



Bishop makes Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity

By Kathrine Patton
Special Edition Editor

On the eve of Bishop Paul D. Etienne's ordination and installation as the bishop of Cheyenne, family, clergy and faithful of the diocese gathered with great anticipation for the coming day, to witness him making a Profession of Faith and taking an Oath of Fidelity.

During the ceremony, Bishop-elect Etienne signed the necessary documents to become the bishop of Cheyenne

and pledged his loyalty to the Holy Father.

The Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, Bishop of Indianapolis, Bishop Gerald A. Gettlefinger, Bishop of Evansville, and Bishop Joseph Hart, Retired Bishop of Cheyenne joined Bishop Etienne in the celebration of the Liturgy of the Word.

After the readings, Bishop Etienne gave the homily.

During the homily, Bishop Etienne compared how he was feeling then to the night before the announcement of his appointment to the Diocese of Cheyenne. Then-Father

Etienne had gone to dinner with Father Gary Ruzicka, rector of St. Mary's Cathedral and five other priests. He hadn't touched much of his meal and Father Ruzicka told him he must be having trouble because of the altitude.

"The altitude was taking my breath away," Bishop Etienne said, "And now, looking out at all of you is taking my breath away. My own breath has been taken away," he said. "Is that breath going to be replaced with the breath of God?" he continued on page 13



Bishop-elect Etienne gives a homily following the signing ceremony for the official document, becoming bishop of Cheyenne. Photo by Val Rothwell

Family important in life of Bishop Etienne

continued from page 9 remembers once when her father was teaching her to drive a stick shift. He finally ran out of patience.

"Paul said, 'Come on Nicolette, I'll teach you how to drive a stick.' So we went out to the country and in no time at all, Paul was able to teach me how to drive a car with a stick shift. Paul and I have always had a close relationship," she said.

Together, the brother and sister loved to drive around looking for old churches to explore.

"We loved country parishes. As we drove through the countryside, Paul would teach me how to look for deer, turkeys and other wildlife. He loves nature and being in the outdoors. Paul and I are able to share on many different levels. I have always admired his deep love for God and the saints. His homilies have always touched my heart. On many occasions I've asked myself after one of his homilies, 'How in the world can I possibly be related to this guy? ...He's so holy.'"



Father Etienne at dedication of new seminary

Above, Archbishop Buechlein blessing the new campus of Bishop Simon Brtue College Seminary after the dedication Mass while standing in the seminary's courtyard.

Right, Father Etienne, far left, joins other priests in making a profession of faith and pledge of fidelity to the Church's Magisterium during the dedication Mass. Then-Father Etienne was the vice rector of the seminary.



Photos courtesy of Sean Gallager and the Criterion newspaper