
General History

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

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

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

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

An apostolic decree of His Holiness Pope Pius XII, creating the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, was issued October 21, 1944. On December 19, 1944, by executorial decree of the papal delegate, the Most Reverend Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, apostolic delegate to the United States, the papal decree of Pope Pius XII was solemnly proclaimed in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, elevating Indianapolis to the status of an archdiocese, the state of Indiana becoming the metropolitan area. The dioceses of Evansville and Lafayette-in-Indiana were created by the same decree and, along with the Diocese of Fort Wayne, made suffragan sees of Indianapolis. Upon establishment of the Diocese of Gary on February 25, 1957, it too became a suffragan see.

The Province of Indianapolis



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

Bishops and Archbishops of the Archdiocese

Right Rev. Simon Guillaume Gabriel Bruté de Rémur

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

Right Rev. Célestin René Laurent Guynemer de la Hailandière

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

Right Rev. John Stephen Bazin

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

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

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

Right Rev. Francis Silas Marean Chatard

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

Most Rev. Joseph Chartrand

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

Most Rev. Joseph Elmer Ritter

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

Most Rev. Paul C. Schulte

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

Most Rev. George J. Biskup

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

Most Rev. Edward T. O'Meara, STD

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

Most Rev. Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB

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

Most Rev. Joseph William Tobin, CSSR

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

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

Right Rev. Auguste M. Martin

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

Right Rev. Martin Marty, OSB

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

Right Rev. Denis O'Donaghue

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

Right Rev. Herman Alerding

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

Most Rev. Emmanuel B. Ledvina

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

Most Rev. Alphonse John Smith

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

Most Rev. James Hugh Ryan, STD, PhD

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

Most Rev. William Donald Borders

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

Most Rev. Thomas J. O'Brien

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

Most Rev. Gerald A. Gettelfinger

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

Most Rev. William E. Lori

Born in Louisville, KY, May 6, 1951, a native of New Albany. Son of Margaret (Caradonna) and Francis Lori of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Clarksville. Ordained at St. Matthew Cathedral, Washington, DC, May 14, 1977. Served in the ecumenical office of the Washington archdiocese from 1982-1984 when he was named secretary and theological advisor to Cardinal James A. Hickey. In 1994, appointed chancellor, vicar general, and moderator of the curia of the Archdiocese of Washington. Named auxiliary bishop of Washington by Pope John Paul II February 28, 1995. Ordained by Cardinal Hickey, joined by Cardinal William W. Baum, of the Apostolic Penitentiary, Rome, and Bishop William G. Curlin of Charlotte, April 20, 1995, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC. Named Bishop of Bridgeport, January 23, 2001. Installed in Bridgeport, March 19, 2001. Named archbishop of Baltimore, March 20, 2012. Installed in the Baltimore see on May 16, 2012. He is the Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus.

Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne

Born in Tell City, IN, June 15, 1959. Son of Kay (Voges) and Paul Etienne, St. Paul Parish, Tell City. Ordained at St. Paul Church in Tell City, June 27, 1992. In 2007, appointed vice-rector of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, Indianapolis. Named eighth bishop of the Diocese of Cheyenne by Pope Benedict XVI on October 19, 2009. Ordained and installed in Cheyenne by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput OFM Cap of Denver, joined by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, OSB, of Indianapolis, and Bishop David J. Ricken of Green Bay on December 9, 2009.

Note:

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

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

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

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

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

Vicars General

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

Archdiocesan Prelates

Ordained

Rev. Msgr. Lawrence J. Moran.....	May 3, 1952
Rev. Msgr. Joseph G. Riedman	May 3, 1956
Rev. Msgr. Harold L. Knueven.....	May 3, 1958
Rev. Msgr. Paul F. Richart.....	May 7, 1961
Rev. Msgr. Frederick C. Easton, JCL	May 1, 1966
Rev. Msgr. Mark A. Svarczkopf.....	June 8, 1974
Rev. Msgr. Paul D. Koetter.....	May 21, 1977
Rev. Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel	May 22, 1982
Rev. Msgr. William F. Stumpf, PhD	June 1, 1985
Rev. Msgr. Anthony R. Volz	June 1, 1985

