Solemn Mass of Consecration and Installation of the
MOST REVEREND JOHN CURTIS IFFERT
ELEVENTH BISHOP OF COVINGTON

ST. MARY’S CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE ASSUMPTION
Cathedral Square | 1130 Madison Avenue
Covington, Kentucky

The Thirtieth Day of September
The Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-One
Three o’clock in the Afternoon
MOST REVEREND ROGER JOSEPH FOYS
Bishop Emeritus of Covington and Co-Consecrator
The Diocese of Covington, Kentucky, was erected on July 29, 1853, by Pope Blessed Pius IX with Bishop George Aloysius Carrell, S.J. as its first bishop. At the time, it consisted of half of the Commonwealth of Kentucky with six priests and few Catholics. Today, over 150 years later, the Diocese of Covington has nearly 100,000 Catholics, 100 priests, 48 parishes, five missions, 15 Religious communities, 39 schools, a retreat center, a University, and a hospital system.

St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption

Modeled after France’s great Gothic Cathedrals of Saint Denis and Notre Dame, St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption was begun in 1894 by Covington’s Third Bishop, Camillus Paul Maes. On December 8, 1953, Pope Pius XII elevated St. Mary’s Cathedral to the rank of minor basilica under the Episcopate of Bishop William T. Mulloy. While much of the Cathedral Basilica’s construction and decoration were completed by 1915, much of the work envisioned by Bishop Maes remained unfinished, awaiting the contribution of future generations.

In 2001, Bishop Robert W. Muench, Ninth Bishop of Covington, renovated the Cathedral Basilica and helped address numerous structural issues, including the addition of a new HVAC system. His successor, Bishop Roger J. Foys, continued to beautify the Cathedral Basilica with the addition of three monumental projects: In 2019, the remains of Bishop Camillus Paul Maes were solemnly entombed in a new Crypt at the Cathedral Basilica; In 2021, twenty-four statues and two tympana were added to the façade, completing the vision of Bishop Maes; and additionally in 2021, a new Relic Shrine, dedicated to St. Paul with 300+ relics, was consecrated and dedicated in the Cathedral Basilica apse.

Thomas More University

Founded in 1921 by the Benedictine Sisters as Villa Madonna College, Thomas More University is a small liberal arts university consistently ranked by U.S. News and World Report as one of the best regional universities in the South and ranks highest among other private and public colleges and universities in Kentucky. The University serves more than 2,000 students from across the country and around the world.

St. Elizabeth Healthcare

Founded by Henrietta Cleveland with the support of the Diocese of Covington and the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor in 1861, St. Elizabeth has served Northern Kentucky and the Greater Cincinnati region ever since. It is home to more than 10,000 associates and a Medical Staff of nearly 1,200 physicians and advanced practice providers. As a Catholic healthcare ministry, St. Elizabeth provides comprehensive and compassionate care to improve the health of the people they serve.
Bishop Carrell receiving the Bull erecting the Diocese of Covington from Pope Blessed Pius IX.

Detail, Saint Paul Relic Shrine Altarpiece, St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption
# BISHOPS OF COVINGTON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Most Reverend George Aloysius Carrell, S.J.</th>
<th>1853 – 1868</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>JESU DULCIS MEMORIA</strong> <em>(Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Most Reverend Augustus Maria Toebbe</td>
<td>1869 – 1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>O COR VICTIMA AMORIS</strong> <em>(O Heart, Victim of Love)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Most Reverend Camillus Paul Maes</td>
<td>1884 – 1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>CRUX MIHI DUX</strong> <em>(The Cross is My Leader)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Most Reverend Ferdinand Brossart</td>
<td>1915 – 1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>SECTARE CARITATEM</strong> <em>(Charity First)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Most Reverend Francis William Howard</td>
<td>1923 – 1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>IN SPIRITU LENITATIS</strong> <em>(In the Spirit of Meekness)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. Most Reverend William Theodore Mulloy</td>
<td>1944 – 1959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>DOCETE FILIOS VESTROS</strong> <em>(Teach Your Children)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>QUIA TU MECUM ES</strong> <em>(Because You Are With Me)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>TO SERVE, NOT TO BE SERVED</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>JESUS MUST INCREASE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X. Most Reverend Roger Joseph Foys</td>
<td>2002 – 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto: <strong>LUCEAT LUX VESTRA</strong> <em>(Let Your Light Shine)</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Most Reverend John Iffert was born on Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 1967, in DuQuoin, Illinois to John and Mary Iffert; he has two sisters, Kim and Kathy. The family lived on a small farm on the outskirts of the town and they were active members of Sacred Heart Church. From the age of eight, Fr. John was a reader at Sunday Mass and later an altar server. He attended Sacred Heart School and DuQuoin High School.

