happen to know so exactly this date and this name?" "Ah!" he responded, "I have read the history of those times."

The humble bishop's life and episcopate was brought to an abrupt end in January of 1899, at which time he suffered a debilitating stroke. His early death was considered a great loss for the diocese.



Born April 13, 1845, Ibbenbueren, Kingdom of Hanover

Ordained a priest Sept. 22, 1868

Ordained Bishop of Fort Wayne, Nov. 30, 1900

Died Dec. 6, 1924

Herman J. Alerding

Herman Alerding was born in 1845 at Ibbenbueren, Kingdom of Hanover, though his parents soon moved the family to Newport, Ky. Drawn to the priesthood as a young boy, Alerding was ordained for the Diocese of Vincennes in 1868.

As a parish priest in the diocese, Alerding often lectured on various topics that he had researched in depth. A published author, he initiated the compilation of the history of the Diocese of Vincennes, something which he would later do for the Diocese of Fort Wayne.

After serving for many years in the Diocese of Vincennes,

Alerding was appointed the fourth bishop of Fort Wayne in 1900.

As ordinary of the diocese, Alerding was dedicated to the growth and enrichment of parish schools, saying, "A prosperous school means a prosperous parish, a poor school means a poor parish."

Alerding brought fresh vigor to the diocese, drawing it together through his wholehearted support of the Supreme Pontiff. To celebrate Leo XIII's Silver Jubilee, Alerding offered a solemn Pontifical Mass at the cathedral and directed that a solemn high Mass be offered in each parish.

With the coming of World War I in 1914, new challenges were brought to the diocese as droves of immigrants came to the U.S. from oppressed, battle-worn European countries. Alerding vigorously fought socialism as it crept into the U.S. and stressed the importance of undiluted faith, particularly during the trying times.

He wrote that "the dangers to faith are pride, neglect of prayers, of family prayer, of public devotions, of the Mass, of the sacraments; ignorance of the truths of religion; a bad life; the reading of bad literature; bad companions; secret societies; and mixed marriages."

He further fought the dangers of the then-new motion pictures, which depicted the many evils lurking in the world, warning, "Witnessing such scenes corrupts the moral sense."

In the early 1920s, the good bishop's health began to decline, though he continued to perform his many duties as bishop. However, on Thanksgiving Day in 1924, while on a drive, the vehicle in which he was riding was struck by another vehicle, overturning the bishop's car and severely injuring him and the other passengers. Though taken to a hospital, the bishop's health would never be fully restored, and he passed away on Dec. 6, 1924.

During his tenure of 24 years as bishop, the number of parish churches with resident pastors had risen from 102 to 148 while the number of "mission churches" without resident pastors declined from 39 to 31. Further, the Catholic population in the diocese doubled, a true testament to Alerding's wise guidance.

John Francis Noll



Born Jan. 25, 1875, Fort Wayne
Ordained a priest June 4, 1898, Fort Wayne

Ordained Bishop of Fort Wayne June 30, 1924

Appointed archbishop (personal title) Sept. 2, 1953

Died July 31, 1956

Strong anti-Catholic sentiments arose in the early 20th century, threatening the faith of American Catholics. Among these were nationwide publications, such as *The Menace*, which spread falsehoods about the Catholic Church and her teachings. With the coming of these new onslaughts on the faith, it was time for counter efforts to be made from within the Church, and Father John Francis Noll was prepared to make them.

One of 19 children, Noll was born to German immigrants in Fort Wayne on Jan. 25, 1875, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1898. As a young priest in rural Indiana, Noll recognized the danger of far-reaching anti-Catholic lectures in the area and sought to counteract the misinformation through a series of lectures in which he informed the public of the truth of the Catholic faith. These widely attended lectures became so popular that Noll sought another medium for spreading the truth.

In his first foray into publishing, he compiled a pamphlet entitled *Kind Words From the Priest to His People*, which he later renamed *Kind Words From Your Pastor*, and sent to pastors throughout the U.S. This was only the beginning of many publications that would spread the truth of the Catholic Church and her teachings.

In June of 1908, Noll began the publication of the *The Parish Monthly*, a magazine that he hoped would "put forth good, clean literature to make *The Parish Monthly* a welcome visitor in every home, Catholic and non-Catholic." Noll's continuing

efforts toward educating the public eventually led him to found *Our Sunday Visitor* in 1912.

With his success in guiding the Catholic faithful as a parish priest, Noll was seen as an excellent successor to Bishop Alerding at the time of that holy bishop's death, and he was consecrated the fifth bishop of Fort Wayne in 1925.

As bishop, Noll continued in his fervor for education, spreading his conviction that religion and education must be united in his book "Our National Enemy No. 1: Education Without Religion." Accordingly, Catholic grade schools, high schools and colleges were founded throughout the diocese. Still other structures were built, including, in 1927, the Catholic Community Center on the corner of Barr and Jefferson streets in Fort Wayne, which was a place where Catholic life in the area thrived until it was sold in 1941.

In addition to fulfilling the need for accurate information concerning Catholicism, Noll cared for the spiritual needs of his flock, encouraging practices such as Forty Hours devotion for the laity within parishes. As war continued to rage across the globe, Noll told his flock that peace could be won only through prayer and encouraged them to "attend weekday Mass more frequently, recite the family rosary regularly, and ... attend Holy Hours of reparation held in their churches." Welcoming many religious orders for men and women into the diocese, a strong outward awareness of the religious in the area was present, and the orders flourished.

On the national front, Noll was a leading force in the completion of construction of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. After its construction had been postponed due to both the Great Depression and World War II, Noll was asked to influence bishops throughout the United States to pledge money for the completion of the structure. Accordingly, he chaired a committee dedicated to raising the necessary \$7 million. As in his many other ventures, Noll was once more successful, and construction was recommenced in 1954.

Meanwhile, in 1941, at the request of Auxiliary Bishop Pursley, Pope Pius XII named Noll an archbishop, a personal title that was granted to him though the diocese was not named an archdiocese.

In August of 1954, Archbishop Noll was struck with illness, and, in March of 1955, Bishop Pursley was named apostolic administrator of the diocese. After other

HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

major events occurred that impaired his health, including a heart attack and stroke, Archbishop Noll died on July 31, 1956, a much beloved shepherd.

Leo Aloysius Pursley



Born March 12, 1902, Hartford City
Ordained a priest June 11, 1927,
Fort Wayne
Ordained a bishop Sept. 19, 1950
Appointed Bishop of Fort Wayne,
Dec. 29, 1956
Resigned Aug. 24, 1976
Died Nov. 15, 1998

Leo Aloysius Pursley was born on March 12, 1902, in Hartford City and ordained a priest by Bishop Noll in June of 1927. Later, at the request of Noll, Pursley was named the first auxiliary bishop for the Diocese of Fort Wayne in 1950. In November 1954, Pursley was named vicar general of the diocese and shortly thereafter, in March of 1955, he became apostolic administrator.

After Archbishop Noll's death, Pursley was named the sixth bishop of the diocese and was installed in February of 1957. Known as an excellent speaker and writer, Bishop Pursley was an organized, active and kind man. Though sometimes thought to be intimidating, he told his priests, "I might be gruff on the outside, but if you have any problems you can come to me."

At the time of Bishop Pursley's installation, a portion of the diocese was split off to form the Diocese of Gary and, in 1960, the Diocese of Fort Wayne was officially renamed the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

As did other past bishops, Pursley took special interest in Catholic education. Bishop Luers, Bishop Dwenger and Marian high schools were built during his tenure. In 1957, the bishop formed

the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) in the diocese in an effort to instruct in the Catholic faith those children who were not a part of the parish schools.

In order to build strong marriages during a time when teen marriages were becoming increasingly common, the bishop required that marriage instruction be increased. Further, in September of 1957, he announced a plan to encourage religious vocations by visiting every parish himself and speaking on vocations.

In addition to his considerable involvement with diocesan parishes, Bishop Pursley attended each session of Vatican II. However, he often seemed to find the long meetings difficult, not only because most of the business was conducted in Latin but also because they caused him to miss Notre Dame's home football games.

Because of the significant changes within the Church at the time, Bishop Pursley's time was a difficult one as he sought to satisfy the needs of everyone amidst the changes that were taking place. With the implementation of Vatican II, Bishop Pursley found himself at his "typewriter looking for answers to questions" as he sought to introduce the changes in a way that adhered to Vatican direction, avoiding extremes. As liturgical misunderstandings and abuses occurred, Bishop Pursley once commented, "Some people ask me: Why do you permit these abuses? My answer is: I don't. Then why don't you stop them? My answer is: I am still trying."

After many years of devoted service to the diocese, Bishop Pursley's resignation was accepted in October of 1976. He died Nov. 15, 1998.

William E. McManus



Born Jan. 27, 1914
Ordained a priest April 15, 1939,
Chicago
Ordained bishop Aug. 24, 1967
Appointed Bishop of Fort Wayne-
South Bend, Aug. 24, 1976
Retired Feb. 18, 1985
Died March 3, 1997

William E. McManus, an auxiliary bishop of Chicago, was installed as the seventh bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in October of 1976.

Born on Jan. 27, 1914, in Chicago, McManus entered the seminary at a young age and was ordained to the priesthood in 1939.

Following his ordination, he served in a Chicago parish for one year, after which he earned his master's degree in education from Catholic University of America in 1942. After another brief stint as a parish priest, Father McManus held a variety of positions, which included being assistant director of the Department of Education of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington, D.C., superintendent of the Catholic schools in the Chicago area, a domestic prelate, and an active member of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and United States Catholic Conference.

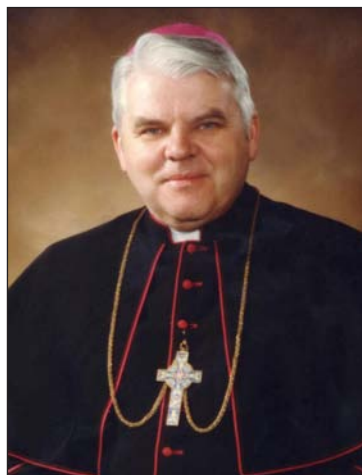
Upon the retirement of Bishop Pursley, Bishop McManus was assigned as the bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Saying that he was "more interested in people than in buildings," no new parishes were formed during his tenure though some structures were either built or renovated. Still others were sold or demolished, including St. Vincent Villa and Central Catholic High School in Fort Wayne, respectively.

During Bishop McManus' episcopate, he led a diocesan delegation to the Call to Action Conference held in October of 1976, the outcome of which were 30 resolutions that expressed controversial views on clerical celibacy, birth control, women and homosexuality.

Within the diocese, he also sought to fully implement in every parish liturgical changes such as offering the reception of holy Communion in the hand and the sacrament of reconciliation face-to-face.

After experiencing heart-related health difficulties, Bishop McManus retired in 1985. He returned to Chicago where he lived until his death on March 3, 1997.

