



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS
Office of Communications

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mary Haarman
616-475-1240
616-433-3860 (cell)

Chancellor of the Diocese of Grand Rapids
to Pursue Advance Study

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., February 22, 2007 – Most Reverend Walter A. Hurley, bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, announced today that Sister Patrice Konwinski OP, chancellor, will resign her position to pursue advance studies in scripture and theology. A specific date has not been determined at this time. Sister Patrice anticipates beginning her studies in the Fall of 2007.

“Sister Patrice has served the Church of Grand Rapids with distinction during her 19 years as chancellor. Sister is well respected for her knowledge and dedication. Her years of service have been invaluable to our parishes and the diocese as a whole,” said Bishop Hurley. “I am extraordinarily grateful to Sister for the assistance she provided in acquainting me with the diocese.”

A Grand Rapids Dominican, Sister Patrice was appointed chancellor by Bishop Joseph M. Breitenbeck in July 1988. She continued in that position under the leadership of Bishop Robert J. Rose, Bishop Kevin M. Britt and Bishop Hurley. Sister Patrice was one of the first women in the United States to be appointed a diocesan chancellor.

“I deeply appreciate the privilege to have worked and ministered with so many dedicated bishops, clergy, religious and laity throughout these past years,” said Sister Patrice. “I now look forward to taking this time to update myself in theology and scripture, an opportunity for which I am grateful.”

In addition to the duties of chancellor, her other areas of responsibility have included finance, building and planning, human resources, and serving on diocesan boards and committees. Sister played a major role in the *In the Name of the Lord* capital campaign and in coordinating the renovation of the Cathedral of Saint Andrew in the late 1990’s.

The Diocese of Grand Rapids serves 170,000 Catholics in 102 parishes and missions throughout an 11 county area.

###