



Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, which opened in late summer in 2008, will be the setting for a Mass starting at 3 p.m. on May 3 during which an expected 35,000 to 40,000 Catholics across central and southern Indiana will celebrate the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Vincennes, which later became the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.



Jubilee Prayer

Generous and merciful Father, we give you thanks for 175 years of grace and blessings upon our local Church.

From Vincennes to Indianapolis, You gather a people to praise You and manifest Your presence in the world—faithful women and men of generations past, present and yet to follow.

In this year of Jubilee, we ask You to touch our hearts anew with the love of Your Son, Jesus Christ, enlighten our minds with Your Holy Spirit and strengthen our hands for service.

Through the intercession of Mary, Mother of God, St. Joseph, patron of the Universal Church, and our own patrons, St. Francis Xavier and St. Theodora Guérin, hear our prayers* and aid us on our journey to the Kingdom where You live and reign Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

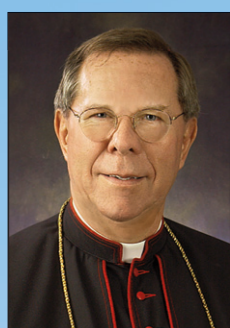
**When prayed privately, specific personal intentions may be included here.*



ARCHDIOCESE OF INDIANAPOLIS
The Church in Central and Southern Indiana

175th Anniversary Mass

May 3, 2009 • Indianapolis, Indiana



**Archbishop
Daniel M. Buechlein**

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

In just over a week, the Church in southern and central Indiana will gather for the 175th Anniversary Jubilee Mass to give thanks to God for the many graces and blessings he has bestowed upon our archdiocese during the past 175 years. Excitement is building throughout the archdiocese. Join us for this historic event. All are invited!

Our celebration will take place at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis on Sunday, May 3, at 3 p.m. The stadium is the largest facility available in our archdiocese, and we wanted to have room for everyone who wants to attend. During our gathering, we will celebrate the Eucharist and honor our first communicants of this Easter season. The sacrament of confirmation will be administered to nearly 3,000 young people, a nuptial blessing will be given to all married couples present, religious in the archdiocese who are celebrating jubilee anniversaries will be recognized, and we will all pray to the Holy Spirit to give us all the grace to carry out the evangelizing mission of the Church.

This Jubilee Mass is the culmination of our celebration of the 175th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. We trace the history of the archdiocese back to the establishment of the

Diocese of Vincennes on May 6, 1834, by Pope Gregory XVI. This is a perfect time for us to gather as the Church in central and southern Indiana and to experience the unity we share as sisters and brothers in the Lord. It is also a graced time, a time for us to witness to the larger community how the Good News of Jesus Christ has changed our lives and made us a hope-filled people.

Please make plans now to join me, 19 bishops and abbots from across the country and priests from our archdiocese who will be assisting in celebrating confirmation, and all clergy, religious and laity of our local Church as we gather as one family to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. Together, let us thank God for the extraordinary blessings our archdiocese has received and invoke the power of the Holy Spirit to help us reach out to inactive Catholics and to those who have no church home.

I look forward to being with you on May 3.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

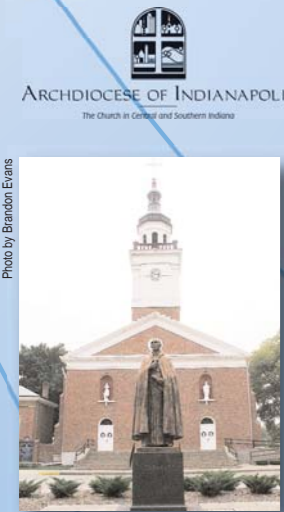
+ Daniel M. Buechlein

Most Rev. Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.
Archbishop of Indianapolis

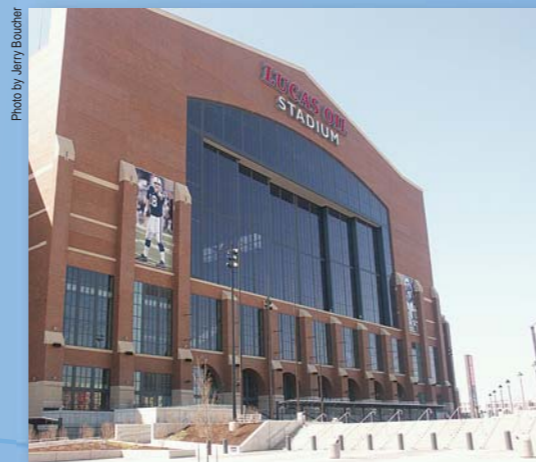


175th Anniversary Mass Map

Archdiocesan Deanery Map



History: The Basilica of St. Francis Xavier, or the "Old Cathedral," in Vincennes was constructed in 1826. The Diocese of Vincennes was established on May 6, 1834, by Pope Gregory XVI. It became the Diocese of Indianapolis in 1898, and the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in 1944.

