

# Diocese of New Ulm Fact Sheet

Diocese established: November 18, 1957  
Ordinaries appointed by Holy Father to serve the Diocese of New Ulm  
Bishop Alphonse J. Schladweiler, 1957-1975  
Bishop Raymond A. Lucker, 1975-2000  
Bishop John C. Nienstedt 2001-2007  
Bishop John M. LeVoir ordained and installed September Sept. 15, 2008

15 Counties: Big Stone, Brown, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Nicollet, Redwood, Renville, Sibley, Swift, Yellow Medicine.  
Total Square Miles: 9,863. Total population of 15 county area: 285,338 (24% of the population is Catholic.) Total Catholic population: 68,087

## PARISH SUMMARY

**As of March 17, 2009**

**There are 76 Parishes & 4 Oratories**

**Of the 76 Parishes:**

- 59 are classified as a Parish
- 13 are classified as a Small Parish
- 4 are proposed future Oratory

**Within these 76 Parishes:**

- there are 23 Area Faith Communities and
- 4 stand alone parishes

**Of the 23 Area Faith Communities:**

- 6 have two Parishes
- 8 have three Parishes
- 6 have four Parishes
- 1 have five Parishes
- 1 has four Parishes and 1 Oratory
- 1 has three Parishes and 2 Oratories

## LEADERSHIP SUMMARY

**As of March 17, 2009**

**Of the 47 Pastoral Leaders:**

- 39 priests in charge of parishes
- 8 pastoral administrators

**Diocesan Population (As of June 30, 2008)**

Total parishioners = 62,867  
Smallest parish population = 63 - Nassau  
Largest parish population = 4,506 - Marshall  
Population of 13 largest parishes = 32,479  
Parishes with population under 500 = 43

**Diocesan Priests** *(as of March 17, 2009)*

- 43 in parish ministry
- 2 serving in foreign mission
- 23 retired priests

## Catholic Schools

16 Elementary (K-8)  
3 High Schools (9-12)  
Total student enrollment K-12 is 2,324 (2008-2009)

There is a growing population of Hispanic people in Willmar, Glencoe, Sleepy Eye, Renville, Litchfield, and Marshall. Estimated resident Hispanic population is 15,000. Each summer an additional 5,500 Hispanic migrants live in the diocese.