

Curriculum Vitae  
**The Most Reverend John Clayton Nienstedt**  
Third Bishop of the Diocese of New Ulm, Minnesota

December 31, 2006

**Born:**

March 18, 1947                      Detroit, Michigan; second child of John C. and Elizabeth S. (Kennedy) Nienstedt

**Family:**

Two brothers:                      Richard T. Nienstedt (married, three children), and Michael L. Nienstedt (married, one child).

Three sisters:                      Barbara Jean Buttell (married, two children), Mary Beth Nienstedt (single), and Corinne Mary Nienstedt (single).

**Educational Degrees:**

1969                      Bachelor of Arts: Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, Michigan  
1972                      Bachelor of Sacred Theology: Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy  
1977                      Licentiate in Sacred Theology: Pontifical Institute of St. Alphonsus, Rome, Italy  
  
1985                      Doctorate in Sacred Theology: Pontifical Institute of St. Alphonsus, Rome, Italy  
Doctoral Topic: "Human Life in a Test-tube: The Moral Dimension of *In Vitro* Fertilization and Embryo Transfer"

**Ministry:**

April 29, 1972                      Ordained a deacon at the North American College, Rome, Italy  
Aug. 1973 - Aug. 1974              Deacon intern at Sacred Heart Parish, Dearborn, Michigan  
July 27, 1974                      Ordained a priest at Sacred Heart Church, Dearborn, Michigan  
Aug. 1974 - Feb. 1976              Associate Pastor at Guardian Angels Parish, Clawson, Michigan  
1977                      Weekend Associate Pastor at St. Fabian's Parish, Farmington Hills, Michigan  
1977 - 1978                      Part-time professor of Moral Theology at St. John Provincial Seminary, Plymouth, Michigan  
  
Feb. 1977 - July 1980              Priest-Secretary to Cardinal John Dearden, Archbishop of Detroit, Michigan  
1978 - 1980                      Weekend Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Sorrow's Parish, Farmington, Michigan  
  
1979 - 1980                      Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Detroit, Michigan  
1980 - 1983                      Assistant Chaplain to the Baby Jesus Hospital, Rome, Italy  
1980 - 1983                      Religious Instructor in First Eucharist Program at Marymont International School, Rome, Italy  
  
Aug. 1980 - Aug. 1985              Minor Official of the Second Grade to the Vatican Secretariat of State, Rome, Italy  
  
1981 - 1984                      Chaplain to the Brothers of the Holy Cross assigned to Notre Dame High School for Boys, Rome, Italy  
  
January 1986 - June 1986              Adjunct Professor of Moral Theology at the Orchard Lake Schools, Orchard Lake, Michigan, teaching a course on Human Sexuality  
  
January 1986 - July 1986              Temporary Associate Pastor at St. Regis Parish, Birmingham, Michigan  
July 1986 - June 1987              Pastor of St. Patrick's Parish, Union Lake, Michigan  
July 1987 - July 1988              Designated Rector of Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, Michigan  
July 1988 - July 1994              Rector and President of Sacred Heart Major Seminary (both College and School of Theology), Detroit, Michigan  
  
July 1988 - 2000                      Assistant Professor of Moral Theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, Michigan

**Ministry, continued:**

1992 - 2001      Chaplain to the Detroit, Michigan Chapter of Legatus  
July 1, 1994 - 1996      Pastor of the Shrine of the Little Flower Parish, Royal Oak, Michigan  
Sept. 1995 - July 2001      Director of the Archdiocesan Medical-Moral Committee, Detroit, Michigan  
June 12, 1996      Appointed Titular Bishop of Alton and Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, Michigan  
  
July 9, 1996      Ordained Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit, Michigan  
August 8, 1996      Appointed Auxiliary Bishop for the South Region (88 parishes) of the Archdiocese of Detroit, Michigan  
  
June 12, 2001      Appointed Third Bishop of the Diocese of New Ulm, Minnesota  
August 6, 2001      Installed Bishop of the Diocese of New Ulm, Minnesota

**Honors:**

June 4, 1985      Appointed a Chaplain to His Holiness by Pope John Paul II, bearing the title "Monsignor"  
  
