October 31, 2004

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pope John Paul II Appoints Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades as the Ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Harrisburg

STATEMENT OF BISHOP-ELECT KEVIN C. RHOADES

I am happy to be coming home to the wonderful Diocese of Harrisburg! I am deeply humbled by this appointment from Pope John Paul II to serve as Bishop of Harrisburg. The example and teaching of the Holy Father have been an inspiration to me throughout my years of priestly life and ministry. With the help of God’s grace, I will strive to the best of my ability to be a good and faithful shepherd “after the heart of Christ.”

With joyful anticipation, I look forward to visiting the parishes, schools, and other apostolates of the Church throughout the Harrisburg diocese. I look forward to being with the priests, my co-workers in the ministry, with the deacons, with the men and women in consecrated life, and with the lay faithful, all united in the one Body of Christ in truth and charity.

I am very conscious of the fact that I follow in the footsteps of exemplary bishops throughout the history of the Diocese of Harrisburg – most recently, Cardinal William Keeler and Bishop Nicholas Dattilo. Their hard work, deep commitment, and loving service continue to bear much good fruit. I am grateful to them and to Father James Lyons, the diocesan administrator, who has served so well these past seven months since Bishop Dattilo’s death.

As we face various challenges in these initial years of the third millennium, we do so with profound hope in Christ who promised to be with us always, until the end of the world. It is an exciting time as we undertake the task of “the new evangelization,” spoken of so frequently by the Holy Father. We are called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus with “new ardor, methods, and expression.” We are called to build a culture of life and a civilization of love.

As a bishop of the Catholic Church, I will also be committed to our ecumenical and inter-religious relationships and dialogues. I look forward to meeting my brothers and sisters of other faith families and working together in friendship and mutual respect to build a better community.

And now I would like to say a word to our Spanish-speaking brothers and sisters:

Me gustaría saludar a las comunidades hispanas de la Diócesis de Harrisburg. Ha sido una bendición muy grande para mí el haber servido durante mi ministerio sacerdotal en el apostolado hispano. Mis queridos hermanos latinos, muchas gracias por la vitalidad de su fe y por los muchos dones que ustedes traen a la iglesia aquí en nuestra Diócesis. No veo la hora de servirlos como obispo.

Thank you for the warm welcome today. I ask for your prayers as I prepare for Episcopal ordination, that God will give me the grace to be a good and faithful servant of the Gospel and a witness of faith, hope, and charity here in this great diocese.

May God bless you!
Weekday Masses are at Newman House Chapel, 610 Saint George Street

Monday, November 1, 2004
All Saints’ Day
12 noon– CCM Director’s Meeting, LC 246
5:00pm– Mass, Rooke Chapel

Tuesday, November 2, 2004
All Souls’ Day
8:00am– Mass, Newman House
7:00pm– Catholic Group, Newman House

Wednesday, November 3, 2004
Martin de Porres, religious
NO MASS

Thursday, November 4, 2004
Charles Borromeo, bishop
12 noon– CCM Ministry Team Meeting, Walls Lounge (LC)
5:30pm– CCM Night w/ Soul Smorgasbord

Friday, November 5, 2004
Weekday
8:00am– Mass, Newman House

Saturday, November 6, 2004
Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
5:30pm– Mass, Rooke Chapel

Sunday, November 7, 2004
Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00pm– Mass, Rooke Chapel
10:00pm– Mass, Hunt Hall Formal

Welcome: Rooke Chapel Choir
Today we welcome Dr. William A. Payn and the Bucknell University Rooke Chapel Choir to our 4p.m. Mass. Thanks for the added beauty and worship you bring to our Liturgy today.

MONDAY OF THIS WEEK IS THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS
Mass will be held at 5p.m. in Rooke Chapel. The National Conference of Catholic Bishops has determined that because this day falls on a Monday this year, Catholics are not obliged to attend Mass, but you are encouraged to do so if you can.

2004 Christmas Candlelight Service Tickets & Ushering
Bucknell’s Christmas Services are amazingly popular, so plan to get tickets for yourself and your family for one of the three services (December 3, 5, & 7 at 7:30 p.m.) on the first day they are available (Monday, November 1) or you will miss out! Tickets are available at the LC Box Office from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., or the Weis Center Box Office from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you would like to be a student usher for one of the services and thus get automatic admission, sign-up by e-mailing Ruth Ann at craven@bucknell.edu. We need lots of ushers to light candles and help with the big crowd.

Congratulations Bucknell CCM!
Our Confession Marathon Advent and Lenten Program is one of seven exemplary Catholic Campus Ministry programs to be featured at the 2004 United States Conference of Catholic Bishop’s Meeting in Washington, D.C. on November 17, 2004 during a reception with the bishops. We are being recognized for fulfilling the vision of the U.S. Bishop’s Pastoral Letter on Campus Ministry, “Empowered by the Spirit.” Father Marty along with Erin Connell, CCM’s director of Spiritual Life will be present for this event along with representatives from the Diocese of Harrisburg and Bucknell University.

Congratulations on the 40th Anniversary of Rooke Chapel
Sunday, November 7, 2004 Bucknell University will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Rooke Chapel during the 11 a.m. Service. We congratulate Bucknell University on their tireless commitment to Religious Life in seeing the importance of this special building on campus. A word of special thanks goes out from CCM to Robert L. Rooke and family for making this dream a reality in memory of their parents Charles M. and Olive S. Rooke.

Election 2004
This Tuesday, November 2, 2004, national and local elections will be held. We strongly urge everyone to become informed on key issues and vote. The Church does not support or oppose any candidate, but seeks to focus attention on the moral and human dimensions of issues. For information on Catholic teaching about citizenship and public issues, visit www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship.

All Souls Day will be observed this Tuesday, November 2 with Mass at 8:00a.m. in the Newman House Chapel. Please remember to pray for all who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially those who died since last year at this time. A list of names of deceased family members and friends from CCM will be included in CCM Insights and the Bulletin next week. May they rest in peace.