John M. D'Arcy



Born Aug. 18, 1932
Ordained a priest Feb. 2, 1957,
Boston
Ordained a bishop Feb. 11, 1975
Appointed Bishop of Fort Wayne-
South Bend, Feb. 18, 1985
Retired

A Boston native and the son of two Irish immigrants, Bishop John M. D'Arcy was born on Aug. 18, 1932. He graduated from Boston College High School in 1949 and studied for the priesthood at Saint John's Seminary, Brighton, Mass. He was ordained a priest on Feb. 2, 1957, and served as a parish priest for nine years.

Father D'Arcy studied in Rome at both the Gregorian and Angelicum universities from 1965-68 and received a doctorate in spiritual theology in 1968 from the Angelicum. From 1968-85 he served as a spiritual director and professor of spiritual theology at Saint John's Seminary.

On Feb. 11, 1975, he was ordained an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Boston and was appointed vicar for spiritual development for the archdiocese at the same time. In addition, he directed the renewal and restructuring of the Office of Family Life, Office of Campus Ministry and the permanent diaconate. On July 21, 1981, he was appointed regional bishop for the Lowell region of the archdiocese, continuing as vicar for spiritual development.

Bishop D'Arcy chaired a committee of New England bishops that

wrote a significant pioneering "Letter on Priestly Formation," which has been used around the world to strengthen the formation of priests. This document was distributed to and used by the National Lay Review Board in its recent report on the clergy sexual-abuse crisis. He has given more than 50 retreats to bishops and priests throughout the country and more than 30 retreats to college and university students.

On Feb. 26, 1985, Bishop D'Arcy was appointed eighth bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and was installed on May 1, 1985, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The National Lay Review Board, appointed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as a result of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, approved in 2003, cited Bishop D'Arcy for his work in Boston. The board referred to his efforts there as "a voice in the wilderness," submitting letters to his superiors raising concerns and making requests that actions be taken regarding the misconduct of some local priests.

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend was recognized as one of eight (arch)dioceses with exceptional and positive response to the clergy sexual-abuse crisis. In 2002, Bishop D'Arcy wrote a series of op-ed columns on the sexual abuse crisis in the Catholic Church for secular newspapers within and outside the local diocese. The series also was published in a pamphlet titled, "Some Pastoral Reflections in a Moment of Crisis."

During his 24 years as the shepherd of the local diocese, Bishop D'Arcy has received numerous awards. He has been recognized in particular for his efforts on behalf of young people and campus ministry. In April 2005, he received the St. Ignatius Award, the highest honor bestowed on a graduate of Boston College High School.

Bishop D'Arcy has established many significant diocesan initiatives in the areas of spirituality, catechesis, education, ecumenism and social services outreach.



December 4, 2009

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne South Bend
1103 South Calhoun Street
P.O. Box 390
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

Dear Bishop Rhoades:

On behalf of the Trustees, faculty, staff, students, and alumni of Holy Cross College, I wish to extend to you our warmest welcome as our new Shepherd. Our community is committed to sharpening its identity as a Catholic institution that pursues faith and excellence under the leadership of our Bishop. Your motto of *Veritatem* and *Caritate* promises to give renewed inspiration to our mission.

The Saint Joseph River meanders aimlessly from East to West across your new diocese before it takes a decided turn to the South, then bending gradually to the North where it suddenly realizes that it is destined for Lake Michigan, heading straight for that goal just about where our college sits. Since 1966 Holy Cross College has been the place where many young men and women have reached that turning point in their academic careers and their spiritual journey after perhaps meandering a bit like the river. We are proud of this work of our Church in the diocese you have been asked to lead.

Please be assured as you take up your post as our pastor, that you will receive the respect, honor, and support of the Holy Cross College community. Our Holy Cross Constitutions state: "Our calling is to serve the Lord Jesus in mission not as independent individuals, but as brotherhood." It is in that spirit of brotherhood that we embrace you, Bishop Kevin, as our leader, protector, and teacher of our faith and pray for your success.

Fraternally,

Brother Richard B. Gilman, C.S.C.
President
Holy Cross College



ANCILLA COLLEGE
Office of the President

December 18, 2009

On behalf of the Ancilla College Board of Trustees, the staff and students I welcome Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese. Everyone at the college looks forward to a long productive relationship with the Bishop.

We have been blessed by retiring Bishop John D'Arcy. We wish him every blessing in retirement.

It is our hope that Bishop Rhoades can visit Ancilla College soon after his arrival. We look forward to sharing our mission, values and vision with him at that time.

Again, Bishop Rhoades, welcome to Indiana and the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. May, President



UNIVERSITY of SAINT FRANCIS

December 22, 2009

Dear Bishop Rhoades:

Welcome to your new home.

We are delighted to have you as our new leader. It is our hope that you will get to know the University of Saint Francis and that we will develop a close working relationship with you. Our university is the only Catholic institution of higher education in Northeast Indiana. We cherish our Catholic identity and strive to hold fast to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

Our Franciscan values and the wisdom and intellectual traditions inspired by St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi are also a cornerstone of our university. Our Franciscan values are: reverence the unique dignity of each person; encourage a trustful, prayerful community of learners; serve one another, society and the Church; foster peace and justice; and respect creation.

The university community and our Sponsor, the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration from Mishawaka, Indiana value your support of our mission, and we will seek out your wisdom and guidance.

The sisters, faculty, staff, and students of the University of Saint Francis join me in wishing you many blessings as you begin your work among us. We will be in touch to arrange for you to join us for Mass on campus and for other events throughout the year.

You are always welcome at the University of Saint Francis.

Sincerely yours,

Sister M. Elise Kriss, OSF
President

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE
NOTRE DAME • INDIANA

December 8, 2009

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
1103 South Calhoun Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46801

Dear Bishop Rhoades:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students of Saint Mary's College, I send a most sincere welcome to you as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Founded in 1844 and sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross, Saint Mary's is an academic community where women develop their talents and prepare to make a difference in the world.

Saint Mary's cultivates a community of intellectual inquiry, liturgical prayer, and social action. As we prepare women for roles of leadership, we pay special attention to the rights and responsibilities of women in the worlds of work, church, community, and family.

I look forward to your first visit to our beautiful campus and to your leadership in our diocese.

Sincerely,

Carol Ann Mooney
President



UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 18, 2009

His Excellency
The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, D.D.
Bishop of Ft. Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 390
Fort Wayne, IN 46801

Your Excellency, Bishop Rhoades,

Welcome to your new home, the diocese of Fort Wayne– South Bend. It has been ours too from its beginning in the nineteenth century.

The Congregation of Holy Cross put down roots in northern Indiana in November 1842, only a year after the first Holy Cross missionaries arrived in the United States. Bishop Hailandiere of Vincennes gave them a tract of land on condition that they would open an orphan asylum or “other religious charitable institution.” Fr. Edouard Sorin, C.S.C., their leader christened the place *Notre Dame du Lac* and the college they founded, which was chartered by the Indiana legislature in 1844, fulfilled the second part of the bargain. Orphans arrived in due time and a manual trades school was opened to give them some training. The first Holy Cross Sisters from France joined the Priests and Brothers in 1843 and opened a school for girls, the forerunner of today’s St. Mary’s College.

Over the next decade, the Holy Cross religious at Notre Dame created an apostolic center which served the Catholics within a hundred mile radius of Notre Dame. Boys and girls from the scattered Catholic families in northern Indiana and southwestern Michigan were sent for an education, orphans were received and cared for, and young men and women who wished to devote themselves to religious life were trained and sent out on mission. The Holy Cross Priests rode a circuit providing a sacramental ministry and organized the Catholics into parish communities. The first two parishes in South Bend, St. Joseph’s and St. Patrick’s, were established and staffed. Later in the nineteenth century, the Congregation supplied Polish-speaking personnel for the establishment of national parishes in South Bend and Chicago. In the twentieth century, Spanish-speaking Priests and Brothers served migrants from Mexico in South Bend and northern Indiana.

As the number of Brothers and Sisters grew, new foundations from Notre Dame were made in Indiana and as far away as New Orleans, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, northeastern Pennsylvania and New York City. When the Congregation, at the Vatican’s request, undertook to staff a mission in East Bengal (today’s Bangladesh), two English-speaking religious were sent from America to work there. Today’s Holy Cross Mission Center at Notre Dame orchestrates the sending of personnel and financial aid to Bangladesh, East Africa, Chile, Peru and Mexico. As a result of its many apostolic works, the Congregation of Holy Cross received papal approval in 1857. The Sisters were organized as a separate congregation at Rome’s insistence.

Since its foundation, Notre Dame has been a place where both the education of the mind and the heart have gone hand in hand; it has been—and strives to always be—“a powerful force for good in the world,” as Fr. Sorin wrote to our Founder, Blessed Basil Moreau. Generations of students have graduated from Notre Dame with a firm moral compass, eager and willing to serve the Church and society and well-trained academically to meet the inevitable challenges they have and will face. The family of Notre Dame, which is a very real fact of our life, includes a community of close to 15,000 people on campus— students, faculty, staff, and over 124,000 alumni. We want to welcome you as a member of our family and consider our campus a place to pray and worship, to relax, to preach and teach— and yes, to watch football (and other sports)!

The Lord Jesus is very present on our campus, both sacramentally and spiritually. All of us strive to become better disciples of Him through learning in the classroom and also in the countless examples of purpose-driven service to the poor. We strive to be in communion with the Church.

Again, Bishop Rhoades, welcome to our diocese, and welcome to the Notre Dame family!

Devotedly in Notre Dame,

(Rev.) John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.
President



Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Office of the Cardinal
222 North 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

January 13, 2010

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 390
Fort Wayne-South Bend, IN 46801

Dear Bishop Rhoades,

I wish to offer my prayerful best wishes and fraternal solidarity as you begin your ministry as the Shepherd of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The Church has been richly blessed by your episcopal ministry. I am confident that the priests, deacons, consecrated religious and lay faithful of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will find in you a zealous Bishop who is fully committed to the ministry of teaching, sanctifying and governing the local Church.

May the Lord Jesus bless you abundantly and may Mary the Mother of the Church watch over you always.

Fraternally in Christ,

Cardinal Justin Rigali
Archbishop of Philadelphia



ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE
320 Cathedral Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201 • 410-547-5437 • FAX: 410-727-8234

December 4, 2009

Ms. Kay Cozad
News Editor
Today’s Catholic newspaper
P.O. Box 11169
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

Dear Ms. Cozad,

As the installation of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades approaches, I wish to say to the faithful of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, that he was once my priest-secretary and has been the neighboring bishop to this Archdiocese, as well as a seminary rector here.

When he was my priest-secretary I felt that I was blessed indeed, because he was, in every respect, a perfect person for the task.