After high school, Fr. Iffert attended Illinois State University and earned a Bachelors degree in political science. He accepted a fellowship with the State of Illinois and worked as an analyst in Illinois’ Bureau of the Budget.

At St. Joseph Parish in Springfield, Illinois, Fr. Iffert was a catechist, preparing young Catholics for Confirmation. He became active in Koinonia and Teens Encounter Christ. These movements helped Fr. Iffert develop the habits of daily prayer, daily scripture reading, and daily Eucharist. He recommends these practices for every Catholic who seeks a closer relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church.


From 2008 to 2021, Fr. Iffert was pastor of St. Mary the Immaculate Conception Parish in Mount Vernon, Illinois. In 2014, he was also appointed pastor of St. Barbara Parish in Scheller, Illinois. During his tenure, St. Mary Parish achieved their goal of building a new parish church. The church and altar were dedicated on January 13, 2013.

Fr. Iffert also worked alongside Mount Vernon’s community and church leaders to found Lifeboat Alliance Family Shelter, where they “help people who are homeless weather life’s storms.” In 2013, this ecumenical ministry received the Governor’s Cup Award as an exemplary community-based project. This distinction is granted to only one project in the State of Illinois each year.

From 2010 to 2020, Fr. Iffert served as Vicar Forane of first the East and then the North Central Vicariate. In 2014, he was appointed Co-Vicar for Priests. Fr. Iffert has served the Diocese of Belleville as a member of the College of Consultants, the Presbyteral Council, the Priest Personnel Board, the Diocesan Finance Council, the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal Board, and the Board of Directors of Camp Ondessonk.

On October 1, 2020, Bishop Michael McGovern appointed Fr. Iffert Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia for the Diocese of Belleville.

On January 12, 2021, Fr. Iffert was appointed the pastor of Saint Stephen Catholic Church in Caseyville, Illinois.

Fr. Iffert was appointed the Eleventh Bishop of Covington on July 13, 2021.
Friends in Christ,

I am so grateful today! I rejoice in your presence, in the Church gathered, in God’s gracious mercy. I am eager to pray with you, and I beg your prayers for me and for the Diocese of Covington.

I am thrilled that people by whom I was formed and from whom I am called, are gathered alongside those to whom I am being sent and with whom I am to walk together in faith. Together we will implore God’s mercy on this local Church, and pray that I may be sealed and transformed — consecrated — to become a shepherd after the heart and pattern of Jesus the Good Shepherd and his devoted Apostles. Thank you. Thanks be to God!

I am grateful for my parents John and Mary Iffert, who first taught me to pray and to treasure Bible stories. I give thanks for my family and friends, many of whom are here today. I am happy that so many priests and religious are here. From the age of seven I have found heroes, teachers, mentors, and eventually collaborators and friends among you. Parishioners and coworkers I have known over the years are here, alongside those I am just beginning to know in Kentucky. Thank you and thanks be to God for you.

I am grateful to our Holy Father, Pope Francis, for his Christ-centered leadership, and for calling me to become the Bishop of Covington. I ask you to join me in praying everyday for Pope Francis, for his intentions, and that his ministry as the Universal Pastor of Christ’s flock will always remind us of our essential unity. I am also grateful to Archbishop Christophe Pierre for his constant travels and labors on behalf of the Holy See, and the support he offers to me and to all the bishops of the United States.

I am especially grateful to all the bishops who are gathered here. The warm reception and fraternal support I have received from you and our brother bishops lends me strength and sustains my hope-filled confidence during this transition.

Special thanks to Archbishop Joseph Kurtz and to the bishops of the Province of Louisville for your welcome and encouragement. Thank you to Bishop Michael McGovern for your support and guidance over the past year; especially your generous friendship and help through these weeks of preparation. I am also grateful to the Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton for your trust and encouragement over a dozen years. Finally, deepest thanks and gratitude to Bishop Roger Foys for your kindness, trust, and warm reception from the moment you learned that I would be called to the Diocese of Covington. Thank you.

Thank you to the members of the committee that prepared everything for the events surrounding my Consecration and Installation under the guidance of the Very Reverend Daniel L. Schomaker. Thank you to all those who have worked tirelessly in preparation for today.

Thank you also to the many volunteers from St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption and from the parishes, schools, and agencies of the Diocese of Covington who are serving and ministering today. I am grateful to you. I pledge that I will make a constant effort to be a good shepherd to the Diocese of Covington and to care for this magnificent church.

I ask your help. Pray for me, that the grace of Consecration will begin to remake my heart after the image of Christ’s own Sacred Heart. And no matter where God leads us or what events we face together, may we . . . “Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all things give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Jesus Christ” (1 Th 5:16-18).

