



To Our Venerable Brother
FABIAN WENDELIN BRUSKEWITZ
Bishop of Lincoln

How can we forget, Venerable Brother, that joyful day when, through the imposition of the hands of His Eminence Luigi Cardinal Traglia, you were raised to the holy order of priesthood and in a special way destined for many apostolic works. This memorable event will be recalled in a special way when, within a few short weeks, you will celebrate a landmark of fifty years of priestly life – indeed a lengthy time of sacred ministry marked by many accomplishments.

The church in Milwaukee, enriched by your priestly gifts and generous bestowal of the Lord's teaching and sacraments, cherishes fond memories of you. It was there that you cared for young men in the seminary, where you engaged in pastoral ministry in several parishes so that this local church might grow and flourish from day to day.

Neither do we wish to pass over in silence the apostolic zeal with which you have attended to the spiritual well-being of the Christian faithful in the Diocese of Lincoln which Our Venerable Predecessor entrusted to your care. For there you have taught Catholic doctrine with clarity and have duly attended to the adequate preparation of candidates for the sacred ministry; you have also founded Saint Gregory the Great Minor Seminary, supported Catholic education, and attended to the needs of the sick. Nor should we fail to mention all you have done for the Church throughout the nation by promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Therefore, calling to mind this special anniversary, we happily send this letter as an expression our congratulations; may this day be for you a source of deep satisfaction and encouragement. Finally, we ask the all-merciful Lord to reward you for all the good you have done and to shower upon you His many gifts while we, Venerable Brother, impart to you Our Apostolic Blessing, which we also willingly impart to the entire church of Lincoln.

Given from the Vatican on the 23rd day of June in the Year of our Lord 2010, the Sixth of Our Pontificate.

BENEDICTUS PP. XVI