May 26, 1990      Appointed a Prelate of Honor by Pope John Paul II  
May 15, 1994      Invested as Knight of the Holy Sepulcher  
October 30, 2004      4th Degree Knights of Columbus

**Professional Associations:**

1977 - 1980      Member of the Medical-Moral Committee of the Michigan Catholic Conference for Catholic Health Facilities, Detroit, Michigan  
  
1986-1991      Wranglers (Ecumenical Dialogue), Detroit, Michigan  
August 1987 – July 2001      Member of the Archdiocesan Medical-Moral Committee, Detroit, Michigan  
Sept. 1987 - July 1994      Midwest/Western Rectors' Conference  
1988 - 1992      Participation in A.T.S. (Association of Theological Schools), International Meetings, 1988 (San Francisco, California); 1990 (Montreal, Canada); 1992 (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)  
  
June 1988 - 1997      Membership in Catholic Theological Society of America  
Annual participation in M.A.T.S. (Midwestern Association of Theological Schools)  
Annual participation in Association of American Colleges, 1990 (San Francisco, California), Topic: "Undergraduate Majors and the Claims of Liberal Learning"  
  
July 1988      Participant in Warren Deene Institute for Management (I.T.E.M.), Harriman, New York  
  
Jan. 1989 - June 1993      Trustee Committee on Academic Affairs, Madonna University, Livonia, Michigan  
  
Jan. 1989 - July 1994      Board of Trustees, Madonna University, Livonia, Michigan  
1989 -1994      Participation in N.C.E.A. (National Catholic Education Association) annual conventions, 1989 (Chicago, Illinois); 1990 (Toronto, Canada); 1991 (Boston, Massachusetts); 1992 (St. Louis, Missouri); 1994 (Anaheim, California)  
  
February 9-10, 1989      Association of the Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges Workshop for Theological School Trustees and Chief Executives, Cincinnati, Ohio  
  
January 1-5, 1992      Participation in W.R.A.C.S./E.R.A.C.S. (Western/Eastern Regional Association of College Seminaries) Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California  
  
Sept. 1993 - July 1994      Trustee Committee on Student Life, Madonna University, Livonia, Michigan  
January 6-9, 1994      Participation in N.A.C.S. (National Association of College Seminaries) Annual Meeting, Brighton, Maryland

### **Professional Associations, continued:**

February 20-24, 1995	Member of the Visitation Team to the Theological College of the Catholic University of America (Washington, DC) sponsored by the Bishops' Committee of Priestly Formation of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops
March 1996	Member of the Visitation Team to Mundelein Seminary (Chicago, Illinois) sponsored by the Bishops' Committee on Priestly Formation of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops
June 2001 – Nov. 2002	Liaison for the National Advisory Committee for Catholic School Parental Rights Advocacy, USCCB
October 2001 – present	Member of the Board of Trustees of The Saint Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota
April 2002	Chairman on the Visitation Team to Immaculate Conception Seminary (Huntington, NY), sponsored by the USCCB Committee on Priestly Formation
July 2005 – present	Trustee of the Catholic Relief Society (Catholic Mutual Group)

### **NCCB/USCCB Committees:**

1997 - 2001	North American College Board of Governors
1998 - 2001	Committee on Communications
1998 - present	BCEIA/National Council of Synagogues Consultation
1999 - 2000	Nominations Committee for the NCCB
1999 - 2002	Committee on Science and Human Values
1999 - 2003	Committee on Education
2001 - 2002	USCCB Liaison to School Parents Advocacy Coalition
2001 - 2002	Bishops' Committee on Priestly Formation, Chair-elect
2001 - 2005	Chair, Draft Sub-committee of Bishops' Committee on Priestly Formation to write the <u>5th Edition of the Program of Priestly Formation</u>
2002 - 2005	Bishops' Committee on Priestly Formation, Chairperson
2002 - present	Ad Hoc Committee on Catholic Health Care Issues and the Church
2003 - 2005	USCCB Committee for African American Catholics
2005 - 2006	USCCB Conference of Diocesan Coordinators of Health Affairs, Episcopal Liaison
2005 - present	Committee to Plan for Special Assembly 2007
2005 - present	Committee on Science and Human Values