Chronology

Foundation Dates of the Parishes and Missions

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

1820

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

1823

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

1824

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

1833

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

1834

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

1835

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

1836

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

1837

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

1838

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

1841

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

1842

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

1843

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

1844

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

1845

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

1846

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

1847

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

1848

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

1849

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

1850

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

1851

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

1852

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

1853

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

1854

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

1855

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

1856

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

1857

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

1858

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

1859

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

1860

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

1861

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

1863

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

1864

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

1865

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

1867

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

1868

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

1869

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

1870

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

1871

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

1872

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

1873

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

1874

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

1875

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

1876

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

1880

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

1881

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

1887

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

1891

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

1892

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

1894

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

1895

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

1896

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

1897

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

1903

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

1906

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

1908

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

1909

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

1912

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

1917

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

1919

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

1920

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

1921

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

1922

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

1924

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

1925

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

1934

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

1937

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

1938

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

1939

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

1940

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

1942

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

1946

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

1947

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

1948

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

1949

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

1950

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

1951

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

1952

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

1953

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

1954

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

1955

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

1956

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

1958

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

1959

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

1960

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

1961

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

1963

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

1964

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

1965

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

1967

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

1968

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

1969

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

1970

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

1983

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

1987

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

1991

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

1993

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

1994

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

1995

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

1996

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

1997

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

1998

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

2000

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

2001

- Montezuma, Immaculate Conception: closed.

2009

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

2011

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

2012

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

2013

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

2014

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

Important Events

July 1, 2014– June 30, 2015

2014

July 9

Affiliated Women's Services, one of four abortion centers in Indianapolis, closed due to financial difficulties. It had been performing abortions for 32 years.

July 25

Members of 13 parishes in the archdiocese took part in focus-group meetings to explore the feasibility of a new Catholic high school south of Indianapolis.

August 5

Two new novices were welcomed into Saint Meinrad Archabbey. Charles Peñalosa and John Avery II began a year of monastic formation.

August 6

Benedictine Novice Dane DeDecker professed temporary vows as a Benedictine monk during a liturgy at the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln at Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad. Novice Dane will now be known as Brother André.

Prior to entering the monastery, he had worked for 12 years as an over-the-road truck driver.

August 9

Central Indiana Cursillo Community celebrated 50 years of existence with a Mass and reception at St. Susanna Church in Plainfield. Bishop Timothy L. Doherty of the Lafayette Diocese was the main celebrant. Cursillo, Spanish for "short course," is a three-day weekend retreat during which lay people try to become more effective Christian leaders through piety, study and action. Father Glenn O'Connor serves as co-spiritual director of the Central Indiana Cursillo Community with Father Mike McKinney of the Lafayette Diocese.

August 11

Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin announced that he had relegated St. Malachy Church in Brownsburg to "profane but not sordid" use following the move of the parish church to a new location. St. Mary Magdalene Church was relegated to "profane but not sordid" use after the parish merged with Prince of Peace Parish in Madison.

August 13

Archbishop Tobin celebrated Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Terre Haute marking the implementation of the Terre Haute Deanery plan that merged four parishes in the deanery, broadened support for St. Patrick School in Terre Haute to all parishes in the deanery and maintained the outreach ministries in the area while working to build new ones. A dinner followed the Mass.

August 15

Missionary Sister of Our Lady of Africa Demetria Smith, retired mission educator for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, celebrated 60 years of religious life. She served several stints as a nurse and a midwife in Uganda, including a time when she trained other nurses there. She also served her religious community in the United States, including a mission education assignment in Washington, DC.

September 7

Auxiliary Bishop Christopher J. Coyne blessed the new Harvest Food Pantry at SS. Francis and Clare Parish in Greenwood.

September 8

Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary celebrated 10 years since its founding. Forty-two seminarians from eight dioceses and archdioceses are currently enrolled at the seminary. Father Robert Robeson has been the seminary's rector since its founding.

September 10

Dr. Joseph Hamann was named president of Indianapolis West Deanery Unified Catholic Schools, which includes Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School and St. Michael-St. Gabriel the Archangel Elementary School.