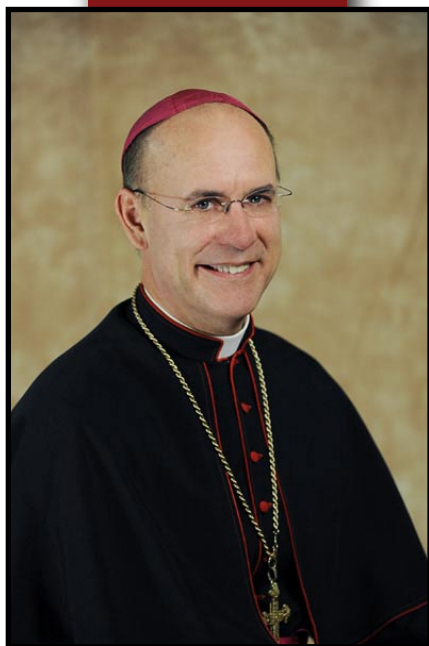
With the advent of Bishop Rhoades, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is in for a special treat! Bishop Rhoades will be the perfect bishop and I am happy to take this occasion to greet him as he accepts the appointment.

With cordial and prayerful wishes, I remain
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Cardinal William H. Keeler
Archbishop Emeritus of Baltimore



Welcome, Bishop Rhoades!



The parishes served by religious of the
 Congregation of Holy Cross welcome their
 new Shepherd,

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

We pledge to him our prayerful support, our
 profound respect, and our heartfelt affection.

We look forward to working with
 Bishop Rhoades, and under his authority,
 to make Christ known, loved, and served.

“The spirit of faith inspires and enlivens zeal, that is, the sacred fire
 that the divine Master came to bring upon the earth.
 So if one has faith and the zeal inspired by faith...such a person will
 be ready to go wherever obedience calls to save souls...
 and extend the rule of Jesus Christ on earth.”

-Blessed Basil Moreau, CSC, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross

Sacred Heart,
 Notre Dame, 1842

St. Casimir
 1897

St. Adalbert
 1910

Holy Cross
 1929

Little Flower
 1937

St. Joseph,
 South Bend, 1853

St. Stanislaus
 1899

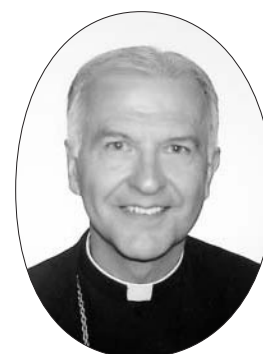
St. Augustine
 1928

Christ the King
 1933





*The Most Rev. John O. Barres,
S.T.D., J.C.L., D.D.
Bishop of Allentown
On behalf of the Clergy, Religious
and Laity of the Diocese
extends sincerest and prayerful
best wishes and congratulations to
The Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades
upon his installation as
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend*



*Bishop Dale J. Melczek
and the Diocese of Gary
welcomes
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend,
our mother diocese and neighbor.*

**Bishop
Lawrence E. Brandt**

and the faithful of the
Diocese of Greensburg
pray for God's grace
and blessings on

**Bishop
Kevin C. Rhoades**

as shepherd of the

**Diocese of
Fort Wayne-South Bend**



Diocese of Metuchen

from the Faithful of
THE DIOCESE OF METUCHEN
Bishop Paul Bootkoski
sends congratulations and
prayerful best wishes that
continued blessings come to
BISHOP KEVIN RHOADES
as he becomes the shepherd of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend



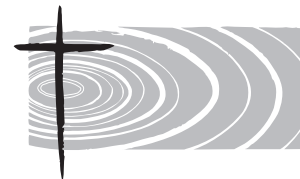
Welcome Bishop Rhoades

We are honored to have you as
Bishop of our Fort Wayne/South Bend Diocese.



Member
FDIC

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



Partners in the work of the Spirit

Welcome

BISHOP RHOADES

TO THE

FORT WAYNE/SOUTH BEND DIOCESE.

www.poorhandmaids.org



St. Adalbert



St. Casimir

**Bienvenidos!
Witamy!**

Welcome Bishop Rhoades!
May the Holy Spirit inspire and
guide your ministry among us.

St. Adalbert Church and St. Casimir Church

BISHOP RHOADES

Father Barry England

and the parishioners of

St. Bavo Parish in Mishawaka

welcome you to the

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend!

May the Holy Spirit be with you
and guide you in the years ahead!

WWW.CSCSISTERS.ORG



THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS WELCOME YOU, BISHOP RHOADES,
TO THE DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND. WE OFFER YOU OUR
CONTINUED PRAYERS IN YOUR SERVICE TO THE CHURCH. MAY MARY,
OUR COMPASSIONATE MOTHER, GUIDE YOU AS YOU LEAD OUR DIOCESE.

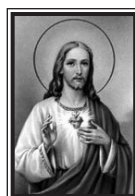


SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER

of South Bend, Indiana

Welcomes Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

*We have served the Catholic population of the South Bend area
since 1974 by providing quality counseling in a faith based setting.*



The Parishes of
Sacred Heart and St. Henry
Welcome



The Most Reverend Kevin Rhoades

As the ninth bishop of the
Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese

Ad multos Annos!

Forever Learning Institute



Welcome, Bishop Rhoades...
Many many blessings,
especially those of the Little Flower
endow your efforts in the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Little Flower Parish Center
54191 North Ironwood Drive • South Bend

Dear Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades,

*We the parishioners of St. Patrick Parish, Walkerton, wish you
a very hearty welcome to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
We love you. We promise obedience, prayers and cooperation.*

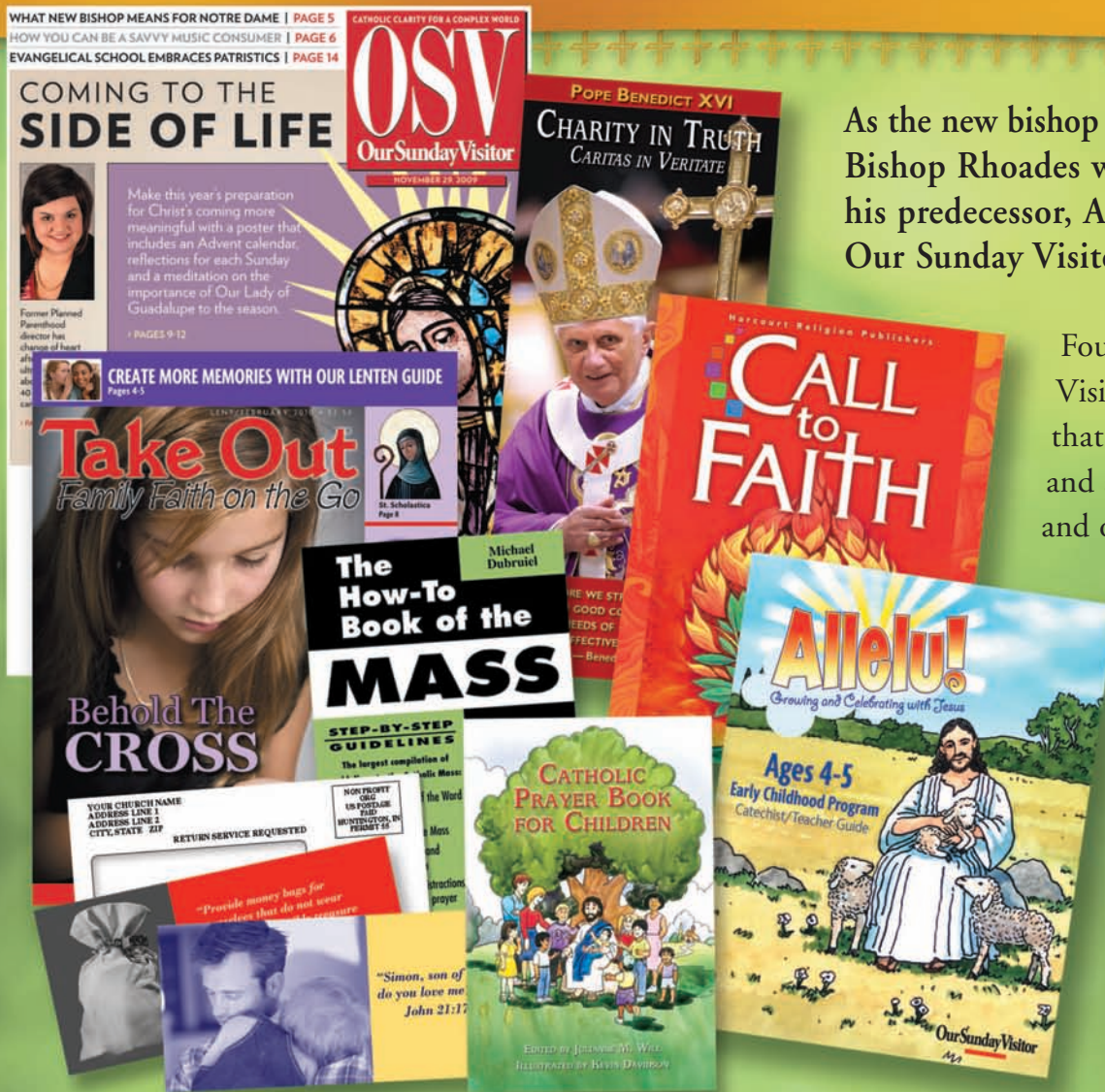
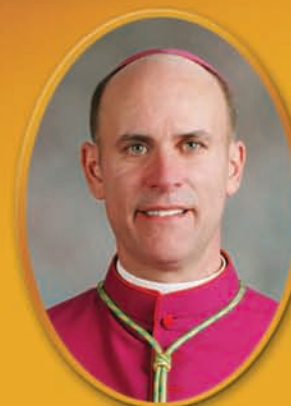
*We will continue to pray for your smooth transition into this new
appointment. We will pray too, for the ease of your personal
transition from your long time home in Pennsylvania to your new
"home" in northern Indiana.*

*We are a small parish located just about as far west as one can
go in the diocese. We invite you to visit us and look forward to
meeting you.*

*We welcome your focus, your dedication and your commitment
to our diocese.*

Rev. Pius N. Ilechukwu, Pastor for parishioners

Our Sunday Visitor Welcomes Our New Chairman of the Board Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades



As the new bishop of the Fort Wayne/South Bend Diocese, Bishop Rhoades will carry on a tradition begun with his predecessor, Archbishop John Noll, as chair of the Our Sunday Visitor Board of Directors.

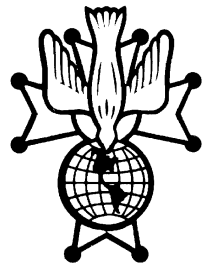
Founded by Archbishop Noll, Our Sunday Visitor is a self-owned, non-profit corporation that serves the Church both in this diocese and around the world through its publishing and offering envelope divisions.

Through its Institute, Our Sunday Visitor also supports a variety of programs in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend — including the Masters in Religious Education program for teachers and DREs and Education in Ministry as well as local high school scholarship funds and projects for Catholic Charities and other diocesan organizations.

All of the board members and employees of Our Sunday Visitor extend our congratulations to Bishop Rhoades and look forward to his leadership as we continue to serve the Church in truth with charity.

