

## Cardinal Diepenbrock's Testimony

In 1852, Bishops shared their testimony regarding support of Mother Teresa's version of the Holy Rule and their satisfaction with the education of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. These were sent to Pope Pius IX. Cardinal Melchior Diepenbrock, the Prince-Bishop of Breslau, was the first to sign. He was deathly sick at the time.

"After I learned the admirable and wise intentions of the two Reverend Founders of this Congregation and followed the wonderful spread of the latter in Germany and America with great sympathy; after I possessed an affiliated house in my own diocese, which exceeded all my expectations; furthermore, since I know the bonds of love, honor, renunciation and trust, from the bed of suffering on which the Lord has held me stretched for more than a half-year, I venture to present this petition to the Holy Apostolic See: that His Holiness may, in his great wisdom, support the original organization of this Congregation and approve it convinced as I am, that each substantial change and above all the loosening of the bond of unity and sub-regency under a Superior-General will destroy this glorious Institute and assist in its early dissolution, which God forbid." As witness of their agreement with the petition of the Prince-Bishop the following ecclesiastics signed the Outline of the Rule: The Bishops of Regensburg, Eichstaett, Passau, Wuerzburg, Paderborn, Leitmeritz, Budweis; and the Cardinal-Archbishop of Prague."

S. Liobgid Ziegler, *Mutter Theresia* pp.199-200.