Yours Devotedly in the Lord,

Most Reverend John C. Iffert
Bishop of Covington
THE COAT OF ARMS OF

MOST REVEREND JOHN CURTIS IFFERT

IN ALL THINGS GIVE THANKS
When a bishop is ordained, the Church invites him to declare a motto and design a coat of arms. The purpose of the motto is to reflect the bishop’s beliefs and convictions within the Christian faith. The coat of arms utilizes symbols to identify the bishop.

Bishop Iffert’s Coat of Arms combines a design of his own choosing with the Coat of Arms of the Diocese of Covington.

The diocesan design on the left hand side of the shield was commissioned by Bishop William T. Mulloy following the 1953 elevation of Covington’s Cathedral to the status of a minor basilica. It was devised by William F. J. Ryan of New York, N.Y. and West Chatham, Massachusetts.

Imposed on the blue upper portion is a gold fleur-de-lis within the arms of a silver crescent moon. Both are symbols of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Their juxtaposition in this fashion indicates her Assumption, or, as the artist conceived it, “the Blessed Virgin elevated above the sub-lunary world.” It is under this aspect that Mary is Patroness of the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption.

Below it is a red cross on a white field. Pointing upward on the vertical beam of the cross is a gold sword, the symbol of St. Paul, patron of the Diocese of Covington.

The right hand side of the shield identifies Bishop Iffert and reflects his hopes for his episcopal service to the Diocese of Covington.

A green background symbolizes hope, evokes the fertile land, and calls to mind the bishop’s childhood on a family farm. It also alludes to the coat of arms of the Diocese of Belleville, which shows a beautiful city atop a green hill.

A wavy, silver barrulet bisects the green field, representing a river. The Ohio River forms the northern border of the Diocese of Covington and the southeastern border of the Diocese of Belleville, connecting the diocese where Bishop Iffert will exercise episcopal ministry to the diocese where he served as deacon and priest.

The upper portion features an eight-pointed star within the arms of a carpenter’s square. They honor Our Lady and Saint Joseph the Worker. This title for Saint Joseph especially emphasizes the dignity of those who labor. The star also appears on Pope Francis’ coat of arms. Together, the symbols attest that Bishop Iffert was appointed by Pope Francis in the Year of Saint Joseph.

The lower portion features a bundle of wheat bound in the middle as at harvest. This symbol carries multiple meanings. First, Bishop Iffert is from a region in southern Illinois nicknamed “Little Egypt.” The grain calls this to mind because “the whole world came to Egypt to Joseph to buy grain” (Gn 41:57). Harvest imagery also alludes to Thanksgiving Day in the United States. The bishop was born on Thanksgiving Day.

Most significantly, the wheat reminds the Christian of the bread that becomes the Body of Christ in the Eucharist. Christ makes Himself and His self-emptying love fully present to His people in this central act of worship and thanksgiving.

Above the shield is a gold cross surmounted by a green pontifical hat called a gallero. The cross and hat with six tassels on either side portray the rank of a bishop.

The phrase on the scroll beneath the shield, “In all things give thanks,” (Th 5:18) is Bishop Iffert’s episcopal motto. It reflects his conviction that turning to Christ with rejoicing, prayer, and thanksgiving — especially encountering Christ in the midst of the Church and receiving Him in the Sacrament of His Most Holy Body and Blood — is God’s will for Christians in every circumstance.

The personal Arms of Bishop Iffert were devised by Reverend Guy Selvester, Washington, New Jersey, in consultation with The Most Reverend John C. Iffert, 2021.
Duveneck Mural Detail,
Blessed Sacrament Chapel of
St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica
of the Assumption
Solemn Mass of Consecration and Installation of the
MOST REVEREND JOHN CURTIS IFFERT
ELEVENTH BISHOP OF COVINGTON

by Principal Consecrator
MOST REVEREND JOSEPH EDWARD KURTZ
Archbishop of Louisville

and Co-Consecrators
MOST REVEREND ROGER JOSEPH FOYS
Bishop Emeritus of Covington

MOST REVEREND MICHAEL GEORGE MCGOVERN
Bishop of Belleville

In the Presence of
ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHE PIERRE
Titular Archbishop of Gunela and Apostolic Nuncio to the United States
PRELUDE

Blessed Jesus, We are Here
Exultabunt Sancti
Bless the Lord, O My Soul

J.S. Bach
Paul Huber
Mikhail Ippolitov-Ivanov

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All Creatures of Our God and King
Lasst uns erfreuen

Please stand.