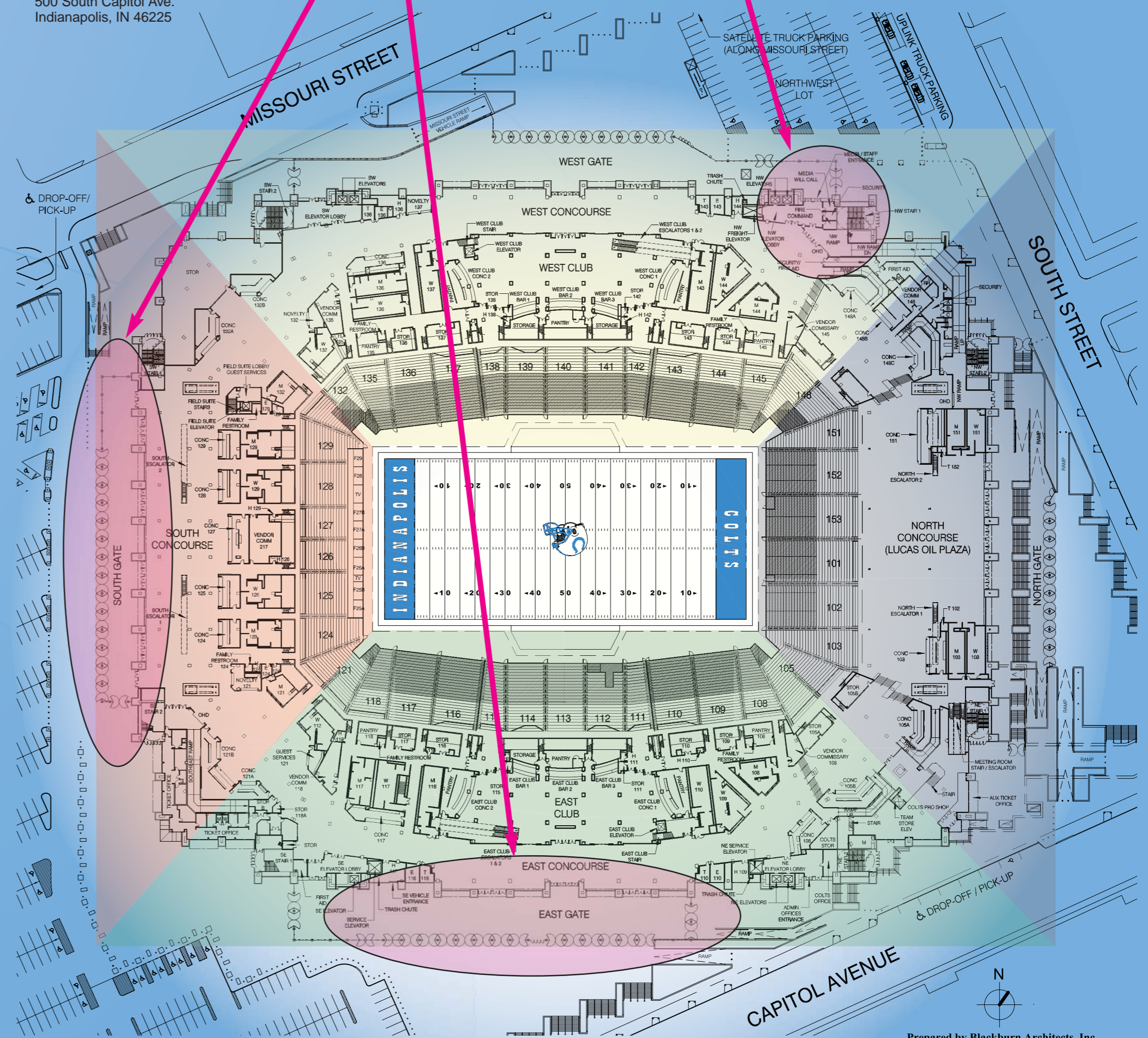


Lucas Oil Stadium
500 South Capitol Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46225

Lucas Oil Stadium and Surrounding Parking Facilities

For the General Public: All public entrances to the event are located at the South Concourse and East Concourse. Parking will be available near entrances.

For Volunteers: There is no set parking area for volunteers. Volunteer entrance is the media/staff entrance. It is located on the South Street side of the West Concourse section.



