

## ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS Office of Communications

## **News Release**

APRIL 21, 2009 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Anne Steffens Chief Communications Officer (314) 792-7631 (direct)

## STATEMENT OF BISHOP ROBERT HERMANN ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MOST REVEREND ROBERT J. CARLSON AS ARCHBISHOP OF ST. LOUIS

"On behalf of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, I warmly welcome Archbishop-elect Robert J. Carlson, presently Bishop of Saginaw, as our new Archbishop. We are most grateful to Pope Benedict XVI for this appointment. Archbishop-elect Carlson is 64 years of age and has celebrated his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Episcopal ordination. I have known Archbishop-elect Carlson for a number of years. He is a very energetic, articulate, warm and gifted pastor and administrator. In the past five years in Saginaw, he has raised the number of seminarians from two to eighteen! He has published six pastoral letters, and has created the Saginaw Area Catholic Schools system. He is very dedicated to Life issues. He thinks and works with the Church he loves, and will continue to build upon the legacy of his predecessors here in St. Louis. I am most deeply impressed with his energy and zeal for evangelization. I eagerly look forward to working with and for him."

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