1. All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voices,
2. Great rushing winds who are so strong, You clouds above that
3. Swift flowing water, pure and clear, Make music for your
4. Dear mother earth, who day by day Unfolds your blessings
5. All you with mercy in your heart, For giving others,
6. And even you, most gentle death, Wait to hush our
7. Let all things their Creator bless, And worship him in

1. let us sing: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Bright burning sun with
2. sail a-long, O praise him! Al-le-lu-ia! Fair rising morn, with
3. Lord to hear, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Fire so intense and
4. on our way, O praise him! Al-le-lu-ia! All flow’rs and fruits that
5. take your part, O sing now! Al-le-lu-ia! All you that pain and
6. fi-nal breath, O praise him! Al-le-lu-ia! You lead back home the
7. hum-ble-ness, O praise him! Al-le-lu-ia! Praise God the Fa-ther,

1. golden beams, Soft silver moon that gently gleams, O praise him!
2. praise re-joice, Stars night-ly shin-ing, find a voice, O praise him!
3. fierce-ly bright, Who gives to us both warmth and light, O praise him!
4. in you grow, Let them his glo-ry al-so show: O praise him!
5. sor-row bear, Praise God, and cast on him your care: O praise him!
6. child of God, For Christ our Lord that way has trod: O praise him!
7. praise the Son, And praise the Spir-it, Three in One: O praise him!

1-7. O praise him! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

INTRODUCTORY RITES

SIGN OF THE CROSS AND GREETING

Please sit.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Please stand.

PENITENTIAL ACT

The Archbishop invites the faithful, saying:
Brethren (Brothers and Sisters), let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

After a brief pause, all recite together the formula of general confession:
I confess to almighty God,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say:
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault:
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The absolution by the Archbishop follows:
May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.
R. Amen.
The choir sings the third invocation.

GLORIA

Mass VII, Chant, Mode 5

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,

Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
COLLECT

O God, who out of the abundance of your untold grace alone choose to set your servant and Priest John Curtis Iffert over your Church of Covington this day, grant that he may carry out worthily the office of Bishop and, under your governance in all things, he may direct by word and example the people entrusted to his care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.
LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING I

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah: 61:1-3abcd

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, 
because the Lord has anointed me; 
He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, 
to heal the brokenhearted, 
To proclaim liberty to captives 
and release to the prisoners, 
To announce a year of favor from the Lord 
and a day of vindication by our God, 
to comfort all who mourn; 
To place on those who mourn in Zion 
a diadem instead of ashes, 
To give them oil of gladness in place of mourning, 
a glorious mantle instead of a listless spirit.

The word of the Lord.  
Rx Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

89:21-22, 25 & 27

2021 © Gregory J. Schaffer & Timbrel Editions

“I have found David, my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed him, 
That my hand may be always with him, and that my arm may make him strong.” Rx

“My faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him, and through my name shall his horn be exalted. 
He shall say of me, ‘you are my father, my God, the Rock, my savior.’” Rx

Composed in honor of the Episcopal Ordination of the Most Reverend John C. Iffert, Eleventh Bishop of Covington, September 30, 2021
READING II

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians: 4:1-2, 5-7

Brothers and sisters:
Since we have this ministry through the mercy shown us,
we are not discouraged.
Rather, we have renounced shameful, hidden things;
not acting deceitfully or falsifying the word of God,
but by the open declaration of the truth
we commend ourselves to everyone’s conscience in the sight of God.
For we do not preach ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord,
and ourselves as your slaves for the sake of Jesus.
For God who said, *Let light shine out of darkness,*
has shone in our hearts to bring to light
the knowledge of the glory of God on the face of Jesus Christ.
But we hold this treasure in earthen vessels,
that the surpassing power may be of God and not from us.

The word of the Lord.
R*H* Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

ALLELUIA John 10:14

Chant, Mode VI.

Al- le - lu- ia, al - le - lu- ia, al - le - lu- ia.

“I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.”
After Jesus had revealed himself to his disciples
and eaten breakfast with them, he said to Simon Peter,
“Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?”
Simon Peter answered him, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”
Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.”
He then said to Simon Peter a second time,
“Simon, son of John, do you love me?”
Simon Peter answered him, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”
He said to him, “Tend my sheep.”
He said to him the third time,
“Simon, son of John, do you love me?”
Peter was distressed that he had said to him a third time,
“Do you love me?” and he said to him,
“Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.”
Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
RX Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Please remain standing.
THE RITE OF ORDINATION

VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS
Chant/Robert Schaffer

All 1. Ve - ni Cre - á - tor Spí - ri - tus,

Choir 2. Qui dí - ce - ris Pa - rá - cli - tus,

All 3. Tu se - pti - fór - mis mú - ne - re,

Choir 4. Ac - cén - de lu - men sén - si - bus,

All 5. Hó - stem re - pél - las lón - gi - us,

Choir 6. Per - te sci - á - mus da Pa - trem,

All 7. De - o Pa - tri sit gló - ri - a,

Men - tes tu - ó - rum ví - si - ta:
Al - tís - si - mi dó - num De - i,
Di - gi - tus pa - tér - nae déx - te - rae,
In - fun - de - a - mó - rem cór - di - bus,
Pa - cém - que do - nes pró - ti - nus:
No - scá - mus at - que Fí - li - um
Et Fí - li - o, qui a mó - tu - is

Im - ple - su - pér - na grá - ti - a
Fons vi - vus, i - gnis, cá - ri - tas,
Tu ri - te pro - mí - sum Pa - tris,
In - fír - ma no - stri cór - po - ris
Du - ctó - re sic - te práé - vi - o,
Te - que u - tri - ús - que Spí - ri - tum
Sur - ré - xit, ac Pa - rá - cli - to

Quae tu cre - á - sti pé - cto - ra.
Et spi - ri - tá - lis ún - cti - o.
Ser - mó - ne di - tans guí - tu - ra.
Vir - tú - te fír - mans pép - pe - ti.
Vi - té - mus om - ne nó - xi - um.
Cre - dá - mus om - ni tém - po - re.

Text: Attr. to Rabanus Maurus, 776-856
Tune: VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS, LM; Mode VIII; acc. by Richard Proulx, b.1937

Please sit.
PRESENTATION OF THE ELECT

The Bishop-elect is led by the priests assisting him to the Archbishop, before whom he makes a sign of reverence. The Most Reverend Roger J. Foys, Bishop Emeritus of Covington, says:

Most Reverend Father, the Church of Covington asks you to ordain this Priest, John Curtis Iffert, to the responsibility of the Episcopate.

The Archbishop asks him:

Have you a mandate from the Apostolic See?

He replies:

We have.

The Archbishop says:

Let it be read.

All sit while the document is read by the Apostolic Nuncio. After the reading, all present give their assent to the election of the Bishop by saying:

℟ Thanks be to God.

The assent is followed by the applause and standing of all.

The Chancellor takes the Apostolic Mandate and shows it to the College of Consultors; she then records the proceedings in the archive of the Diocese of Covington.

Please sit.

HOMILY

Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz
Archbishop of Louisville
INSTRUCTION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

The Bishop-elect alone rises and stands before the Archbishop, before whom he makes a sign of reverence. After the instruction, the Archbishop examines the Bishop-elect:

PROMISE OF THE ELECT

The Archbishop then questions the Bishop-elect with these words:

The ancient rule of the holy Fathers ordains that a Bishop-elect is to be questioned in the presence of the people on his resolve to uphold the faith and to discharge his duty. And so, dear brother, do you resolve by the grace of the Holy Spirit to discharge until death the office entrusted to us by the Apostles, which we are about to pass on to you by the laying on of our hands?

The Bishop-elect replies:

I do.

Archbishop:

Do you resolve to preach the Gospel of Christ with constancy and fidelity?

The Bishop-elect replies:

I do.

Archbishop:

Do you resolve to guard the deposit of faith, entire and incorrupt, as handed down by the Apostles and preserved in the Church everywhere and at all times?

The Bishop-elect replies:

I do.

Archbishop:

Do you resolve to build up the Body of Christ, his Church, and to remain in the unity of that Body together with the Order of Bishops under the authority of the successor of Saint Peter the Apostle?

The Bishop-elect replies:

I do.
Archbishop:
Do you resolve to render obedience faithfully to the successor of the blessed Apostle Peter?

The Bishop-elect replies:
I do.

Archbishop:
Do you resolve to guide the holy People of God in the way of salvation as a devoted father and sustain them with the help of your fellow ministers, the Priests and Deacons?

The Bishop-elect replies:
I do.

Archbishop:
Do you resolve, for the sake of the Lord’s name, to be welcoming and merciful to the poor, to strangers, and to all who are in need?

The Bishop-elect replies:
I do.

Archbishop:
Do you resolve as a good shepherd to seek out the sheep who stray and gather them into the Lord’s fold?

The Bishop-elect replies:
I do.

Archbishop:
Do you resolve to pray without ceasing to almighty God for the holy people and to carry out the office of High Priest without reproach?

The Bishop-elect replies:
I do with the help of God.

Archbishop:
May God who has begun the good work in you bring it to fulfillment.
While the Bishop-elect lies prostrate on the floor, all kneel in prayer for him and for the Church:

Cantor, then Assembly

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

pray for us.

