ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book could not have been written without the generous support of Cardinal Edmund Szoka, who was throughout its research and writing the very best sort of disinterested benefactor. It is the rare diocesan historian who enjoys the kind of freedom that was mine in Detroit, with unrestricted access to the archives and full editorial independence. Needless to say, I alone am responsible for any errors that remain in the text and for the interpretations found therein.

My work in the Archdiocesan archives was made immensely easier by Elizabeth Yakel, whose achievement in organizing said archives was little short of miraculous. I am indebted especially to her unfailing patience and good humor, for we worked in what were sometimes uncomfortably close quarters. Roman Godzak, Beth's successor, has continued her tradition of gracious service. Thanks go as well to Sister Celeste Rabaut, IHM, who was a near-omniscient guide to the archives of her congregation, and to Sister Mary Ann Travers, SSJ, who introduced me to the archives at Nazareth. No less helpful were the staffs at the Bentley Historical Library in Ann Arbor, the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, Wayne State University's Reuther Archives, and the library of Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit.

If archivists and librarians were of critical importance, so too were those friends and colleagues whose conversation over the past few years has shaped my thinking about Church history. Thanks, then, to Fathers Leonard Blair and Earl Boyea, Sister Claudia Carlen, IHM, and Monsignor Francis Canfield, to Professors Francis Blouin and Jonathan Marwil, to Justine L'Esperance Murphy and Sister Amadeus Dowd, IHM, to Helen Kern Morris and Margaret Lynch Gibson, to Fathers Bohdan Kosicki, Norman Thomas, Raymond Van Devere, and Daniel Fox, OFM Cap., and to the members of the Cushwa Center seminar in American religion. Tom Tentler deserves separate mention and special thanks, for he has lived with the history of the Archdiocese for some six years now, and this book is much the better for his insights and his criticism. Finally, I want to express my gratitude to the people of St. Boniface-St. Vincent's and St. Ce-
ciilia’s parishes in Detroit. They brought the Church to life for me in all its variety and showed me that the Light does indeed shine forth in darkness. My children have been lucky to grow up in such company; perhaps one day they will thank their mother.