September 12

Ten Sisters of Providence celebrated golden jubilees of their entrance into religious life. Celebrating anniversaries were: Sister Carole Ann (formerly Sister Joseph Marie) Fedders, Sister Mary Beth (Mary Hope) Klingel, Sister Constance (Marita) Kramer, Sister Mary (Jolene) Mundy, Sister Rosemary (Elizabeth Mary) Nudd, Sister Loretta Picucci, Sister Barbara (Alexa Marie) Reder, Sister Joan (Denis Mary) Slobig, Sister Marsha (Marcia Ann) Speth and Sister Ann (John Margaret) Sullivan.

September 14

Archbishop Tobin announced a change in the governance of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Effective Oct. 1, Auxiliary Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, vicar general, will assume pastoral responsibility for the New Albany, Seymour and Tell City deaneries. Msgr. William F. Stumpf was assigned as moderator of the curia and as vicar general in addition to Bishop Coyne.

Mary, Queen of Peace Parish in Danville celebrated its 75th anniversary on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Archbishop Tobin and Father Michael Fritsch, pastor, concelebrated the liturgy.

September 22

Archbishop Tobin announced that he had relegated St. Denis Church in Jennings County to "profane but not sordid" use.

September 27

Twenty-one men were received as candidates for the permanent diaconate by Archbishop Tobin during Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. This group will form the third group of candidates for the permanent diaconate in the archdiocese; the first group was selected 10 years ago.

The Sisters of St. Benedict of Beech Grove bestowed Angel of Grace awards on three women. The awards are named after three archangels mentioned by name in Scripture: Gabriel, messenger of good news to Mary and Zechariah; Michael, defender of heaven, who cast Lucifer and other disobedient angels into hell, and Raphael, the traveling companion of Tobias.

For the last seven years, the Sisters of St. Benedict in Beech Grove have identified three women who have heroically served in the roles of messenger, defender and companion, and have recognized their service with an “Angel of Grace” award.

This year, the “angels” selected for recognition were Donna M. Oklak, a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis, who received the “messenger” Archangel Gabriel Award; Judy O’Bannon, who received the “defender” Archangel Michael Award; and Lori Hofmann, a member of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis, who received the “companion” Archangel Raphael Award.

October 1

Father James Rogers, a priest of the Evansville Diocese who was ordained in 1939 as a priest of the then-Diocese of Indianapolis, died at St. Paul Hermitage in Beech Grove. He was 100 years old.

October 2

Annette “Mickey” Lentz received the 2014 Woman for All Seasons Award from the St. Thomas More Society of Indianapolis. The society honored her for her commitment to promote justice in the community.

October 5

During a Respect Life Mass celebrated at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, the Office of Pro-Life and Family Life presented Mary and Matt Keck, of St. Michael Parish, Brookville, the 2014 Archbishop O’Meara Respect Life Award. Curtis Bouchier, of St. Malachy Parish, Brownsburg, received the 2014 Our Lady of Guadalupe Pro-Life Youth Award at the same ceremony.

John Ryan, a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis, was installed as president of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s Indianapolis Council. Patrick Jerrell, a member of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis, had held the position since 2008. James Vento, a member of St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, in Carmel, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese, was named the council’s first executive director.

October 6

In recognition of his lifelong dedication to Catholic education, Fred Klipsch received the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Award from the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) in Washington. Klipsch was honored for developing the Indiana Scholarship Tax Credit Program and for his work with the Educational CHOICE Trust, which, over the past 20 years, has distributed more than \$20 million to students across Indiana, and increased school enrollment with vouchers for students.

October 22

On Foundation Day (the day Saint Theodora Guérin and her five companion-Sisters of Providence first set foot on the soil of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods), the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods and Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College began a celebration of 175 years since their founding. The theme for the yearlong celebration is “Rooted for Tomorrow.”

October 23

Judy Harpenau, a member of St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus, was honored by Children’s Place International for her lifelong dedication and commitment to helping impoverished children.

October 24

In September, the National Association of Women in Construction honored James Ratliff, a teacher at Roncalli High School and an architect, for the “extraordinary achievement of 10 national winners” in an annual national architectural design competition. Ratliff has been a teacher at Roncalli for 49 years.