Lord, deliver us, we pray.

Be merciful to us sinners, Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us.

After the singing of the Litany, the Archbishop alone stands, and with hands extended, says:

Graciously hear our petitions, O Lord, and pour out upon this, your servant, the power of your blessing, flowing from the horn of priestly grace. Through Christ our Lord.

Rex Amen.

All stand.
LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYER OF ORDINATION

The Principal Consecrator, the Co-consecrators, and all Bishops present impose hands on the head of the Bishop-elect, signifying that the ordination of a Bishop is a collegial act of the Order of Bishops, incorporating a new member into their community for the service of the Church.

While the Book of the Gospels is held above the head of the Bishop-elect, the Prayer of Ordination is said. This ancient prayer invokes the power of the Holy Spirit upon the Bishop-elect and recalls the importance and role of the Bishop within the Church.

The Archbishop, alone, begins:

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Father of mercies and God of all consolation,
who dwell on high
and look upon the lowly,
who know all things before they come to be,
and who laid down observances
in your Church
through the word of your grace;
who from the beginning,
foreordained a nation of the just,
born of Abraham;
who established rulers and priests
and did not leave your sanctuary without ministers,
and who, from the foundation of the world,
were pleased to be glorified
in those you have chosen:

All Bishops join in the following part of the prayer:

Pour out now upon this chosen one
that power which is from you,
the governing Spirit,
whom you gave to your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
the Spirit whom he bestowed upon the holy Apostles,
who established the Church in each place
as your sanctuary
for the glory and unceasing praise of your name.
The Archbishop continues alone:

Grant, O Father, knower of all hearts,
that this your servant,
whom you have chosen for the office of Bishop
may shepherd your holy flock.
Serving you night and day,
may he fulfill before you
without reproach
the ministry of the High Priesthood,
so that, always gaining your favor,
he may offer up the gifts of your holy Church.

Grant that, by the power of the Spirit of the High Priesthood,
he may have the power to forgive sins according to your command,
assign offices according to your decree,
and loose every bond according to the power given by you to the Apostles.

May he please you by his meekness and purity of heart,
presenting a fragrant offering to you
through your Son Jesus Christ,
through whom glory and power and honor are yours
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
now and for ever and ever.

R\* Amen.

Please sit.

ANOINTING OF THE HEAD

The Archbishop anoints the head of the newly ordained Bishop, saying:

May God, who has made you a sharer of
the High Priesthood of Christ,
himself pour out upon you
the oil of mystical anointing
and make you fruitful with an abundance of spiritual blessings.
THE HANDING ON OF THE BOOK OF THE GOSPELS

The Archbishop presents the Book of the Gospels to the newly ordained Bishop saying:
Receive the Gospel and preach the word of God with all patience and sound teaching.

THE HANDING ON OF THE INSIGNIA

— Ring —

The Archbishop places the ring on the ring finger of the right hand of the newly ordained Bishop, saying:
Receive this ring, the seal of fidelity: adorned with undefiled faith, preserve unblemished the bride of God, the holy Church.

— Miter —

The Archbishop places the miter on the head of the newly ordained Bishop, saying:
Receive the miter, and may the splendor of holiness shine forth in you, so that when the chief shepherd appears you may deserve to receive from him an unfading crown of glory.

— Crosier —

The Archbishop, lastly, gives the crosier to the newly ordained Bishop, saying:
Receive the crosier, the sign of your pastoral office: and keep watch over the whole flock in which the Holy Spirit has placed you as Bishop to govern the Church of God.

SEATING IN THE CATHEDRA

Please stand. The newly ordained Bishop is invited to take possession of the Church of Covington by being seated in the cathedra. All applaud.

Choral Motet — Ecce Sacerdos magnus

Behold a great priest who in his days pleased God: Therefore, by an oath the Lord made him to increase among his people. To him He gave the blessing of all nations, and confirmed His covenant upon his head. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; therefore, by an oath the Lord made him to increase among his people.

Maximilian Stadler

FRATERNAL KISS

The newly ordained Bishop sets aside the crosier, stands and receives the fraternal kiss (sign of peace) from the Archbishop, the Co-consecrators, and then all the Bishops present, welcoming him into their order.
THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

John U. Iffert, Kim Dorsey, and Kathy Nesbit
The father and sisters of Bishop Iffert

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

O God Beyond All Praising
Thaxted

Choral Motet — The Truth Your Word Imparts

St. Ethelwald

Help us, O Lord, to learn the truth your Word imparts; to study, that your laws may be inscribed upon our hearts. Help us, O Lord, to live the faith which we proclaim, that all our thoughts and words and deeds may glorify your Name. Your words of truth and love we learn from day to day; revealed to Saints from God above, and guide us on our way. Help us, O Lord, to teach the beauty of your ways, that yearning souls may find the Christ and live a life of praise. Amen.

