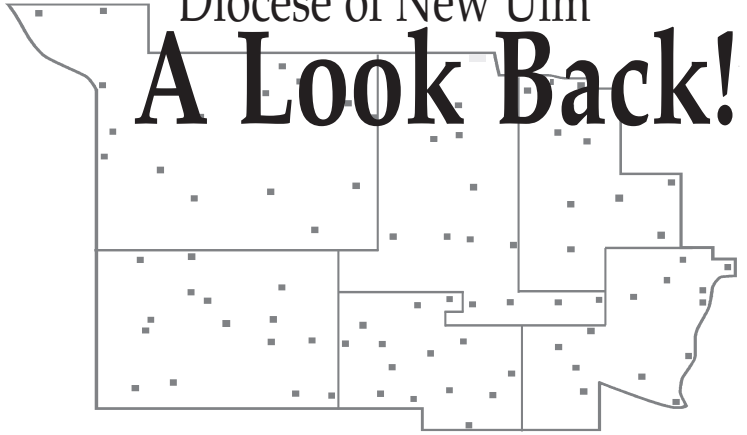


Diocese of New Ulm A Look Back!



EDITOR'S NOTE:

In recognition of the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the Diocese of New Ulm (November 18, 2007), *The Prairie Catholic* will be taking "a look back" each month through November on the important history since the conception of the diocese.

Mary, Patron Saint of the Diocese of New Ulm

The Diocese of New Ulm was dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God on January 31, 1958.

A small rolled up parchment was placed in a hole at the bottom back of a wooden statue of Mary. (*Actual statue pictured.*)



The parchment reads:

Statue of Blessed Mother and Child

Description: 14 inches high, unfinished carved wood, probably basswood, plus octagonal base of walnut, 2 1/2 inches high.

This statue was given to Bishop Schladweiler by the E. Hackner Company of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, who manufactured the bishop's throne.

On the morning after the erection of the Diocese of New Ulm, that is, on

January 31, 1958, Bishop Schladweiler, Very Reverend Arnold Berg, Chancellor and Reverend Raymond Neudecker, Vice-Chancellor met for the first time in the Chancery Office, located at 19 North Broadway, New Ulm. Their first official act was the blessing of the statue of Blessed Mother and Child and the placing of it upon the mantel above the fireplace in the secretary's office and waiting room, thereby dedicating the new diocese to the Blessed Mother of God.

The Bishop presumes to beg his successors in office to honor this statue as the visible symbol of the help "Our Lady of New Ulm" gave him in founding and governing his see.

+Bishop Alphonse Schladweiler
January 29, 1962