



**HOLY FATHER APPOINTS MOST REVEREND R. DANIEL CONLON
AS NEW BISHOP FOR THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET**

JOLIET, ILLINOIS May 17, 2011



His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, has named **Most Reverend R. Daniel Conlon**, currently Bishop in the Diocese of Steubenville, Ohio, as the new Bishop for the Diocese of Joliet-in-Illinois.

The appointment was announced in Washington on May 17, 2011 by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States.

After his installation, Bishop-designate Conlon will be the fifth Bishop for the Diocese of Joliet, which includes more than 655,000 Catholics throughout seven counties in the northeast part of Illinois. He will be installed on July 14, 2011 at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus in Joliet.

Bishop Conlon succeeds Bishop J. Peter Sartain, the previous bishop of the diocese, who was installed as Archbishop of Seattle in December 2010. Since then, the day-to-day operation of the Diocese of Joliet has been handled by its Diocesan Administrator, Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Siegel.

Commenting about the new appointment, Bishop Siegel said, "I was overjoyed to receive the news. I know Bishop Conlon will be a blessing to the people of the Diocese of Joliet, building on the strong foundation laid by his predecessors. I look forward to working with him and acquainting him with our Diocese."

Bishop Robert Daniel Conlon was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on December 4, 1948. His parents, both still living, are Robert and Carla (Holzman) Conlon. He is the oldest of six children.

He completed a Master of Divinity degree in 1975 at the Athenaeum of Ohio/Mt. St. Mary's Seminary of the West in Cincinnati and was ordained a priest on January 15, 1977 at St. Agnes Church by Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin.

He served as associate pastor at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Anderson Township, Cincinnati from February 1977 until July 1982. Beginning in August 1981 until August 1983 he served as Director of the Office of Planning and Research and Assistant Chancellor in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

For the next three and a half years, he studied Canon Law at St. Paul University in Ottawa, Ontario, earning the degrees of Doctor of Canon Law and Doctor of Philosophy in January 1987.

He returned to Cincinnati to become the archdiocesan Chancellor and Director of the Department of Executive Services, serving in those capacities until July 1996 when he was named pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish, New Bremen, Ohio. He served there until he was ordained and installed as Bishop of Steubenville on August 6, 2002.

As Bishop of Steubenville, he has taken a number of steps to promote and safeguard the faith, including the development of quality catechesis. Promoting the ongoing formation of priests and new priestly vocations have also been priorities for him. He has worked closely with Franciscan University of Steubenville. Bishop Conlon has personally visited all the parishes and schools of the diocese numerous times.

He has served as the Episcopal Advisor for the Catholic Committee of Appalachia since January 2005. In December 2006, he was appointed to a three-year term on the Bishops' Committee for the Protection of Children and Young People; in November 2010 he was elected as Chair-elect of the same committee. He served as a member of the Marriage and Family Life Committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and helped to draft the pastoral letter, *Marriage and Life in the Divine Plan*.

In his spare time, Bishop Conlon enjoys hiking, reading, and socializing with friends.

Bishop-designate Conlon stated. "I consider it a great privilege to be named as Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet with its rich history and I look forward to working with those who generously share their gifts to support the many ministries in this diocese. I look forward to a bright future in this vibrant and growing church. Thank you for your warm welcome."

For more information contact:

Doug Delaney
Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Diocese of Joliet
425 Summit Street
Joliet, IL 60435
Office: 815-722-6606 ext. 228
Fax: 815-722-6632
Email: ddelaney@dioceseofjoliet.org