

Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley



FOURTH BISHOP OF THE
DIOCESE OF KALAMAZOO

officeofthebishop@diokzoo.org

269-349-8714 x1122

 @BishopPBradley

MOST REV. PAUL J. BRADLEY

Biographical Summary Motto: "Waiting in Joyful Hope" cf. St. Paul's Letter to Titus 2:13

On June 5, 2009, Most Reverend Paul J. Bradley was installed as the fourth Bishop for the Diocese of Kalamazoo. Prior to his installation for the diocese, he was appointed titular bishop of Afufenia and auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh on December 16, 2004 and was ordained a bishop on February 2, 2005.

By the Numbers

52 years as a priest

25,000+ Confirmed

20 Men Ordained to Priesthood

23 Men Ordained to Permanent Diaconate

8 Pastoral Letters

- *What I Have Heard and Seen*, 2010
- *We Dare to Say*, 2012
- *The Church: A Center of Hope*, 2014
- *Moving Forward in Hope: Charting the Course for the Future*, 2016
- *Loving God and Our Neighbor: Living the Mission of the Eucharist*, 2019*
- *From Darkness to Light: Hope for a New Pentecost*, 2020**
- *Let Our Hearts Be 'In-Spired' For Mission*, 2021***
- *Behold, I Am Making All Things New*, 2022

*Received 2nd Place for Best Diocesan Pastoral Message - Letter at the 2020 Catholic Press Association Awards

**Received 2nd Place for Best Diocesan Pastoral Message - Letter at the 2021 Catholic Press Association Awards

***Received Honorable Mention for Best Diocesan Pastoral Message - Letter at the 2022 Catholic Press Association Awards

Bishop Paul J. Bradley was born on October 18, 1945, in Glassport, Pa., the son of John and Cecilia Bradley. He attended St. Cecilia Grade School and attended high school, college and graduate theology studies at St. Meinrad Seminary, St. Meinrad, Ind. He also earned the Master's in Social Work (MSW) from the University of Pittsburgh on December 19, 1987.

Ordained a priest in the Diocese of Pittsburgh on May 1, 1971 by Bishop Vincent M. Leonard, Bishop Bradley held various pastoral ministry assignments both in the parishes as well as at the diocesan level. He served as Director of the Office of Family Life (1982), Secretary for Social Concerns (1989), and Vicar General/General Secretary/Moderator of the Curia. When (then) Bishop Donald Wuerl was installed as the archbishop of Washington, D.C. in June 2006, Bishop Bradley was elected Administrator of the Diocese of Pittsburgh by the diocesan College of Consultors. He oversaw the day-to-day operations of the Diocese for 18 months until Bishop David Zubik's installation on September 28, 2007. Bishop Bradley then continued serving as Auxiliary Bishop/Vicar General/Moderator of the Curia until he was appointed Bishop of Kalamazoo.

After his Installation as Bishop of the Diocese of Kalamazoo in 2009 for the more than 100,000 Catholics in the nine-county region of Southwest Michigan, within his first year, Bishop Bradley visited all 59 parishes and 22 Catholic schools in the diocese. He released his first pastoral letter, *What I Have Heard and Seen* in the fall of 2010. He has since written an additional six pastoral letters to the faithful [see Pastoral Letters] including his most recent, "Behold, I am Making all Things New" [August 2022].

During his fourteen years as shepherd of the Diocese, Bishop Bradley has introduced a number of initiatives including the implementation of the 2016 Diocesan Pastoral Plan which created 28 Parish Collaboratives from the existing 59 parishes and missions. He also convened the 2019 Eucharistic Congress where close to 1,000 Catholics participated. During his episcopal ministry Bishop Bradley has ordained 20 men to the priesthood and 23 as permanent deacons. He has conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation to more than 25,000 people*. He has also written eight pastoral letters, including three which received recognition from the Catholic Press Association Awards.