Ott Hurre, head football coach at Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis, was awarded the national 2014 Power of Influence Award by the American Football Coaches Association and American Football Coaches Foundation. He has been a coach 41 years, 37 years at Scecina.

The Honor Roll, part of The Cardinal Newman Society, named Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis a 2014 School of Excellence. Bishop Chatard was one 71 Catholic schools in the country and three in Indiana to receive the 2014 recognition.

October 25

The final section of the permanent shrine for Indiana’s only saint, St. Theodora Guérin, opened.

October 28

Father John Mannion, retired long-term chaplain at St. Francis Hospital in Indianapolis, received the Blessed Maria Theresia Award from Franciscan Alliance health system. The award is named in honor of Blessed Maria Theresia Bonzel, foundress of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, the order which created Franciscan Alliance. The award is presented to a person who exemplifies the personal qualities of the foundress. Father Mannion began working as a certified chaplain at St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove in 1988, and was promoted to director of spiritual care services in 1999. Father Mannion served twice as the Indiana representative to the National Association of Catholic Chaplains and received that organization’s Outstanding Service Award for Region VII. With St. Francis Hospital (now part of Franciscan Alliance), Father Mannion served on and chaired the St. Francis Institutional Ethics Committee and provided internal training, among other tasks.

October 29

The Catholic Community Foundation held its annual meeting at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis. The foundation posted a gain of 15.4 percent for fiscal year ending on June 30—a significant increase over the previous year’s 10.8 percent gain. The value of the foundation’s 435 funds stood at nearly \$171 million as of June 30.

November 2

More than 820 Catholic teenagers participated in the Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference at Marian University in Indianapolis. Ansel Augustine, youth director of the Office of Black Catholic Ministry for the Archdiocese of New Orleans, was the keynote speaker.

November 5

The “Celebrating Catholic School Values: Scholarship and Career Achievement Awards” event was held at the Crowne Plaza Grand Hall at Union Station in Indianapolis. Father James Wilmoth, administrator of St. Roch Parish in Indianapolis, and Robert Desautels, a member of St. Pius X Parish, Indianapolis, received Career Achievement Awards, and Daniel and Beth Elsener, St. Barnabas Parish, Indianapolis, were honored with the Community Service Award. Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, archbishop emeritus of Washington, was the keynote speaker.

November 8

Our Lady of Providence Jr./Sr. High School in Clarksville won its second straight state Class 2A volleyball championship.

November 9

Benedictine Father Anthony Vinson, administrator of St. Meinrad Parish in St. Meinrad and St. Boniface Parish in Fulda, received the 2014 Recognition Award from the National Religious Vocation Conference at its anniversary banquet in Chicago.

November 11

Bishop Christopher Coyne was elected by the bishops of the United States as chair-elect of the bishops’ Committee on Communications.

November 14

Dr. Peter Blankenship received a commendation recognizing him for 26 years of volunteer service at the Little Sisters of the Poor St. Augustine Home for the Aged in Indianapolis.

November 15

The first Intercultural Ministry Awards Dinner was held at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis. Providence Sister Marikay Duffy and Fathers Michael O’Mara and Kenneth Taylor were recognized for their commitment to building up the body of Christ. Archbishop Tobin was the keynote speaker.

St. Roch School’s Junior Spell Bowl Team of Indianapolis won its third straight state title in the Indiana Association of School Principals Spell Bowl State Championship. They were led by coaches Mary Ann Chamberlin and Carol Golden.

November 19

The new Women’s Care Center was blessed by Archbishop Tobin. Founded in South Bend, Ind., in 1984, Women’s Care Center is a 100 percent donor-funded organization that builds facilities near abortion centers. At its 23 facilities spread among seven states, free counseling and ultrasounds are offered to women considering abortion. The centers also support women during and after pregnancy. The facility in Indianapolis is the group’s newest. The center was built next to a Planned Parenthood facility.

November 29

Cathedral High School in Indianapolis won the Class 5A state football championship.

November 30

The merger of St. Bernadette Parish and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Indianapolis became effective.

Holy Cross Parish in Indianapolis merged with St. Philip Neri Parish.

