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PRESS RELEASE

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**Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan to Celebrate
25 Years As Bishop
Tuesday, June 17, 2008 7:15 PM Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, Santa Fe, NM**

ALBUQUERQUE, NM - IMMEDIATE RELEASE - June 16, 2008

Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan will celebrate his 25th Episcopal Anniversary Tuesday, June 17, 2008 at 7:15 pm at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, Santa Fe, NM. Pope Benedict XVI has sent his Papal blessing which will be read at the celebration. Concelebrating with Archbishop at the Anniversary Mass will be his brother bishops, an abbot and provincials from throughout the United States. Among the numerous joining in the celebration of the Liturgy will be 139 priests, Archdiocesan deacons, seminarians and laity. They include:

Archbishop Charles Chaput, OFM Cap.	Archdiocese of Denver
Archbishop Joseph Fiorenza	Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Retired
Archbishop Thomas Kelly OP	Archdiocese of Louisville, Retired
Bishop George W. Coleman	Diocese of Fall River, MA
Bishop David Fellhauer	Diocese of Victoria, TX
Bishop Richard C. Hanifen	Diocese of Colorado Springs, Retired
Bishop Joseph H. Hart	Diocese of Cheyenne, Retired
Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas	Diocese of Tucson
Bishop Robert Lynch	Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL
Bishop Thomas J. O'Brien	Diocese of Phoenix, Retired
Bishop Thomas J. Olmstead	Diocese of Phoenix
Bishop Raymundo J. Pena	Diocese of Brownsville, TX
Bishop Ricardo Ramirez CSB	Diocese of Las Cruces
Bishop David L. Ricken	Diocese of Cheyenne
Bishop Placido Rodriguez, CMF	Diocese of Lubbock
Bishop William S. Skylstad	Diocese of Spokane
Bishop Arthur N. Tafoya	Diocese of Pueblo
Bishop William K. Weigand	Diocese of Sacramento
Very Rev. Larry Dunham OFM	Provincial of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province, Curia Juan Diego, Archdiocese of Santa Fe
Abbott Dom Phillip Lawrence	Abbot of Abbey of Christ in the Desert, Abiquiu, NM, Archdiocese of Santa Fe

Archbishop Sheehan was named the first bishop of the Diocese of Lubbock, TX on June 17, 1983 and the eleventh archbishop of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, NM on August 17, 1993. In his 25 years as a bishop he has served the Church in numerous capacities. A brief snapshot of his life follows:

July 9, 1939 Born in Wichita, Kansas, Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan; Raised by his parents John and Mildred Sheehan in Texarkana

We invite you to visit our website
<http://www.archdiocesasantafe.org>

1957-1961 He studied for the priesthood at Assumption Seminary in San Antonio, Texas

July 12, 1964 Ordained a priest at the North American College in Rome, Italy

1965 Theological Studies at the Gregorian University. Received his S.T.L. Degree

1965 to 1968 Returned to the Diocese of Dallas and was appointed associate pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish which is now the Cathedral Parish in Tyler, Texas.

1971 Received his doctorate from the Lateran University in Rome

1971 to 1976 Asst. Gen. Secretary for the National Conference for Catholic Bishops and the United States Catholic Conference in Washington, D.C.

1976 to 1982 Appointed rector of Holy Trinity Seminary in Dallas

1982 Named Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Grand Prairie, Texas

June 17, 1983 Pope John Paul II established the Diocese of Lubbock and named Monsignor Michael Jarboe Sheehan as its first Bishop.

April 6, 1993 Appointed Apostolic Administrator for the historic Archdiocese of Santa Fe

August 17, 1993 Appointed the eleventh Archbishop of Santa Fe

September 21, 1993 Installed at the Convention Center in Albuquerque by Archbishop Agostino Cacciavillan, Apostolic Pro-Nuncio to the United States

May 2002 to September 2006 Served as Episcopal Moderator for the National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association

June 17, 2003 to December 20, 2003 Appointed Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Phoenix the same date he celebrated his 20th Episcopal Anniversary serving 10 years as Bishop of Lubbock and 10 years as Archbishop of Santa Fe.

November 2003 to November 2006 Secretary of the Executive Committee for the USCCB and Chair of the USCCB Plans and Priorities Committee

Present Serves on the Boards of Josephinum Seminary, Catholic Extension Society and Catholic Mutual He has served on various USCCB committees: Administrative, Liturgy; Evangelization; Catholic Home Missions, Communications; Hispanic Affairs; Priestly Life and Ministry to mention a few. He has also served on a variety of Board of Directors: Holy Trinity Seminary in Dallas; Mexican American Cultural Center; United Way Program, and RENEW International to mention a few.