Our Sunday Visitor

Publishing • Offering Envelopes • Institute • Curriculum
www.osv.com



Knights of Columbus

**FOURTH
DEGREE**

Patriotic degree of the Order.

**Welcome to Fort Wayne
Most Reverend**

and

Sir Knight

Kevin C. Rhoades

*your 4th Degree Honor Guard
is here to serve you.*

Knights of Columbus
Anthony Wayne Assembly No. 239



Fr. Gary Sigler

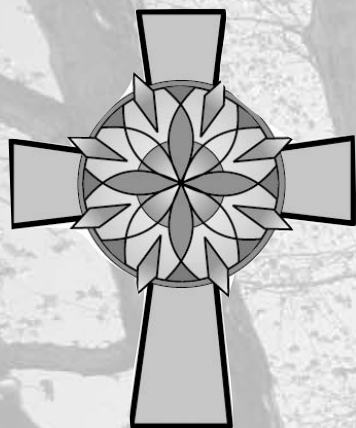
&

*Your Queen of Angels Parish Family
wish to extend to you a warm welcome,
and pledge to you our prayers and support
as you begin to shepherd
the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
Congratulations, Bishop Kevin Rhoades!*

**QUEEN of
ANGELS**

Welcome Bishop Rhoades!

***May the Catholic Community Foundation
continue to flourish under your guidance.***



CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
of Northeast Indiana

A seed has been planted in the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana which holds over 100 endowments for parishes, schools, diocesan agencies and the Legacy of Faith endowments for Catholic education, Hispanic Ministries and Catholic Charities.

May they someday give shade to future generations.

***The Catholic Community
Foundation of Northeast Indiana
welcomes you to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.***

A Warm WELCOME to
Bishop Kevin Rhoades

May your leadership be enriched by the
 continued blessings of the Good Shepherd

The priests and parishioners of
ST. CHARLES BORROMEO PARISH
ST. VINCENT de PAUL PARISH
OUR LADY OF GOOD HOPE PARISH
ST. JUDE PARISH
 Fort Wayne

Welcome Bishop Rhoades



Please be assured that your
 dedication to vocations
 to the priesthood and
 the consecrated life
 have the full support of the
SERRA CLUB
OF FORT WAYNE

May the blessings of
St. Paul of the Cross
 come in abundance to
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
 as he takes his place in our midst.

Saint Paul of the Cross parish
 COLUMBIA CITY



The priests and people of
SS Peter and Paul Parish,
 Huntington
 extend a warm welcome to
Bishop Kevin Rhoades
 with prayers for his success
 as our shepherd.



May the
 Blessed Mother's
 love and guidance
 come in rich measure to
 Bishop Rhoades

St. Mary Parish
 HUNTINGTON

Welcome



Saint Mary's College welcomes Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
 We look forward to his first visit to our beautiful campus and to many years of his pastoral care.

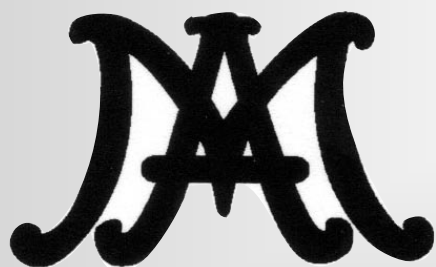


saintmarys.edu

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Welcome BISHOP RHOADES

Please be assured of the generosity of prayers and the hospitality of the people of two of the oldest parishes in Fort Wayne, as you become our shepherd.



Saint Mary Catholic Church
*"Serving the People of God
 spiritually and physically since 1848"*

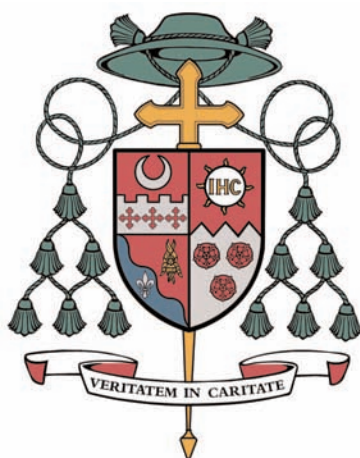


Saint Peter Catholic Church
"The Splendour of the South Side since 1872"

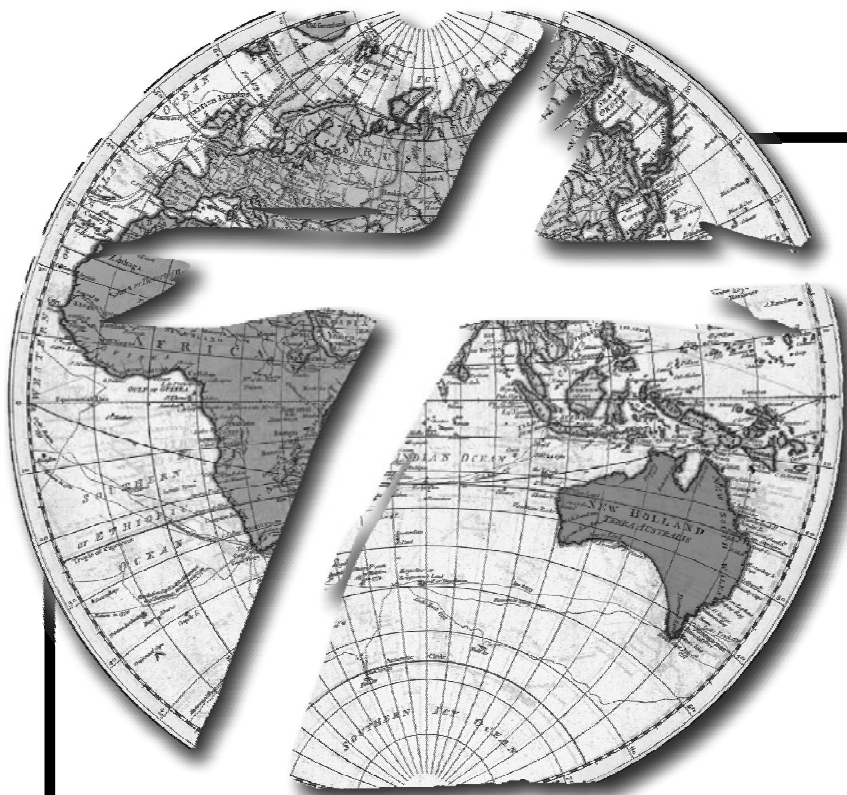
Welcome
BISHOP RHOADES

*The diocesan employees in the offices listed below
extend to you, their experience, loyalty and a promise
to pursue your goals and purposes with an effort matching your own.
With this, we offer our prayers
for your success as our shepherd as well as your personal happiness.*

- Cathedral Books & Gifts
- The Diocesan Business Office
- The Office of Campus and Young Adult Ministry
- The Office of Catechesis
 - Catholic Charities
- Diocesan Services Agency
- The Office of Communications
 - The Development Office
- The Office of Diocesan Archives
 - The Office of Family Life



- The Diocesan Office for Hispanic Ministry
- The Catholic Schools Office
 - The Office of Spiritual Development/Evangelization
 - The Marriage Tribunal
 - The Office of Vocation
 - The Office of Worship
- The Office of Youth Ministry
 - Today's Catholic



Bishop Kevin Rhoades

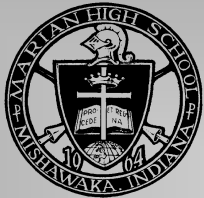
Congratulations and Prayerful
Best Wishes on Your Installation

May the Fort Wayne – South Bend
Diocese Grow in Faith & Love
With Your Spiritual Guidance



Cross International
Catholic Outreach

www.crosscatholic.org



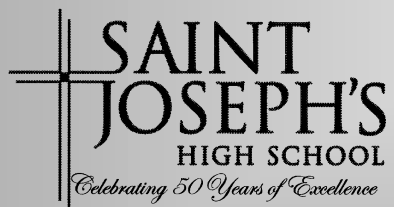
Marian 574-259-5257
www.marianhs.org

Welcome Bishop Rhoades



Bishop Luers 260-456-1261
www.bishopluers.org

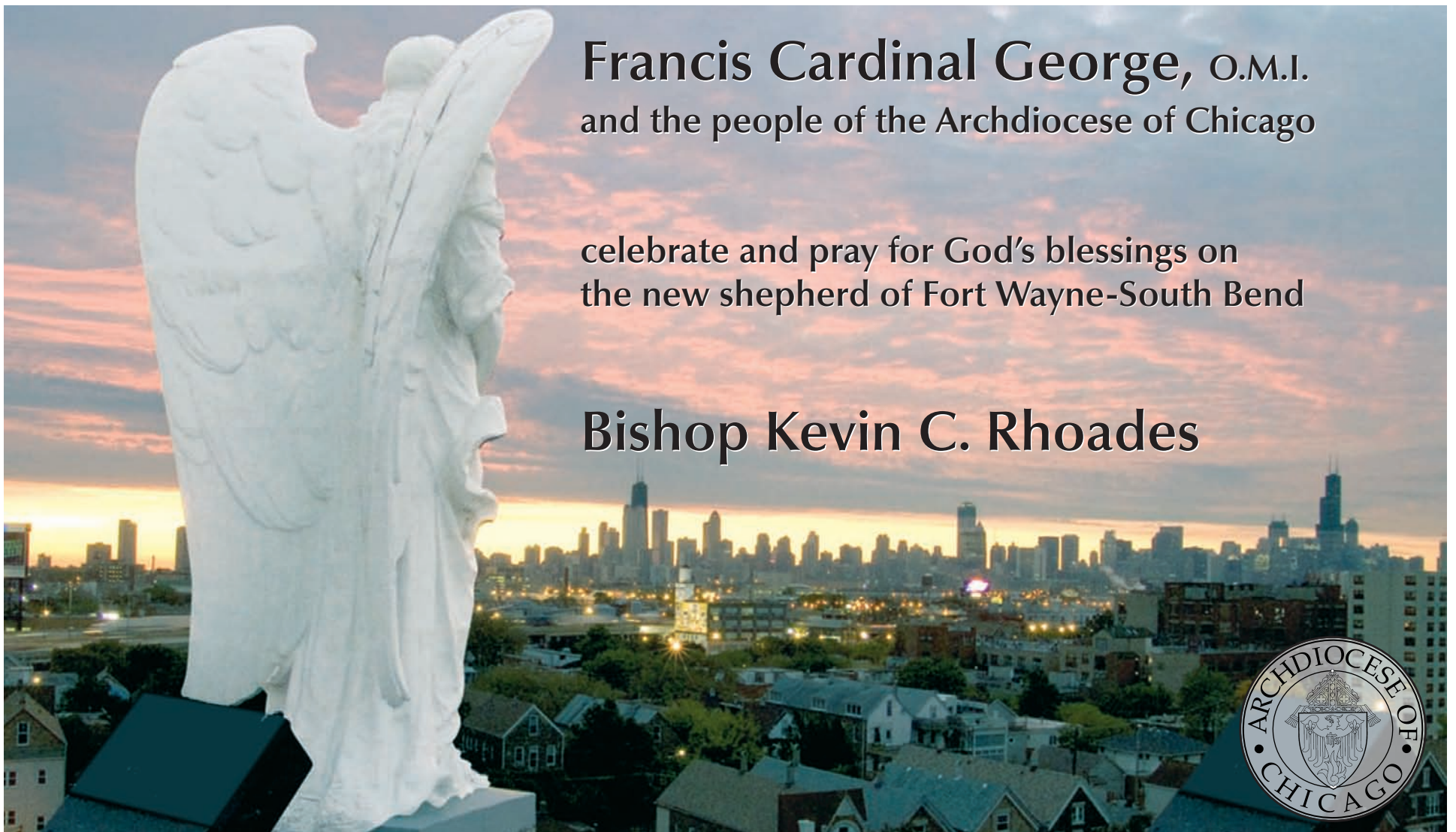
*May you lead us in the
light of Christ with the
radiance of His truth.*



