

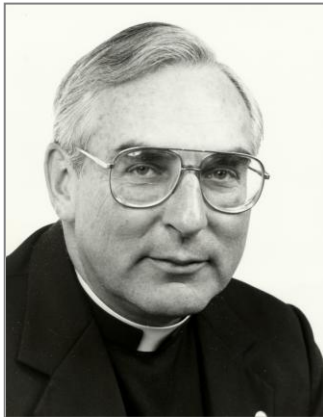


# DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

*Office for Communications*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **MOST REVEREND JOSEPH MCKINNEY DIES AT AGE 81**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., June 9, 2010– Most Reverend Walter A. Hurley, bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids, announced today that Most Reverend Joseph C. McKinney, auxiliary bishop emeritus of the diocese, died June 9 at Saint Ann’s Home in Grand Rapids following a lengthy illness.

“I extend my prayers and condolences to the family of Bishop McKinney and to his many friends,” said Bishop Hurley. “Bishop McKinney served the people of the Diocese of Grand Rapids in priestly ministry for 57 years including 42 years as a bishop. I am deeply grateful for all he did to further the mission of the church in our diocese. May Bishop McKinney know the peace of the Lord whom he served so generously.”

Bishop McKinney was born September 10, 1928; ordained a priest December 20, 1953; appointed auxiliary bishop of Grand Rapids July 19, 1968 and ordained a bishop on September 26, 1968. Bishop McKinney retired from active ministry on October 3, 2001.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

The Diocese of Grand Rapids serves 178,000 Catholics in 103 parishes and missions in an 11-county region.

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