



DECREE OF THE CONVOCATION
OF THE FOURTH SYNOD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

After a careful consideration of various needs of the local Church that is in Bridgeport, I have concluded that the time is ripe for the clergy, religious and lay to come together to discuss and plan the pastoral future of our Diocese. Many of the faithful expressed their wishes to engage our youth and children in the works of the Church, about invigorating our parishes and institutions with renewed spirit of faith and about doing the work of the New Evangelization. Together, we must chart a path or, if you will, to build a bridge between where we are today and where we want to be in five years as the people of God in the Diocese of Bridgeport.

In preparation for this diocesan-wide consultation, I have sought the advice of the Presbyteral Council (canon 461 §1), the College of Consultors as well as many individuals and groups. Therefore, in virtue of canons 460 to 468 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law and the *Instruction on Diocesan Synods* (March 19, 1997), I hereby

Decree the convocation of the IV Synod for the Diocese of Bridgeport
Building a Bridge to the Future Together
September 19, 2014 – September 19, 2015

I entrust this Synod to the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Our Lady of Fatima, whose intercession we humbly invoke. In addition, we beseech the intercession of two new saints: Saint John XXIII who convoked the Second Vatican Council and Saint John Paul II who further carried out the implementation of the conciliar decisions.

This Decree becomes effective immediately and is to be communicated to the faithful of the Diocese of Bridgeport in an appropriate manner.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Bridgeport, on twenty-second day of February, the Solemnity of the Chair of Saint Peter, in the Year of Our Lord 2014.

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport

Anne O. McCrory
Chancellor