



DIOCESE *of* LACROSSE

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

November 10, 2005

To the priests of the Diocese of La Crosse:
My dear brothers in Christ,

I announce to you with joy the honor bestowed on eight of our brother priests. They have been named members of the Papal Household. They are: Fathers Charles Blecha, J. Floyd Dwyer, Richard Gilles, Robert Hundt, Edmund Klimek, Edwin Knauf, John Malik and Bernard McGarty. This is not merely an individual honor but rather a recognition of the great and tireless work of the entire presbyterate. All true priests seek to serve Christ in His Church. You, the Presbyterate of the Diocese of La Crosse, have been "other Christs" to the faithful you serve. This is itself the greatest privilege and honor.

As your bishop, I will always seek to hold forth to our communities the dedicated services you render to your parishes and civic communities. I will seek all avenues and opportunities to promote the priesthood and the accomplishments of the priests of our Diocese. This is one way that we may give recognition; but it will not be the only way to praise and support the good works of our brothers. I pray that this recognition bestowed by our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI will be a source of inspiration and a celebration of the priesthood for all of the priests of the Diocese of La Crosse.

The new Monsignors will concelebrate a Mass with me in the Cathedral of Saint Joseph the Workman on Sunday, December 18, at 2:00 p.m. Please pray for them and for vocations in our diocese.

With sentiments of fraternal esteem, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Jerome E. ListECKi
Bishop of La Crosse