



ARCHDIOCESE of HARTFORD

Office of the Archdiocesan Archives

ARCHDIOCESE OF HARTFORD – FORMATION

ORIGINS (1808-1953)

*1843 – Established as Diocese of Hartford
(Connecticut & Rhode Island)*

*1953 – Elevated to Archdiocese of Hartford
(Hartford Co., Litchfield Co., & New Haven Co.)*

- Prior to 1808, Connecticut was part of the Diocese of Baltimore (MD), which comprised all U.S. territory east of the Mississippi River.
- In 1808, Connecticut became part of the newly created Diocese of Boston (MA), which encompassed the whole of New England.
- In 1843, the Diocese of Hartford (CT) was created and included all of Connecticut and Rhode Island. By special permission of the Holy See (Vatican City), Providence (RI) was made the official seat of the diocese, not Hartford (CT).
- In 1872, the Diocese of Providence (RI) was created, separating Rhode Island from Connecticut. Providence (RI) remained the official seat of the Diocese of Providence and Hartford (CT) became the official seat of the Diocese of Hartford (CT). – At this point, the Diocese of Hartford solely constituted the whole of Connecticut.
- In 1953, Connecticut was separated into three dioceses: Diocese of Bridgeport (CT), Diocese of Norwich (CT), and Archdiocese of Hartford (CT).

TODAY (1953-Present)

Connecticut Continues as Three (03) Separate Dioceses

- **Archdiocese of Hartford (CT) – est. 1953**
 - Hartford Co.
 - Litchfield Co.
 - New Haven Co.

- **Diocese of Bridgeport (CT) – est. 1953**
 - Fairfield Co.

- **Diocese of Norwich (CT) – est. 1953**
 - Middlesex Co.
 - New London Co.
 - Tolland, CT
 - Windham, CT
 - Fishers Island (in Suffolk Co.), NY

FORMATION OF U.S. DIOCESES (1789-1843)

1789 Baltimore (MD)	1840 Los Angeles (CA)
1793 New Orleans (LA)	1841 Louisville (KY)
1808 Boston (MA) New York (NY) Philadelphia (PA)	1843 Chicago (IL) Hartford (CT) Milwaukee (WI) Pittsburgh (PA)
1820 Charleston (SC) Richmond (VA)	
1821 Cincinnati (OH)	
1826 St. Louis (MO)	
1833 Detroit (MI)	
1837 Dubuque (IA) Nashville (TN)	