Saint Joseph's 574-233-6137
www.saintjoehigh.com



Bishop Dwenger 260-496-4700
www.bishopdwenger.com



Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
and the people of the Archdiocese of Chicago

celebrate and pray for God's blessings on
the new shepherd of Fort Wayne-South Bend

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades



CARDINAL JUSTIN RIGALI

*together with the Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Religious and Laity
of the
Archdiocese of Philadelphia*

prayerfully congratulates

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

*on the occasion of his installation as
Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend*



*May the Lord
richly bless your
episcopal ministry
as you shepherd
the faithful
of the Diocese of
Fort Wayne - South Bend*

The Members of the Permanent Diaconate and the Deacon Candidates
OF THE DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

extend a warm welcome to

Bishop Kevin Rhoades

PERMANENT DEACONS

Deacon Paul Baumgartner

Deacon Paul Dits

Deacon Emilio Gizzi

Deacon Harris Hoeffel

Deacon Ted Kizman

Deacon Ervin Kuspa

Deacon Brian Miller

Deacon Ronald Moser

Deacon Kevin Ranaghan

Deacon James Walsh

DEACON CANDIDATES

Robert Byrne

David Elchert

James Fitzpatrick

James Fuchs

William Gallagher

John Hilger

James Kitchens

Jerome Kohrman

Stanley LeMieux

Melvin Tardy Jr.

James Tighe

Mary Szymczak, Director of Formation



*The Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley
Bishop of Salina*

*The Most Reverend George K. Fitzsimons
Bishop Emeritus of Salina*

*and the people of the Diocese of Salina extend
our best wishes to*

**The Most Reverend
Kevin C. Rhoades**

Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

as you begin your new ministry.

May the Lord shower you with every grace and blessing!



With profound joy and heartfelt thanks
to Almighty God, Our Father,
we, the parish families of
St. Louis Besancon and St. Rose Monroeville
welcome our new Apostle and Shepherd,
BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

We pray that the faithful integrity
and prudent wisdom of our prior bishops
may continue through Bishop Rhoades
in the days ahead

as we remember our yesterdays with:

Bishop John M. D'Arcy

Bishop William McManus

Bishop Leo A. Pursley

Archbishop John F. Noll

Bishop Herman J. Alerding

Bishop Joseph Rademacher

Bishop Joseph Dwenger

Bishop John H. Luers



Bishop Kevin Rhoades

Welcome and Prayerful Best Wishes
as You Become the Ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend



The Echo Program
In Partnership with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
Echo, Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame

MaryTv
welcomes
Bishop Kevin Rhoades



www.MaryTv.tv

Welcome
BISHOP RHOADES

*May your ministry be blessed
and personally fulfilling.*

MIKE AND DEE DEE DAHM



OB GYN
ASSOCIATES OF NORTHERN INDIANA, P.C.
Welcome Bishop Rhoades

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| MICHELE L. ASHTON, M.D. | JOSEPH P. HARMON, M.D. |
| SANDRA R. BROWN, M.D. | MARK G. LEWIS, D.O. |
| TRACY S. BYRNE, M.D. | CARLTON L. LYONS, M.D. |
| UTHMAN CAVALLO, M.D. | KELLY W. MCGUIRE, M.D. |
| LEN R. FERGUSON, M.D. | GREGORY P. WOLFE, M.D. |

610 North Michigan Street • Suite 200 • South Bend • www.obgynni.com

The blood of one was shed for all.

Welcome
Bishop Rhoades



Most Precious Blood Parish
Fort Wayne
shares the joy of your arrival as
His servant and our shepherd.

THOU ART PETER



St. Joseph Parish and St. Catherine of Alexandria
ROANOKE NIX SETTLEMENT
Father Kenneth Sarrazine



St. Bernard Parish
WABASH
Welcomes
Bishop Rhoades
with joy and prayers that
his episcopacy will be blessed
in many ways.



Ancilla College extends a
warm and gracious welcome to
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

ANCILLA COLLEGE

1.866.ANCILLA ♦ 574.936.8898 ♦ www.ancilla.edu

We join in welcoming
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
to the Diocese of
Fort Wayne-South Bend



May the Lord bless our
new shepherd

AMP
ave maria press®
Notre Dame, Indiana
A Ministry of the Indiana Province of Holy Cross

Happy New Year
BISHOP RHOADES!
As a new decade begins with a new
episcopacy, we share the joy of your
arrival and pray that your guidance
and leadership be blessed by the Holy Spirit.

✠
CATHOLIC CEMETERY
OF FORT WAYNE

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
WELCOMES
BISHOP KEVIN RHOADES
and looks forward to
his assistance in sharing our mission.



A Warm Welcome
BISHOP RHOADES
to Fort Wayne... and
into the hearts of all of us...
we pray for your success and happiness.

Chris and Shannon Tippmann



May the rich blessings of
Divine Mercy
be showered upon the episcopacy of
The Most Reverend
Kevin C. Rhoades

DIVINE MERCY GIFTS
320 DIXIE WAY NORTH
South Bend
1/2 mile north of Notre Dame on State
Road 933
(574) 277-1400

MOUNT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

From the Cradle of Bishops at the seminary at Mount St. Mary's University to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend... Blessings Bishop Rhoades, from your friends at Mount St. Mary's University.



DISCOVER 200 YEARS OF CATHOLIC MISSION.

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FAITH ✦ DISCOVERY ✦ LEADERSHIP ✦ COMMUNITY



Qui autem intrat per ostium, pastor est ovium.
"But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep."
John 10:2

Welcome, Bishop Rhoades,
from all of us at the
Notre Dame Center for Ethics & Culture:

David Solomon	W.P. and H.B. White Director
Elizabeth Kirk	Associate Director
Kathryn Wales	Program Coordinator
Tracy Westlake	Administrative Assistant
Adam Skoczylas	Website Coordinator

STUDENT ASSISTANTS

Karen Chan Octavia Ratiu Tom Everett
Victor Ratiu Claire Brown Kelly Mason Pete Freddoso



Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters
welcomes you,

BISHOP KEVIN RHOADES,

to our Diocese and
assures you of our
prayerful support.



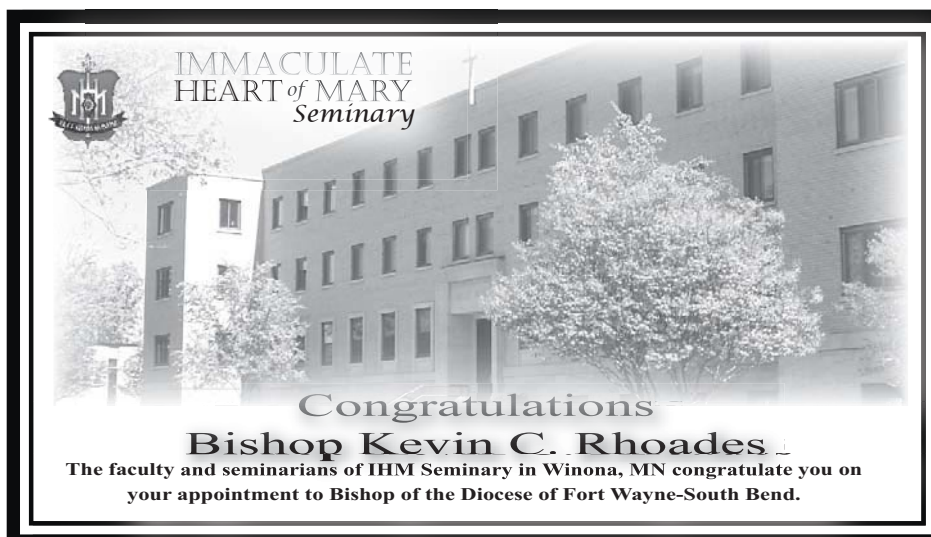
¡Bien Venido!


Hilton
 Fort Wayne
 at The Grand Wayne Center

**Welcome
Bishop Rhoades!**

*To the Fort Wayne
Community...*

*We look forward
to serving the continued
diocesan hospitality plans.*



Welcome Brother Knight
BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES



Indiana State Knights of Columbus

In solidarity with our bishops and priests!

STEPHAN ZIEMBA
State Deputy

FR. MICHAEL YADRON
State Chaplain

Welcome
Bishop Rhoades

*May this new year and all those that follow
in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
be rich in blessings, success and personal happiness.*

Leonard J. Andorfer & Co., LLP
 Certified Public Accountants
 FORT WAYNE

Bishop Rhoades

*Your Brother Knights in
 Father Tremmel Council, Plymouth,
 welcome you to the diocese and to Indiana,
 where the Knights of Columbus are in
 solidarity with our priests and bishops.*




**Welcome
Bishop Rhoades**

*The Marriage Tribunal
 of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend*

BISHOP RHOADES

*Your Brother Knights of
 Santa Maria Council #533, South Bend
 offer prayers that Our Lady will continue
 to be a constant presence in your life.*



553 East Washington • South Bend

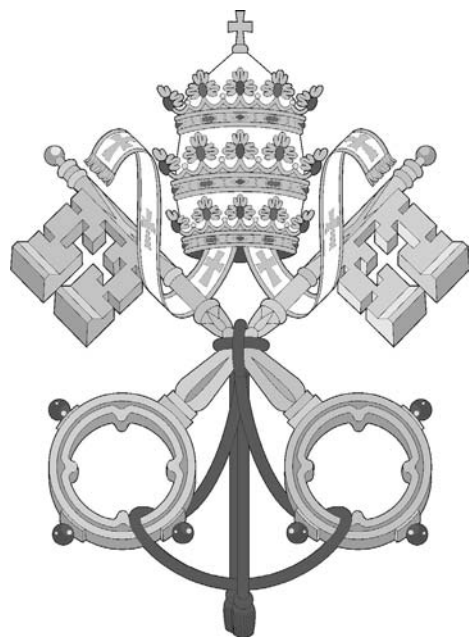
Greetings, Bishop Rhoades
The Seminarians of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
send sincere congratulations and the
promise of prayer as you come into our midst.