Sung on the Feast of Saint Jerome, this work honors and praises the Word of God.
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Text: The Roman Missal  
Music: The Roman Missal  
© 2010, ICEL

MYSTERY OF FAITH

Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Text: The Roman Missal  
Music: The Roman Missal  
© 2010, ICEL

GREAT AMEN

A-men.
OUR FATHER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis pecáta mundi: misère-re nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis pecáta mundi: misère-re nobis.

The choir sings the third invocation.
COMMUNION

Choir — Very Bread

Randolph Currie

Very bread, Good Shepherd, tend us; Jesus, with thy love befriend us.

Thou refresh us, thou defend us; thine eternal goodness send us in the land of life to see.

Thou, who all things canst and knowest; thou, O Christ, who on earth such food bestoweth,
grant us with thy saints, tho’ lowest; where the heavenly feast thou showest fellow heirs and guests to be.

Text: St. Thomas Aquinas

Taste and See

Stephen Dean

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
   his praise always on my lips.
The Lord shall be the glory of my soul;
the humble shall hear and be glad.

2. Glorify the Lord with me,
together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord: he answered me;
he set me free from all my fear.

3. Look upon the Lord and be radiant;
hide not your face from the Lord.
He heard the cry of the poor;
he rescued them from all their woes.

4. The angel of the Lord is with his people
to rescue those who trust in him.
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord;
seek refuge in him and be glad.

5. Saints of the Lord, revere him;
those who fear him lack nothing.
Lions suffer want and go hungry,
but those who seek him lack no blessing.

6. Children of the Lord come and hear,
and learn the fear of the Lord.
Who is he who longs for life,
whose only love is for his wealth?

7. Keep evil words from your tongue,
your lips from speaking deceit.
Turn aside from evil and do good;
seek and strive after peace.

Text: Based on Psalm 34. Text and music © 1981, Stephen Dean.
Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.
Choral Thanksgiving — Rejoice In the Lord, Always

Rejoice in the Lord, always; again will we sing: Rejoice! Let everyone know of your spirit, the Lord is near, Rejoice! Have no fear, no care. But in all things by prayer and supplication, let God know your needs.

And the peace of God, which goes beyond all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ, the Lord. And whatever is true, whatever is righteous, whatever is just, whatever is pure; whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious; if there is something of excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise: Give yourselves to these things.

Rejoice in the Lord, always, again will we sing Rejoice! Let everyone know of your spirit; the Lord is near, rejoice in the Lord, Rejoice!

Text: Phil. 4: 4-9

Robert Schaffer
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy, and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. Through Christ our Lord.
R\* Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

FIRST BLESSINGS

The newly ordained Bishop Iffert is led by the co-consecrators through the Cathedral to bless all who are present.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Te Deum laudamus Mode III

Please sit.

REMARKS

Most Reverend John C. Iffert
Eleventh Bishop of Covington
SOLEMN BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Bishop Iffert:
The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Deacon of the Word:
Bow down for the blessing.

Bishop Iffert:
O God, who care for your people with gentleness and rule them in love, endow with the Spirit of wisdom those to whom you have handed on authority to govern, that from the flourishing of a holy flock may come eternal joy for its shepherds. R. Amen.

As in your majestic power you allot the number of our days and the measure of our years, look favorably upon our humble service and confer on our time the abundance of your peace. R. Amen.

Give a happy outcome to the tasks that through your grace you have laid upon me, whom you have raised to the rank of Bishop; make me pleasing to you in the fulfillment of my duties, and so guide the hearts of people and pastor, that the obedience of the flock may never fail the shepherd nor the care of the shepherd be lacking for the flock. R. Amen.

And may almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. R. Amen.

Deacon of the Word:
Go in peace. R. Thanks be to God.

As is custom for solemn liturgies in Covington's Cathedral Church, the Salve Regina is sung.
Salve, Regina, mater misericordiae:
Vita, dulcedo et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, exules, filii Hævae.
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes
in hac lacrimarum valle. Eia ergo, Advocata nostra,
illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos convertete.
Et Jesus, benedictum fructum ventris tuui,
nobis post hoc exsilium ostende.
O clemens, O pia,
O dulcis Virgo Maria.
**RECESSIONAL HYMN**

1. Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before thee! All on earth thy scepter claim, All in heav’n above adore thee; Infinite, thy vast domain, Everlasting is thy reign.

2. Hark! the loud celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising; Cherubim and Seraphim, In unceasing chorus praising; Holy, holy, holy Lord!” Fill the heav’n’s with vast domain, Everlasting is thy reign.

3. Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name thee; While in essence only One, Undivided God we claim thee; Holy, holy, holy Lord!” Fill the heav’n’s with sweet accord: “Holy, holy, holy Lord!” Bend the knee, While we own the mystery.


**POSTLUDE FOR TRUMPET AND ORGAN**

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

*Benedetto Marcello*

Psalm XIX

45
CLERGY

Principal Consecrator
Most Reverend Joseph Edward Kurtz, Archbishop of Louisville

Co-Consecrators
Most Reverend Roger Joseph Foys, Bishop Emeritus of Covington
Most Reverend Michael George McGovern, Bishop of Belleville

In the Presence of
Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Titular Archbishop of Gunela and Apostolic Nuncio to the United States

Chaplains to Bishop Iffert
Reverend Dwight Ezop, Diocese of Lansing
Reverend Monsignor Marvin C. Volk, Diocese of Belleville
Deacon Gerald Franzen, Deacon Chuck Melville, Deacon A.J. Gedney, Mass Deacons

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES
Very Reverend Daniel L. Schomaker, Vicar for Episcopal Ceremonies; Pastor, Saint Augustine, Covington
Reverend Jordan M. Hainsey, Episcopal Master of Ceremonies, Custos of Holy Relics
Reverend Britton C. Hennessey, Parochial Vicar, Saint Timothy Church, Union
Reverend V. Ross Kelsch, Pastor, Saint Thomas Church, Fort Thomas
Reverend Joseph C. Shelton, Pastor, Saint Augustine Church, Augusta; Saint James Church, Brooksville
Seminarian Michael Elmlinger

SERVERS
Diocesan Seminarians
Covington Latin School Pontifical Servers

CATHEDRAL BASILICA BISHOP’S CHOIR
Dr. Gregory J. Schaffer, Basilica Principal Organist and Choirmaster
LeeAnn Kordenbrock, Rebecca Schaffer Wells, John Wegener, and Jason Ramlr, Cantors
Elizabeth Engelman, Matthew Engelman, Rhonda Harris (librarian)
Kathleen Henke, Sr. Mary Carol Henggeler CDP, B.H. Kroger III,
John Peavler, Mary Beth Peavler, Gary Pranger, Mary Pranger,
Barbara Reeder, Gregory Scanlon, Ryan Shields,
Diana Webb *, Doug Webb *, Wells, Devon Wells
Dan Grantham, Trumpet

* Guest
CATHEDRAL STAFF
Ms. Mary Easterling, Facilities Manager and Head Usher
Ushers of the Cathedral Basilica
Mr. Jerry Lantry, Maintenance Director

HONOR GUARD
Bearers of the Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice
Knights and Dames of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre
Knights of St. Gregory
Knights and Dames of Malta
Knights of St. John
Knights of Columbus
Catholic Order of Foresters

CONSECRATION AND INSTALLATION PLANNING COMMITTEE
Most Reverend Roger Joseph Foys, Bishop Emeritus of Covington
Very Reverend Daniel L. Schomaker, Committee Chair
Very Reverend Ryan L. Maher, Rector, St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption
Mrs. Jamie Schroeder, Chancellor
Reverend Jordan M. Hainsey, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, Graphic Design
Mr. Dale Henson, Diocesan CFO
Mrs. Laura Keener, Director of Communications, Editor of the Messenger
Deacon Peter Freeman, Director, Office of Worship
Mr. Donald Knochelmann, Director, Buildings and Properties Office
Mr. Brian Harvey, Associate Director, Buildings and Properties Office
Mrs. Pam Orecchio, Executive Assistant to the Bishop
Mrs. Donna Hampton, Chancery Secretary
Mrs. Joanie Lecoy, Chancery Secretary
Ms. Shannon Barnes, Secretary, Office of Worship
Mrs. Nyra Hopkins, Curia Receptionist
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce and Mary Jo Stull and Mr. Dennis Buttelwerth, Floral Arrangements

VIDEO, DIGITAL MEDIA, AND SIMULCAST
Msgr. Gerald Twaddell, Commentator
John Wegener, Tim Broering, and William Broering, Technicians
Mark Czarnik and A-1 Professional Video Production
The Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN)

The Consecration and Installation Mass will be archived and available at:
covcathedral.com and covdio.org
“WHEREVER I GO FROM HERE, LORD, LET ME BE STRONG IN FAITH AND POOR IN SPIRIT. MAKE ME A MAN AFTER YOUR OWN HEART.”

Adapted from a prayer attributed to St. Isaac Jogues, S.J., Bishop Iffert’s Patron Saint