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MARIAN STUDIES

VOLUME 1 NO. 1 (2011)

**THE VIRGIN MARY
IN THE
UNITED STATES AND CANADA**

Part 1: Until 1900



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- Catholic Periodical and Literature Index*,
- Religious and Theological Abstracts*,
- FRANCIS* (International Humanities and Social Studies).

COVER ILLUSTRATION: Seal of John Carroll, first Roman Catholic bishop and archbishop in the United States.

When John Carroll was consecrated Bishop of Baltimore in 1791, his diocese encompassed the entire area of what was then the United States of America. In the first Pastoral Letter he addressed to his far-flung flock (May 28, 1792), he included the following exhortation regarding the dedication of our country to Mary, Mother of God:

I shall only add this my earnest request, that to the exercise of the sublimest virtues, faith, hope and charity, you will join a fervent and well-regulated devotion to the Holy Mother of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; that you will place great confidence in Her intercession; and have recourse to Her in all your necessities. Having chosen Her the special patroness of this Diocese, you are placed, of course, under Her powerful protection; and it becomes your duty to be careful to deserve its continuance by a zealous imitation of Her virtues and a reliance on Her motherly superintendence.