Deacon Andrew Budzinski
 Matthew Coonan
 Terrence Coonan Jr.
 Benjamin Muhlenkamp
 Jacob Meyer
 Royce Gregerson
 Zachary Barry
 Cristian Reyes

Matthew Soberalski
 Joseph Becker
 Brandon McCaffery
 Jonathan Norton
 Daniel Davis
 Christopher Sindelar
 Nathan Maskal
 Thomas Zehr

Vocation Office - Diocese of Fort Wayne South Bend

Msgr. Bernard J. Galic, Director ✠ Mary Szymczak, Associate



**PONTIFICAL
 COLLEGE
 JOSEPHINUM**

Very Reverend James A. Wehner, STD,
 Rector / President,
 and the community of the
 Pontifical College Josephinum
 send congratulations and prayerful best wishes to
THE MOST REVEREND KEVIN C. RHOADES, JCL
 on his appointment as
 Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

AD MULTOS ANNOS!

7625 NORTH HIGH STREET COLUMBUS, OHIO 43235
 INFO@PCJ.EDU / WWW.PCJ.EDU / 1-877-725-4436

EDUCATION

PARISH

MISSION



CONGREGATION of HOLY CROSS
INDIANA PROVINCE

Welcome to your new home

as the 9th Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne – South Bend.

Please know of our support and prayers!

The Indiana Province of Priests and Brothers

Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne – South Bend in the following Institutions and Parishes

University of Notre Dame (1842)
Sacred Heart Parish (1842)
St. Joseph Parish (1853)

Ave Maria Press (1865)
St. Casimir Parish (1899)
St. Stanislaus Parish (1899)
Holy Cross Parish (1929)

Christ the King Parish (1937)
Little Flower Parish (1950)
St. Adalbert Parish (2003)

Dear Bishop Rhoades,

*We thank God for your presence
among us and we welcome you.
Know of our support and prayers,
especially during our hours of
Eucharistic Adoration.*



*Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration
Adoremus in Aeternum Sanctissimum Sacramentum*

www.ssfpa.org



VERITATEM IN CARITATE
Truth in Charity



Welcome to Indiana
Bishop Rhoades
and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The parishes of
St. Thomas the Apostle in Elkhart,
St. Vincent de Paul in Elkhart,
St. John the Evangelist in Goshen, and
St. Mary of the Annunciation in Bristol
are all along the way between Fort Wayne and South Bend.

*The folks in these parishes know it will be a while
before you can get around to see them and their churches
and schools...and when you do, they promise a warm
Hoosier welcome. Until that time, all of us, priests,
parents, students, will read about you in this paper
and remember you in our prayers.*

Welcome Bishop Rhoades!



*The people and priests of
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish
welcome you with all our hearts
and look forward to celebrating,
praying, and working with you.*

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH • 10700 ABOITE CENTER ROAD
FORT WAYNE

St. John the Baptist Parish

FORT WAYNE
welcomes

Bishop Kevin Rhoades

Ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne -South Bend

and promises prayers

*in support of his intentions for
The New Evangelization*

Increased vocations

and

*Support of Catholic Schools
and Religious Education*



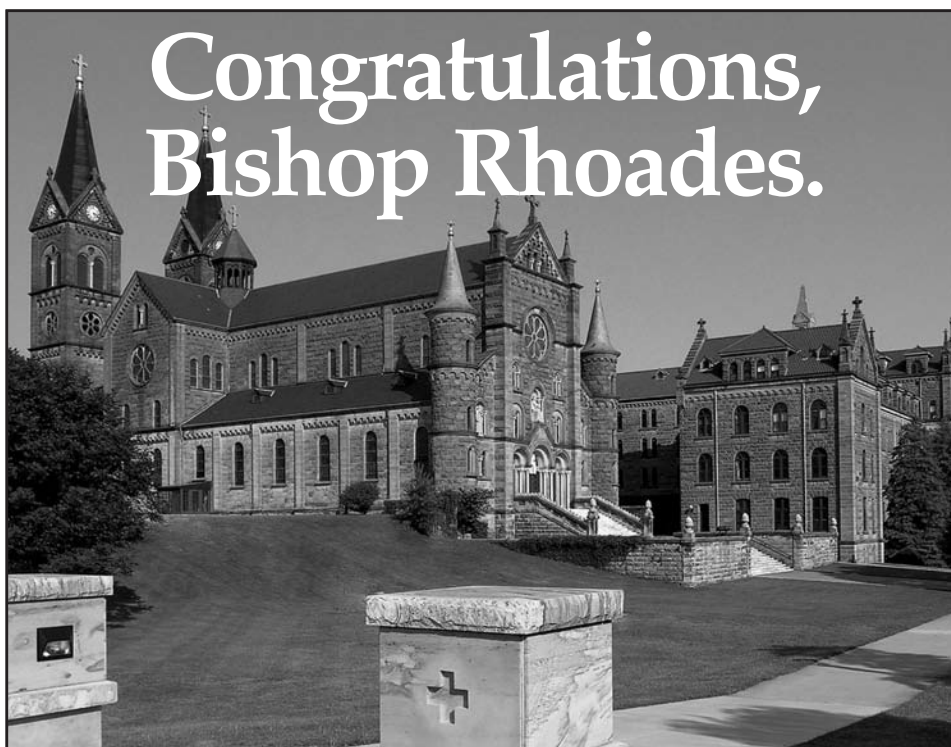
Welcome,

BISHOP RHOADES



Your friends at
St. Joseph Parish
in Bluffton are only
twenty minutes south
of Fort Wayne, and
looking forward to
your first visit.

St. Joseph Parish
BLUFFTON



Congratulations, Bishop Rhoades.


We are happy to congratulate Bishop Kevin Rhoades on his episcopal ordination and appointment to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Very Rev. Denis Robinson, OSB, and the students, faculty and staff of Saint Meinrad Seminary & School of Theology



Saint Meinrad

200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad, IN 47577, www.saintmeinrad.edu



20
THE FRANCISCAN CENTER
Celebrating 20 Years

Welcome Bishop Rhoades
We look forward to working with you in serving our community in the spirit of Saint Francis.
May God bless you and the Spirit guide you in this new journey and always.

The Franciscan Center - 4643 Gaywood Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46806 - (260) 744-3977
www.thefranciscancenter.org

Rev. Edward E. Erpelding
and the faithful of
St. Mary of the Assumption Parish
Avilla
congratulate
BISHOP RHOADES
as he becomes the ninth
bishop of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend








Photo courtesy of Christopher Millette, The Patriot News

Welcome, Bishop Rhoades
We look forward to your guidance in the years ahead. Our prayers are with you.
From Sister M. Elise Kriss, President, and the sisters, faculty, staff, and students of the University of Saint Francis.



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT FRANCIS
www.sf.edu
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*As he becomes our shepherd,
the pastor and people of
St. Aloysius Parish
Yoder,
send prayers and congratulations to
BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES*



St. Joseph Parish
MISHAWAKA
*Extends a warm welcome to
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
May many blessings of
our patron light your way.*



Bishop Rhoades...
TODAY'S CATHOLIC

is now
"your voice to your people"
and each of us
on the staff of the paper
looks forward to delivering
this expression
of evangelization
in a way that brings souls
closer to their loved ones,
closer to you, their shepherd,
and closer to Christ.



Sacred Heart Parish
and
Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish
in Warsaw

**Welcome
Bishop Rhoades**
*with a promise of prayers,
support, and best wishes
for the success of his
episcopacy in the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend*



Bishop Paul S. Loverde
and the Faithful of the Diocese of Arlington
Offer Prayerful Support
and Congratulations to



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

on the occasion of his Installation as the
Ninth Bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese



TO BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES,

In the Notre Dame spirit
of hospitality and community,
We welcome you in the Lord as our shepherd
well prepared by grace and experience.

Sincerely,

THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

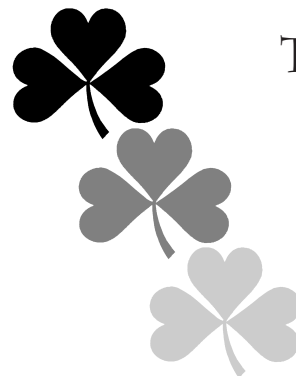
*Her students, faculty, staff, trustees, and the
Holy Cross community at Notre Dame*





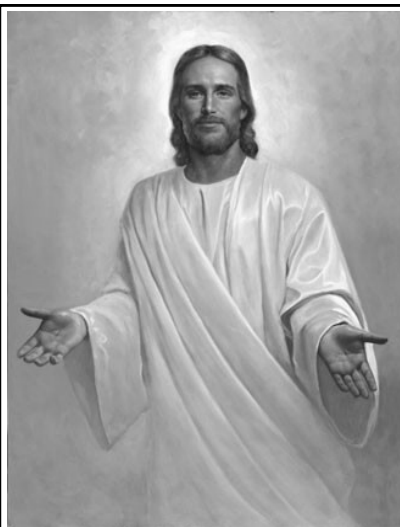
Bishop Rhoades,
We thank the Lord that he has
called you to be our Shepherd.
We welcome you with open
hearts and with our prayers.

Saint Michael the Archangel Parish
WATERLOO



The parishioners and pastor of
ST. PATRICK
Arcola
*send a warm welcome
and a promise of prayers to*
Bishop Kevin Rhoades

St. Robert Bellarmine Parish
NORTH MANCHESTER
sends Bishop Rhoades
*prayerful best wishes that the
blessings of our patron be
bestowed upon his mission.*



**Welcome,
Bishop Rhoades!**

We ask in the name of your Son, that
you bless the Most Reverend Bishop
Kevin Rhoades. Provide him with the
gifts he will need to carry on the
ministry of Jesus in our diocese and
help him to feel welcome here in his
new home. Amen.
Saint Therese Church & School

St. Monica Parish and School
congratulates
**The Most Reverend
Kevin C. Rhoades**
on the occasion of his
installation as the ninth bishop of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend



Congratulations and Best Wishes
**Bishop
Kevin C. Rhoades**

*As you begin your new ministry,
May the Lord bless you with every gift.*



*Bishop William L. Higi
and the
Priests and Faithful
of the
Diocese of
Lafayette-in-Indiana*



ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS

The Church in Central and Southern Indiana

Most Rev. Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Indianapolis

and the entire
Church in Central and Southern Indiana

send sincere congratulations

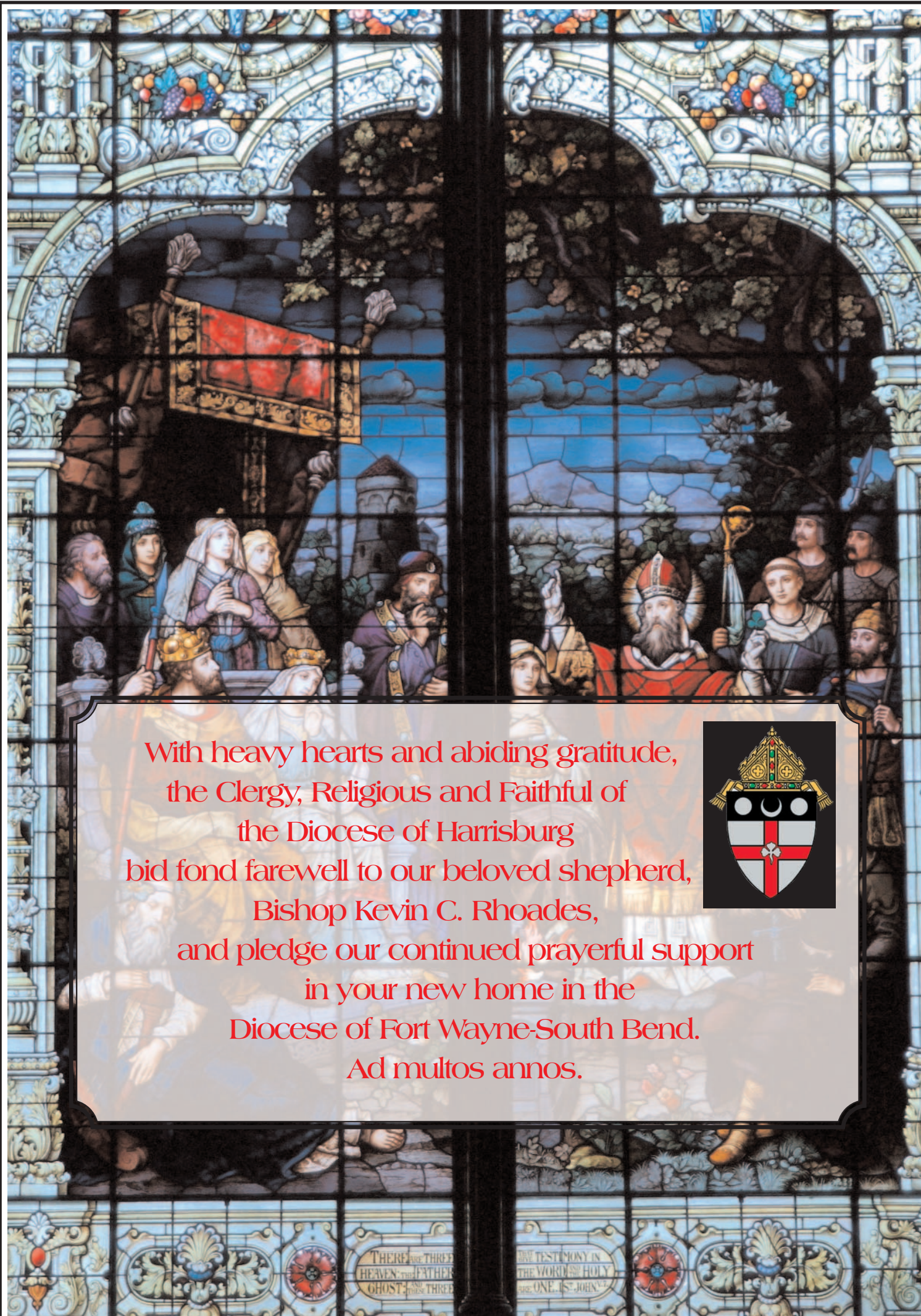
to

Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades

**upon the occasion of his installation as Bishop
of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend**

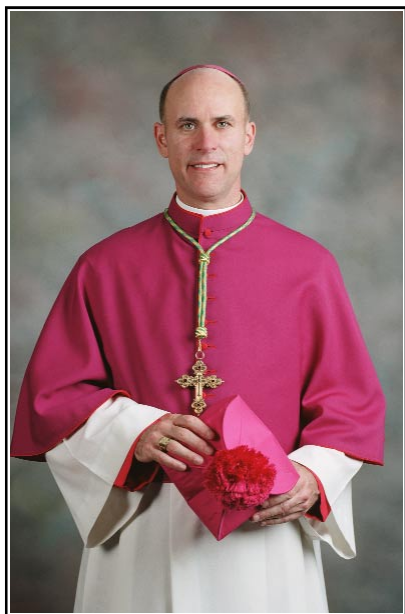


You have our prayers and best wishes



With heavy hearts and abiding gratitude,
the Clergy, Religious and Faithful of
the Diocese of Harrisburg
bid fond farewell to our beloved shepherd,
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades,
and pledge our continued prayerful support
in your new home in the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
Ad multos annos.

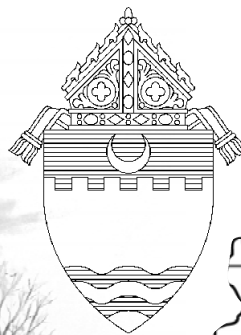




CONGRATULATIONS to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on the occasion of your INSTALLATION

as Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

from Bishop Gerald A. Gettelfinger
and the People
of the
Diocese of Evansville

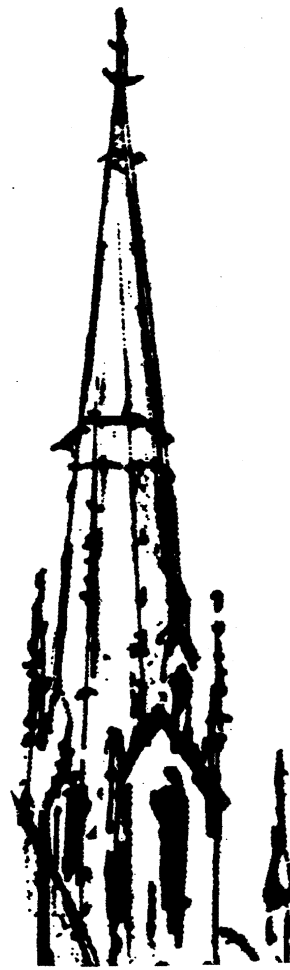


The Catholic Church in Southwestern Indiana

Welcome
Bishop Kevin Rhoades
 from the priests and people of
Holy Family Parish
 South Bend



*May God bless your ministry among us
 and fill you with His Holy Spirit.
 May He give you vision and courage
 and joy and fulfillment
 as you shepherd us on our way to Him.*



From one of the oldest
 establishments in the diocese,
 come a warm welcome
 to our new bishop,
**The Most Reverend
 Kevin C. Rhoades.**
 May blessings of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus
 be abundantly yours.

**SACRED HEART BASILICA
 NOTRE DAME**

The pastor and parishioners of
Our Lady of Hungary Parish
 and all of its various societies
 heartily welcome our new bishop,
 Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
 as the ninth bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese
 and congratulate him on the happy occasion
 of his installation and wish him a very
 successful ministry in shepherding his flock.

REV. LAWRENCE TETEH, C.S.SP (PASTOR)
 MR. AL HEET (PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN)

A Spiritual Bouquet



- For Bishop Rhoades
 from the Catholic students in the diocese:
- *One monthly Mass in honor of Bishop Rhoades
 January - May*
 - *One Rosary each month for the remainder
 of the school year - January - May.*
 - *Offer one daily petition for his intention
 for the remainder of the school year.*

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

BISHOP RHOADES
**The Saint Vincent De Paul Society's
 Fort Wayne District Council**
*Welcomes you to our diocese.
 We look forward to your guidance
 and support in the forthcoming years.
 God Bless!*

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades coat of arms

The coat of arms for Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, ninth bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, combines diocesan and personal elements.

The crescent moon at the top left of the shield symbolizes the Blessed Virgin, the patroness of the diocese and the cathedral under the title of her Immaculate Conception; the battlement, or rampart, recalling the historic foundation of the See City of Fort Wayne; and the three crosses of equal size representing the Most Blessed Trinity, the basic mystery of our faith.

The lower portion of the left side includes heraldic reference to the city and area of South Bend. The lily is a traditional symbol of St. Joseph whose name identifies the county of which South Bend is the seat and also the river which flows through it. The use of the "fleur de lis," the French form of the lily, recalls the pioneer settlement of the territory by the French and the early missionary labors of French priests, particularly Holy Cross Father Edward Sorin and his companions who founded the University of Notre Dame.

The figure of the six-winged angel is one of the four familiar symbols of the four Evangelists, in this instance of St. Matthew, patron of the co-cathedral in South Bend. The curving line between the lower two sections of the shield represents the St. Joseph River, the south bend of which gave the city its name. It is interesting to note that such curved lines are known in heraldry as "bends."

The top right of the shield, the most prominent field in Bishop Rhoades' armorial achievement, is dedicated to the Holy Eucharist and commemorates Pope John Paul II's nomination of the ecclesial year (2004-2005) throughout the Universal Church as the Year of the Eucharist. Bishop Rhoades, whose episcopal ordination took place during the eucharistic year, particularly desired to emphasize that "the church draws her life from the Eucharist," as Pope John Paul II states in the opening sentence of his encyclical, "Ecclesia de Eucharistia." Bishop Rhoades also wished to highlight the centrality of the Holy Eucharist in the life and ministry of priests and bishops as the source of pastoral charity and nourishment for self-giving service in imitation of Jesus' gift of self re-presented in the eucharistic sacrifice.

The top portion of the bish-

op's shield represents the gift of Christ's body and blood in the holy Eucharist. The deepest heraldic red background commemorates the blood of Christ poured out for us on the cross and made present in the eucharistic banquet. The Sacred Host represents the body of Christ truly present in the Eucharist and is irradiated with the golden rays of the sun as seen from behind, signifying that Jesus is the "Light of the World." The Host is

uniquely inscribed with a cipher, or monogram, bearing the initials "IHC," the first three letters of the Greek word "Jesus" (IHCOYC). The use of Greek, the original language of the New Testament and the early language of the Christian church, honors the bishop's maternal Greek heritage.

Bishop Rhoades likewise wished to honor the Mother of God and to invoke her maternal intercession in the mission of the new evangelization to which Pope John Paul II has committed the church at the beginning of the third millennium. In so doing, he selected the apparition of the Virgin of Guadalupe on Tepeyac Hill in present-day Mexico City. There, the Virgin Mary instructed the humble peasant Juan Diego, on whose feast day Kevin C. Rhoades was consecrated to the episcopacy, to return to his own local bishop to present a sign so that all in the church could believe her message to him.

When Juan Diego opened his tilma, or humble peasant's poncho, in front of his bishop, even though at that time it was deep in

the winter season when nothing in nature was in bloom, the roses that the lady had instructed Juan Diego to collect fell to the ground in a shower of brilliant color and sweet fragrance. At that instant, the glorious image of the Mother of God appeared on his tilma. And so all came to believe. This appearance of Mary had a decisive effect on the evangelization of America and so Our Lady of Guadalupe is invoked today as the patroness of all America and the Star of the first and new evangelization. The lowly peasant Juan Diego has himself been raised to the altar of sainthood.