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis named a new faith community St. John Paul II. The community, located in Clark County, was the result of the merger of St. Joseph Parish in Clark County and St. Paul Parish in Sellersburg.

December 6

Ed Tinder, executive director of the Catholic Youth Organization in the archdiocese, received the 2014 National Catholic Youth Ministry Award during the closing ceremony of the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry in San Antonio, Texas.

December 9

The Ave Maria Guild presented St. Paul Hermitage in Beech Grove with a check for \$4,800 and an additional \$500 specifically designated to the retirement and nursing facility's capital campaign.

December 11

The Indianapolis chapter of Legatus celebrated its 25th anniversary with a Mass at St. Michael the Archangel Church followed by dinner and a program at Woodstock Club.

December 12

Ed Isakson, archdiocesan director of human resources and Annette "Mickey" Lentz, archdiocesan chancellor, accepted the 2013-2014 Culture of Health trophy and plaque from CHC Wellness, a provider of health and wellness programs to archdiocesan employees.

December 14

Franciscan Father Arturo Ocampo, pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Indianapolis from 2004–2013, died. He was 66.

December 22

Pope Francis named Indianapolis Auxiliary Bishop Christopher J. Coyne to head the Diocese of Burlington, VT.

Holy Cross Father James F. Blaes died. He was 88. Father Blaes was born in Indianapolis and attended St. Joan of Arc Elementary School and Cathedral High School.

2015

January 16

Marion County Superior Court Judge James B. Osborn ordered Lawrence Township to provide public bus transportation for eligible students attending St. Lawrence and St. Simon the Apostle schools in Lawrence Township. In 2010, Lawrence Township ended bus service for the students.

Twenty-eight members of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods celebrated jubilee anniversaries as members of their congregation. Sister Rosalie Marie Weller marked her 80th anniversary. Celebrating 75th anniversaries were Sister Catherine (formerly Sister Jean Loretto) Arkenberg, Sister Agnes (Agnes Virginia) Arvin, Sister Rose Marita Riordan; Sister Mary Loyola Bender; Sister Bernadette Mary Carroll; Sister Mary Imelda Coulup; and Sister Helen Dolores Losleben. Marking their 70th anniversaries were Sister Kathleen Mary Gay, Sister Rita Clare Gerardot, Sister Mildred (Alma Joseph) Giesler, Sister Ann Jeanette Gootee, Sister Dorothy (Francis Ellen) Hucksoll, Sister Kathryn (Alfreda Marie) Koressel, Sister Anne (Marie Robert) Krause, Sister Florence (Thomas Ann) Norton, Sister Marie Victoria Podesta and Sister Miriam Clare Stoll. Sisters celebrating their 60th anniversaries as members of the congregation were Sister Kathleen (Marie Arthur) Dede, Sister Ruth Ellen Doane, Sister Betty (Clare Patrice) Donoghue, Sister Joseph Fillenwarth, Sister Mary Rita (Mary Paula) Griffin, Sister Carolyn (Ann Carolyn), Kessler, Sister Dorothy (Margaret Marian) Larson, Sister Maria (Maria Goretti) Smith, Sister Suzanne (Louise) Smith, and Sister Marilyn (Robert Louise) Trobaugh.

January 18

Retired Father Hilary Meny celebrated his 100th birthday. He was in active service in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis for 50 years.

January 19

The Benedictine monastic community of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad welcomed five novices. Novice Peter Szidik, 25, of Grand Rapids, Mich. He holds a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. Novice Jinu Thomas, 24, is a native of India who moved to the United States in 2009. He holds a degree in engineering physics from the University of Illinois in Champaign, Ill. Novice Timothy Herrmann, 27, of Findlay, Ohio, is a graduate of the University of Dayton, where he earned a bachelor's degree in communication management. Novice Thomas Fish, 24, of Poway, Calif., graduated in 2013 from Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, Calif., where he earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology. Novice Jonathan Blaize, 28, of Mount Carmel, Ill., is a graduate of Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, where he earned a bachelor's degree in English literature.

January 22

The annual solemn remembrance of *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that opened the way for abortion on demand, was held at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Tobin followed by a prayerful procession along Meridian Street.

