

Thomas Heslin

Thomas Heslin (April 17, 1847 – February 22, 1911) was an Irish-born prelate of the Roman Catholic Church who served as bishop of the Diocese of Natchez in Mississippi from 1889 until his death in 1911.

Biography

Early life

One of seven children, Thomas Heslin was born on April 17, 1847, in Killoe, County Longford, to Patrick and Catherine (née Hughes) Heslin.^[1] Upon the completion of his classical studies in Granard, Ireland, he came to the United States at the invitation of Archbishop Jean-Marie Odin in 1863.^[2] Heslin then studied theology and philosophy under the Lazarists at diocesan seminary of New Orleans.^[1] Too young to receive ordination, he taught at Jefferson College for several years.^[2]

Priesthood

Heslin was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of St. Louis by Bishop John Quinlan on September 8, 1869.^[3] He then served as a curate at the Cathedral of St. Louis for a month, when he was transferred to St. Vincent de Paul Church and later to St. Patrick's Church.^[2] From 1874 to 1889, he was pastor of St. Michael's Church in New Orleans.^[1]

Bishop of Natchez

On March 29, 1889, Heslin was appointed the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Natchez by Pope Leo XIII.^[3] He received his episcopal consecration on June 18, 1889, from Archbishop Francis Janssens, with Bishops Edward Fitzgerald and Anthony Durier serving as co-consecrators.^[3] Thomas Heslin died in Natchez, Mississippi, on February 22, 1911, at age 65.

References

- Leonard, John William, ed. (1905). *Who's Who in America*. Chicago: A.N. Marquis & Company Publishers.

His Excellency, The Most Reverend

Thomas Heslin

Bishop of Natchez



Church	<u>Catholic</u>
Diocese	<u>Diocese of Natchez</u>
Appointed	March 29, 1889
Predecessor	<u>Francis Janssens</u>
Successor	<u>John Edward Gunn</u>
Orders	
Ordination	September 8, 1869 by <u>John Quinlan</u>
Consecration	June 18, 1889 by <u>Francis Janssens</u>
Personal details	
Born	December 21m 1845 <u>Killoe,Ireland</u>
Died	February 22, 1911 (aged 65) <u>Natchez,</u> <u>Mississippi, US</u>

2. "THE NEW BISHOP OF NATCHEZ" (<https://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=9F07E7DD133AE033A2575AC1A9609C94689FD7CF>). *The New York Times*. 1889-06-19.
 3. "Bishop Thomas Heslin" (<http://www.catholic-hierarchy.org/bishop/bheslin.html>). *Catholic-Hierarchy.org*.
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