

Bishop: Enter into communion with Christ in Eucharist, Sacred Scripture

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wished to name him bishop of Cheyenne, he was floored," Bishop Lynch said.

Along with all the unknowns of his new position, Bishop-elect Etienne mentioned to Bishop Lynch the things he was told he would need.

Among them, a 'coat of arms,' and he hadn't a clue what should go on it.

Bishop Lynch immediately remembered a time when he called then-Father Etienne on his cell phone years ago, only to hear the sound of a rifle being shot and him saying, "Got to hang up, Bernie and I just shot ourselves a deer." The bishop could not help but to tell Bishop-elect Etienne that perhaps in one corner of his coat of arms he should have a dead deer and choose as his motto, "like a deer that once longed for running streams."

"The Etienne three brothers gave each other hunting rifles for priesthood ordination gifts, and I have been wondering if episcopal ordination warranted something bigger still, like a bazooka," he said.

Recognizing the gifts that his dear friend will bring to his episcopal ministry, Bishop Lynch addressed those gathered for the glorious occasion.

"Church of Cheyenne, God's holy people, brother priests and deacons, it will not take you long to discover how lucky you are. With the Lord, help this man shoulder the yoke of office and help it be lightened for him so that the Gospel promise of today will also be your experience," Bishop Lynch said.

At the end of the ceremony, Bishop Etienne acknowledged the dignitaries who had come to witness the ordination, including Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Denver and Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein of Indianapolis, Bishop David L. Ricken, former Bishop of Cheyenne, now Bishop of Green Bay, His Eminence, Roger Cardinal Mahoney, Archbishop of Los Angeles and Archbishop Pietro Sambi, Apostolic Nuncio to the



Bishop Paul D. Etienne elevates the Eucharist during his ordination Mass. During the ordination, Bishop Etienne spoke about the importance of discovering where Jesus lives in the "intimate communion of love that is the Trinity." He stressed the importance of coming together to celebrate the Eucharist as being part of the journey to "Christ's dwelling place." The ordination was held at the Cheyenne Civic Center, Dec. 9. Photo by James Baca

United States.

He thanked Father Michael Carr, who had served as the diocesan administrator for the 15 months since Bishop Ricken was appointed to the Diocese of Green Bay.

Bishop Etienne then thanked and introduced his family telling them, "I love you." The crowd stood and applauded recognizing that it was in part the love and the experiences of Kay and Paul Etienne's family that

had formed him into the bishop he had become.

Bishop Etienne recalled that in all the years of his priesthood he was told that you cannot be all things to all people, but, he joked, he had discovered while reading about being a bishop, that truly a bishop is supposed to be exactly that—all things to all people.

"The reason it is possible to be a bishop is because we are called by Christ," he said.

In our prayers, he said, we should ask Christ, to show us where he lives with the Father, and ask without being afraid for him to take us there.

"This is our journey, to discover where Jesus lives, in the intimate communion of love that is the Trinity. In our journey to discover Christ, we go to prayer, we come together to celebrate the Eucharist, we study His Word in Sacred Scripture. We should not be bashful

about asking Jesus in these moments of prayer to show us where He lives with the Father, in the communion of love that is the Holy Trinity. And as we ask Him to reveal this dwelling place to us, we should also be bold enough to ask Him to take us there, that we, too, may enter into this intimate communion of love," Bishop Etienne said.

Cameron Smith, who is the youth director at

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Father Thomas Cronkelton
Judicial Vicar
Diocese of Cheyenne

Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Cheyenne, had the opportunity to chauffeur the bishop's family for the ordination events. "It was a blessing for me to see the family he comes from, their good humor and spirituality. It gave me a lot of hope for the new bishop," he said.

The ordination itself was amazing for Smith. "To be in the presence of the Church of Wyoming, and to see our new bishop being ordained, was moving and awe inspiring," he said. "I was also very impressed with the homily Bishop Lynch gave."

Father Tom Cronkelton, pastor of Holy Trinity and judicial vicar for the diocese, was "deeply moved" by the ordination and "touched especially by Bishop Lynch's homily."

"I'm looking very much forward to Bishop Etienne shepherding us in our diocese. It is nice to have such a young and spiritual man with a rural background to be able to lead us," Father Cronkelton said.