January 25

An ecumenical prayer service that concluded the Church Unity Octave, the time when Christian communities pray for unification, was held at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

January 29

Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, former auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, was installed as the 10th bishop of the Diocese of Burlington.

February 6

The New Albany Deanery Catholic Youth Ministries celebrated 50 years of ministering to youths and young adults in Clark, Floyd and Harrison counties in southern Indiana.

February 27

Terri Purichia, volleyball coach at Our Lady of Providence Jr./Sr. High School in Clarksville, was chosen as the 2014 Coach of the Year for volleyball in Indiana. The honor came from the coaches' association of the National Federation of State High School Associations.

March 6

Joann Feltz, an attorney and mother of three, was named director of planned giving for the Catholic Community Foundation of the archdiocese. She is a member of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis.

March 11

The Sanctity of Life Dinner, sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life and Family Life, was held at Primo Banquet Hall and Conference Center in Indianapolis. Eileen Hartman, president and executive director of the Great Lakes Gabriel Project, was honored for her work to further the pro-life cause. Archbishop Tobin was the keynote speaker.

March 13

The five Catholic bishops in Indiana issued a pastoral letter titled "Poverty at the Crossroads: the Church's Response to Poverty in Indiana." The letter challenges people in the state to make the needs of the poor a priority and to take action to reduce the effects of poverty.

March 17

St. Patrick Parish in Indianapolis celebrated its 150th year.

March 20

Amy Wilson, fifth-grade teacher at St. Roch School in Indianapolis, was chosen as the recipient of the Saint Theodora Guérin Excellence in Education Award.

The archdiocese implemented the "Circle of Grace" religious education program for kindergarten students in the schools. Providence Sister Cathy Campbell coordinates the program.

March 25

A new 16-foot by 16-foot brick bas-relief sculpture of the Nativity was dedicated at Marian University. It adorns the east wall of Marian University's new Alumni Hall.

March 27

Holy Trinity Parish in Indianapolis was closed on May 21 by decree of Archbishop Tobin. The parish was merged into St. Anthony Parish in Indianapolis.

April 1

Indiana's five Catholic bishops issued a statement supporting the state's Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), which was signed into law on March 26 by Indiana Gov. Mike Pence. The bishops expressed their support for efforts in Indiana both to defend the dignity of all persons and the rights of all people of all religions to be free from "undue burden from the government" in the practice of their faith.

April 4

More than 1,050 people were welcomed into the Church during the Easter Vigil.

April 6

John E. Etling, a social-welfare leader in the archdiocese, died at the age of 85. Etling led Catholic Charities in Terre Haute for 32 years from its inception in 1973 until his retirement in 2005.

April 7

Jenny Lents, a language arts teacher at St. Louis School in Batesville, was chosen to receive the Distinguished Educator Award from the National Catholic Educational Association. She received the award at the association's annual convention.

April 10

The Sisters of St. Benedict of Our Lady of Grace Monastery elected Sister Jennifer Mechtild Horner as the eighth prioress of the monastery in Beech Grove.

April 11

Seven men were ordained as transitional deacons for service to the Church in central and southern Indiana. The ordination liturgy was celebrated at the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln in St. Meinrad. Ordained were: Nicolás Ajpacajá Tzoc, James Brockmeier, Anthony Hollowell, Douglas Hunter, Kyle Rodden and Matthew Tucci for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and Meril Sahayam for the Diocese of Palayamkottai, India.

Msgr. John M. Wright, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and U.S. Navy chaplain, died on April 11 at his home at Nazareth House, a Catholic retirement facility in San Diego, Calif. He was 78. Msgr. Wright served for 30 years as a Navy chaplain from 1967-97, retiring with the rank of captain. Early on in his service, he ministered as a chaplain in the Vietnam War.

April 16

The “A Promise to Keep,” chastity program, celebrated 20 years of helping more than 10,000 archdiocesan teenagers to keep their promises to live chaste lives. It has also been helping those same teens mentor more than 100,000 junior high students to do the same.

April 18

Archbishop Tobin re-established the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council. The group of advisors representing the broad spectrum of laity, clergy and religious throughout the archdiocese had its first business meeting at St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus.