Downtown Indianapolis

Major interstate routes:

From the West: I-70 East to West Street (Exit 79A). Left (north) to South Street.

From the North: I-65 South to West Street (Exit 114). Straight (south) to South Street.

From the East: I-70 West to I-65 North; Follow I-65 North to West Street (Exit 114); Left (south) to South Street.

From the South: I-65 North to I-70 West (Exit 110B); Exit I-70 at West Street (Exit 79A). Right (north) to South Street.

Indianapolis International Airport: I-70 East to West Street (Exit 79A). Left (north) to South Street.

Please leave early and be patient in traveling to Lucas Oil Stadium. Expect to encounter some delay because of road construction on area interstates.



Bishops and abbots will help confer the sacrament of confirmation

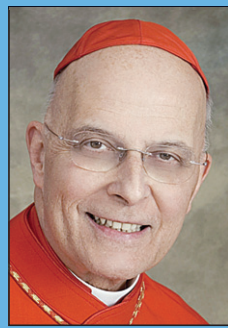


Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago and president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, will be among the 17 bishops and two abbots who will

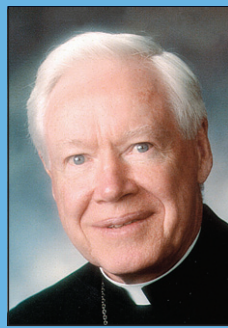
concelebrate the 175th anniversary Mass on May 3 with Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein.

The bishops and abbots will also help confer the sacrament of confirmation on nearly 3,000 young people and adults during the Mass.

The list of participating bishops and abbots includes:



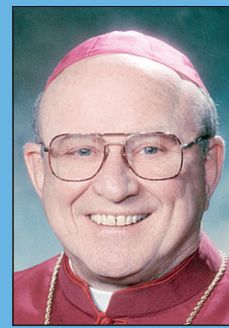
Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago



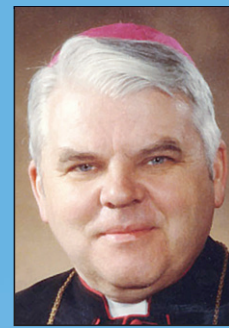
Bishop Robert J. Banks
Bishop Emeritus of Green Bay



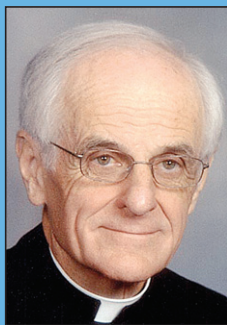
Bishop Leonard P. Blair
Bishop of Toledo



Bishop William H. Bullock
Bishop Emeritus of Madison



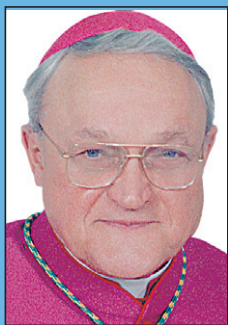
Bishop John M. D'Arcy
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend



Bishop Robert W. Donnelly
Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Toledo



Bishop Thomas G. Doran
Bishop of Rockford



Bishop Gerald A. Gettelfinger
Bishop of Evansville



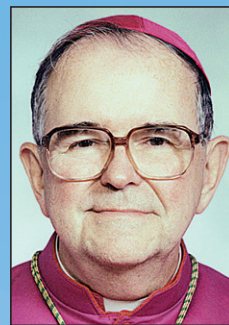
Bishop William L. Higi
Bishop of Lafayette-in-Indiana



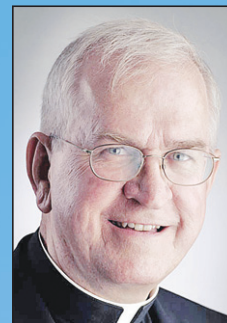
Bishop Joseph L. Imesch
Bishop Emeritus of Joliet



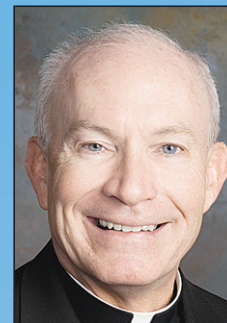
Archbishop James P. Keleher
Archbishop Emeritus of Kansas City-in-Kansas



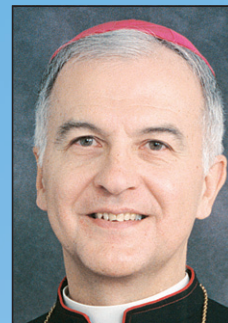
Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly, O.P.
Archbishop Emeritus of Louisville



Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz
Archbishop of Louisville



Bishop George J. Lucas
Bishop of Springfield-in-Illinois



Bishop Dale J. Melczek
Bishop of Gary



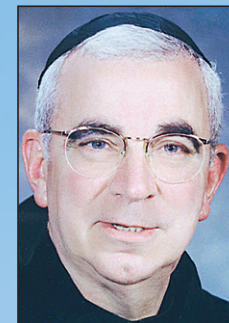
Bishop Carl F. Mengeling
Bishop Emeritus of Lansing



Bishop J. Peter Sartain
Bishop of Joliet-in-Illinois



Right Rev. Justin DuVall, O.S.B.
Archabbot of St. Meinrad



Right Rev. Lambert Reilly, O.S.B.
Retired Archabbot of St. Meinrad

A guide to the 175th Anniversary Mass for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

Thousands of Catholics from throughout the Archdiocese of Indianapolis will gather on May 3 at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the archdiocese. This special anniversary Mass is the culmination of a yearlong celebration. During the Mass, nearly 3,000 young people and adults will receive the sacrament of confirmation.

Following are some questions and answers about the celebration.

What are we celebrating?

It has been 175 years since Pope Gregory XVI established the Diocese of Vincennes, which became the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, on May 6, 1834. We look back in gratitude to our first bishop in Indiana, Bishop Simon Bruté, St. Theodora Guérin, and all the clergy, religious and lay people throughout the years who made great sacrifices to pass on to us the Catholic faith we enjoy today.

Our celebration at Lucas Oil Stadium is an opportunity for all Catholics in the archdiocese to celebrate the Eucharist together and to give thanks to God for the many blessings he has bestowed upon our archdiocese over the past 175 years. This celebration also is a time for all Catholics in the archdiocese to hear their call in the Holy Spirit to participate in the Church's mission to evangelize and to spread the Good News of our salvation.

Where will the 175th Anniversary Mass be held?

It will take place at 3 p.m. on May 3 in Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

Who is invited?

All Catholics in the archdiocese are invited. We also

welcome all Catholics from outside the archdiocese and any non-Catholics who want to celebrate with us.

How many people are expected to attend?

As many as 40,000 people.

Do I need a ticket to get in and are there assigned seats?

No one needs a ticket to enter the general seating in the stands. The confirmation candidates and their sponsors will be seated by parish on the floor along with other people being recognized and special guests. There also will be seating for persons with disabilities. All others may sit where they wish in the stands.

How early can I enter the stadium?

The doors will open at 1 p.m.

Will there be any entertainment before the Mass?

Music will be performed before the Mass starting at 1:30 p.m. by a special Archdiocesan High School Jubilee Choir, the St. Monica Spanish Choir, Holy Angels Mass Choir and the African Catholic Ministry Drummers. Videos will be shown highlighting the history of the archdiocese.

Who will celebrate the Mass?

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and 19 other bishops and abbots from around the country, including Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago. Priests of the archdiocese will concelebrate.

How long will the Mass last?

Approximately two hours.

How will nearly 3,000 people be confirmed?

There will be at least 40 stations where the candidates

will receive the sacrament.

Will everyone be able to receive Communion?

Yes. There will be more than 200 Communion stations.

Does this Mass fulfill my Sunday obligation?

Yes.

Is the archdiocese doing anything special for the confirmation candidates?

In addition to bringing all the confirmation candidates together for this celebration, each candidate will receive a rosary and case.

Will I be able to see what's going on if I'm sitting in the stands?

A large stage will be set up to place the altar on. The Mass also will be shown on giant screens in the stadium.

How will the diversity of the archdiocese be reflected in the celebration?

Readings, prayers and music will be proclaimed and sung in English and nine other languages.

Will there be any special music during the Mass?

The text of the opening hymn, "Come and See the Many Wonders," was composed specifically for the 175th anniversary of the archdiocese by Benedictine Father Harry Hagan of St. Meinrad Archabbey.

Will a collection be taken up during Mass?

Yes. Those wishing to make a tax-deductible contribution to help support the 175th Anniversary Mass can make out a check to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. †

Are you a Mass volunteer? Here are some things you need to know

Where do I enter the stadium?

Enter through the Staff/Media doors located on the northwest corner of the stadium (north of the west entrances). You will receive your volunteer credentials and specific assignment at tables located in the entry lobby.

What time do I need to arrive at the stadium?

Unless otherwise notified, volunteers need to arrive between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

What should I wear?

Clothing that is appropriate for a Sunday liturgy ... no jeans or shorts. You will receive a volunteer

badge and lanyard for identification.

Are more volunteers needed?

No, archdiocesan officials say all the volunteer positions are filled. They thank everyone who has agreed to help with this special event. †