The bottom field of the personal arms symbolically depicts the opening of Juan Diego's tilma, in the same confident belief in the Blessed Virgin embraced long ago by the humble Mexican peasant, with three roses on a silver field. Bishop Rhoades has selected the Rosa

Mystica, the red heraldic rose that centuries ago was set aside as one of the heraldic emblems for Jesus' Mother. The simple silver background of the lower half of his arms represents both spiritual purity and priesthood and the humble cloth of Juan Diego's tilma. Dividing the two separate fields of the arms is a device known in the heraldic science as

dancetty. It is a device commonly employed in heraldry to depict mountains. For Bishop Rhoades, this division device symbolically represents four specific mountain

ranges that will forever remain close to his heart: the mountains surrounding his home region of Mahanoy City, Pa.; the imposing Appenines that frame the Eternal City where the bishop prepared for priesthood; the mountains cradling his beloved Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., from whence as rector Bishop Rhoades came to Harrisburg; and the verdant peaks that are the imposing terrain of the See of Harrisburg.

Surmounting the episcopal shield is the Pilgrim's Hat, the heraldic emblem for all prelates and priests of the Latin Rite of the Roman Catholic Church. For the rank of bishop, both residential and titular, the Pilgrim's Hat is worked in deep green, the true color of the Office of Bishop. For bishops, there are six tassels suspended on either side of the hat in a pyramidal style. The hat is properly known in the church as the galero and the tassel takes the name fiocchio. These, too, are worked in green for the Office of Bishop. Behind Bishop Rhoades' coat of arms is the episcopal cross. For the rank of bishop, this cross has only one transverse arm. The cross may be

jeweled or depicted as plain, as in the case of the cross of Bishop Rhoades' heraldic achievement, and most resembles the processional cross used at Mass.

The personal Arms of Bishop Rhoades was devised by James-Charles Noonon, Jr. of Philadelphia. The impalement of the arms of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend with the personal Arms of Bishop Rhoades was undertaken by Emily MacMichael of Fort Wayne.

Episcopal Motto

In heraldry, a motto has been both a personal philosophy of life as well as a family dictum, sometimes even a cry for battle. But in church heraldry, the personal motto of a prelate has always been intended to represent his personal spirituality and theologically-based philosophy of life and is most frequently grounded in sacred Scripture.

Bishop Rhoades has selected the phrase "VERITATEM IN CARITATE" "that translates into English as "Truth in Charity." This motto, or personal philosophy, served him well in his leadership as rector of Mount Saint Mary's Seminary where he steadfastly encouraged future priests to always be faithful in proclaiming and living the truth of the Gospel in charity.

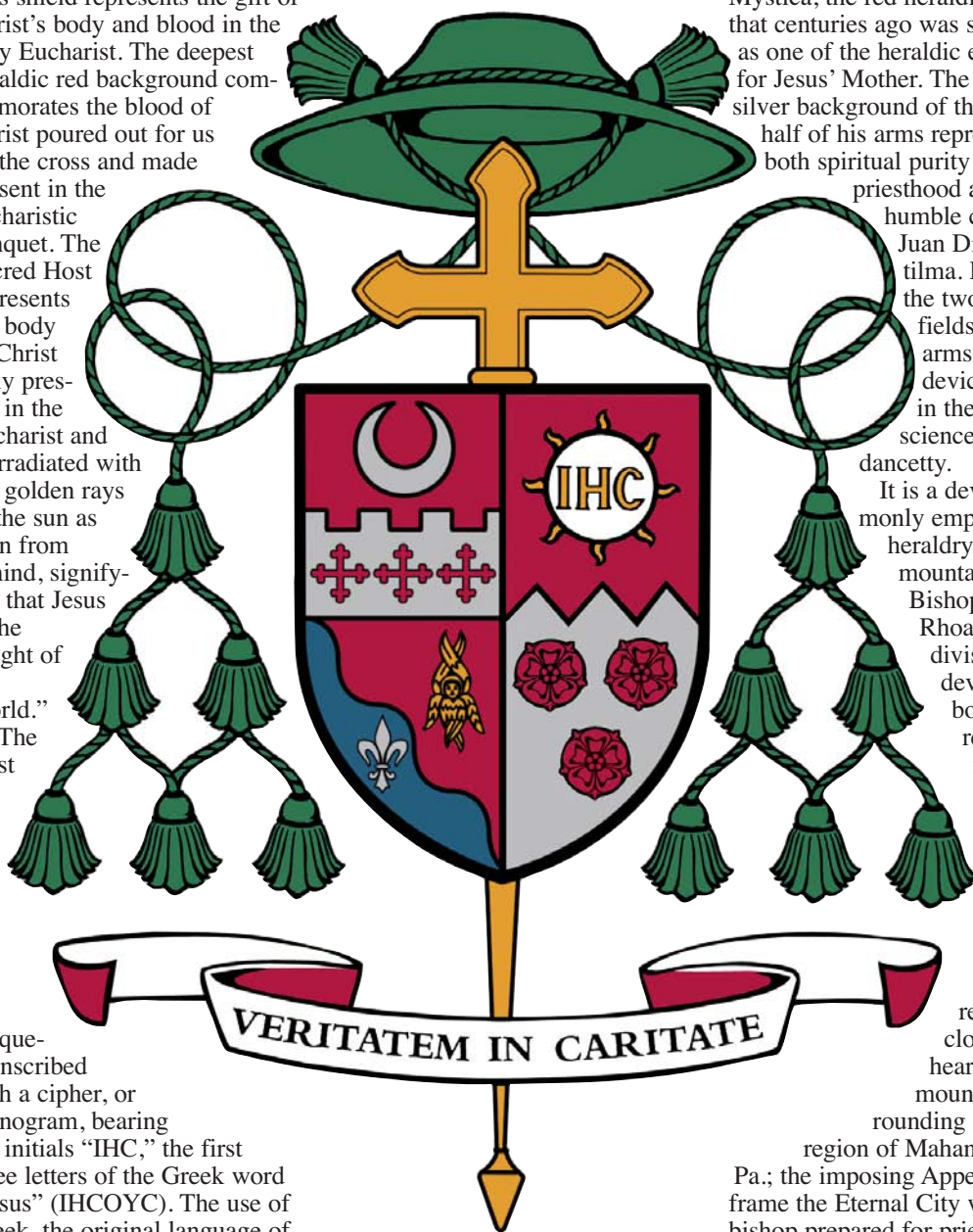
The words of this motto are found in sacred Scripture in St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians, "let us proclaim the truth in charity and grow to the full maturity of Christ the head." (4:15).

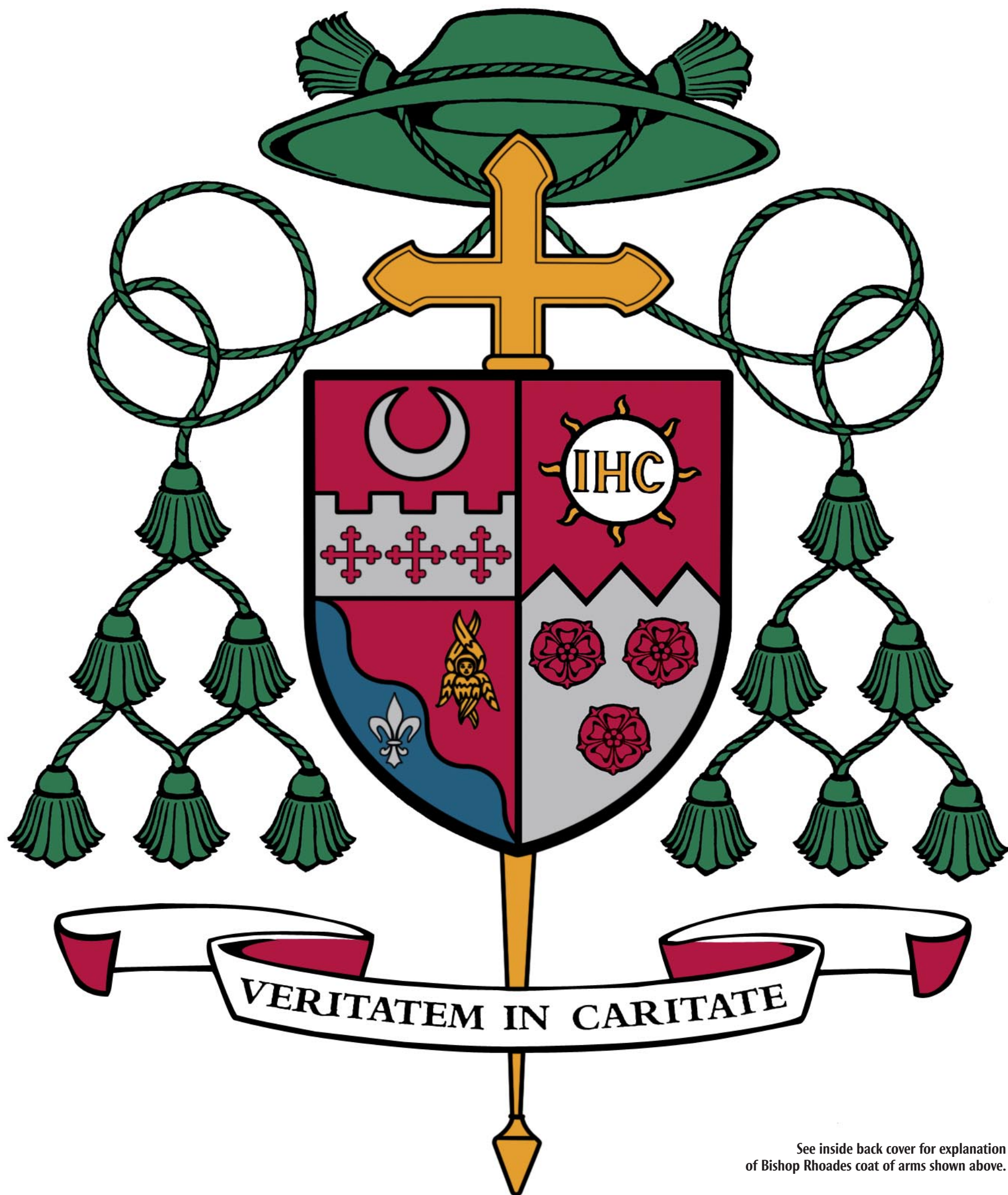
The Second Vatican Council, in its teaching on the church as the body of Christ, refers to this scriptural passage saying, "Christ continually provides in his body, that is, in the church, for gifts of ministries through which, by his power, we serve each other unto salvation so that, carrying out the truth in charity, we may through all things grow unto him who is our head."

— "Lumen Gentium" 7.

In yet another predominate document from the Second Vatican Council, the church again refers to the passage in Ephesians in its teaching on peace as the fruit of love, saying, "All Christians are earnestly to speak the truth in charity and join with all peace-loving people in pleading for peace and trying to bring it about."

— "Gaudium et Spes" 78.





See inside back cover for explanation of Bishop Rhoades coat of arms shown above.