April 30

The archdiocese honored recipients of the Spirit of Service Awards with a dinner at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in Indianapolis. Recipients of the award were: Steve Rasmussen, member of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis; Zach Smith, member of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis; and Gene Hawkins, member of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis. Oldenburg Franciscan Sister Norma Rocklage received the Community Service Award. Jack Doyle, quarterback for the Indianapolis Colts, was the featured speaker.

May 1

During the month of May, more than 800 students were graduated from Catholic colleges located in the archdiocese.

May 2

The Catholic Charities Disaster Response Logistics Center in North Vernon was blessed during a special ceremony. Before the blessing of the new logistics center, Mass was celebrated by Father Steven Schaftlein, now pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin and Holy Trinity Parish in Edinburgh; Father Jerry Byrd, administrator of St. Ann and St. Joseph parishes in Jennings County and St. Mary Parish in North Vernon; and Father Clement Davis, pastor of St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus.

May 6

The St. John Bosco Medal for distinguished volunteer service to youth was presented to five individuals by the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO). The 2015 recipients were: Marni Fey, St. Jude Parish, Indianapolis; Amy Stimpson, St. Matthew the Apostle Parish, Indianapolis; Ken Troy, St. Maria Goretti Parish, Westfield, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese; Steve Battiato, St. Barnabas Parish, Indianapolis; and John Kistner, St. Christopher Parish, Indianapolis. The CYO also honored 20 adults with the Msgr. Albert Busald Award and 14 young people with the Spirit of Youth Award.

May 8

More than 1,350 students were graduated from 12 Catholic high schools in the archdiocese.

May 16

Nearly 60 people were graduated from the archdiocese’s Intercultural Pastoral Formation Institute. Ceremonies took place at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

May 17

Archbishop Tobin blessed a new shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Mary Parish in New Albany. The event marked another step in the process of integrating St. Mary's English- and Spanish-speaking communities. In the 622-member families of the parish, the Hispanic community has grown to more than 100 families, or 16 percent of the parish, with roots throughout Central and South America.

May 18

Benedictine Father Cyprian Davis died at age 84. He was a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad and a leading authority on black Catholic history in America.

May 18-21

Ken Ogorek, archdiocesan director of catechesis, was elected president of the National Conference of Catechetical Leadership during the organization's national meeting in Buffalo, NY. He will serve as president for three years.

May 19

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College announced its decision to become a co-educational institution. College President Dottie King attributed the change to lack of enrollment, which has been ongoing since 1970.

May 24

Archbishop Tobin celebrated Mass on the grounds of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis before the running of the 99th Indianapolis 500 Mile Race. Concelebrating at the Mass was Msgr. William F. Stumpf, vicar general; Father Glenn O'Connor, pastor of St. Susanna Parish in Plainfield and chaplain of the Indianapolis International Airport and Father Joseph Feltz, pastor of St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg.

June 6

Three transitional deacons of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis were ordained at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis: Adam Ahern, Michael Keucher and Andrew Syberg.

June 7

Benedictine Sister Jennifer Mechtild Horner was installed as prioress of the Benedictine Monastery of Our Lady of Grace in Beech Grove.

Deacon Luke Waugh, a Benedictine monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, was ordained a priest by Archbishop Tobin during Mass at the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln in St. Meinrad.

June 16-19

Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis hosted its 10th Bishop Bruté Days event for boys 13–17 who are open to a possibility of a call to the priesthood.

June 19

Three archdiocesan priests celebrated 50-year jubilees: Father James Wilmoth, Father Mauro Rodas and Father Donald Buchanan.

St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities building in New Albany earned two awards for preservation excellence of the 145-year-old building. The awards were presented by The Historic Preservation Commission and the Department of Natural Resources Division of Preservation and Archaeology.

June 24-26

Two staff members of *The Criterion* were honored for excellence in journalism by the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada. Mike Krokos, editor, received an Honorable Mention—Best Editorial, National/International Issue. Sean Gallagher, staff writer, received an Honorable Mention—Best Sports Journalism, Sports Feature.

June 28

St. Benedict Parish in Terre Haute celebrated its 150th anniversary with a Mass. It was founded in 1865 by German immigrants.