### **Presentations:**

November 17, 1987	"The Churches' Response to AIDS," Temple Beth El, Birmingham, Michigan
February 21, 1989	"Toward a Liberation Theology for the First World: The Preaching of Richard Rohr," Metropolitan United Methodist Church, Detroit, Michigan
April 3, 1990	"Robert Bly on Maleness in the 90's," First Congregational Church, Ann Arbor, Michigan
January 8, 1992	Commentary on MCC (Michigan Catholic Conference) Document, <u>To Let Live. To Let Die...</u> , Address, to the Cardinal Club, Detroit Golf Club, Detroit, Michigan
February 26, 1992	Hesburgh Lecture Series, Address to the Notre Dame Club: "Response to the Reverend Michael Himes," Birmingham, Michigan
October 29, 1992	"Durable Power of Attorney," Address to Legatus, Detroit, Michigan
March 6, 1997	"Contemporary Moral Challenges," Address to Guardian Angels Parish, Clawson, Michigan

- June 26, 1997 "Project Life: A Response to the Culture of Death," Address to the Detroit Chapter of Legatus, Orchard Lake, Michigan
- Presentations, continued:**
- September 28, 1997 "Preparing for the Jubilee 2000," presentation to Our Lady of Refuge Parish, Orchard Lake, Michigan
- October 5, 1997 "Forming a Right Conscience," presentation to the Center for Faith and Action, U of D Jesuit High School, Detroit, Michigan
- Oct. 30 – Nov. 1, 1997 "Retreat on Prayer," presented for the John Carroll Society, Washington, DC
- October 28, 1998 "Teshuva and Repentance," presented to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and National Council of Synagogues, New York, New York
- November 6, 1998 "Challenges for the Year 2000 AD," presented at Temple Shir Shalom, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
- June 1, 2001 "The Sacred Heart," Legatus, Detroit, Michigan
- March 2002 "Is Conscience Enough," St. Paul Parish, Nicollet, Minnesota and St. Mary Parish, New Ulm, Minnesota
- September 3, 2002 "The Distinct Yet Related Parts of Seminary Formation," St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Overbrook, Pennsylvania
- November 24-25, 2003 "Priestly Identity," Address to the Presbyterate, Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York

**Conferences/Workshops Attended:**

- September 16, 1992 "How to be a Better Team Leader," Detroit, Michigan
- May 17, 1993 "Strategic Planning: A Vision for the Future," Chicago, Illinois
- March 8-19, 1998 "Jewish-Catholic Interfaith Journey to Israel and Rome," Jerusalem and Rome

**Publications:**

- 1994 "On the Wings of Healing Prayer: The Hospital Prayerbook," Heliographs, Ltd., co-authored with Rabbi Dannel Schwartz and Reverend Charles Richter
- 1999 "A Catholic Perspective on Forgiveness," Catholic Near East, January-February 1999, pp. 27-29
- 2001 "Re-examining the ERD's on Cooperation," Ethics and Medics, Vol. 26, No. 5, May 2001, pp. 1-2
- 2001 "Christ, the Divine Physician and Healer," Linacre Quarterly, Vol. 68, No. 4, November 2001, pp. 358-360
- 2002 "The Distinct Yet Related Parts of Seminary Formation," Origins, Vol. 32, Issue 20, October 24, 2002, pp. 336-338
- 2003 "Bioethical Challenges for the Church," Origins, Vol. 32, Issue 41, March 7, 2003, pp. 676-682
- 2003 "Religious Bodies Challenge Minnesota Concealed Gun Law," Origins, Vol. 33, Issue 7, June 26, 2003, p. 103
- 2006 "Facing Down the New Paradigm: The Family Planning Agenda of the United Nations' 'Millennial Goals'," Crisis, Vol. 24, No. 3, April 2006, pp. 20-25
- 2006 "Drafting the New Program of Priestly Formation: A Labor of Love," Seminary Journal, Vol. 12, No. 2, Fall 2006, 22-27