



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Most Reverend Joseph C. McKinney, D.D. **Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Grand Rapids**

Joseph Crescent McKinney was born in Grand Rapids, Mich. on September 10, 1928 to Joseph and Antoinette McKinney. The oldest of three children, he was a member of St. Mary Church in Grand Rapids where he was baptized on September 23, 1928. Bishop McKinney attended St. Mary elementary school and the former St. Joseph Seminary in Grand Rapids. He is survived by one brother, Father Thomas A. McKinney, Grand Rapids, and his sister and brother-in-law, Mary Lu and Richard W. Pindar, Grand Rapids, and nieces and nephews.

After graduating high school from St. Joseph Seminary, Bishop McKinney was educated at the Seminaire de Philosophie in Montreal and received a licentiate in sacred theology from the Pontifical University of Propaganda Fide (Pontifical Urban University), Rome, in 1953. He was ordained to the priesthood on December 20, 1953 at the Chapel of Propaganda Fide. Following his priestly ordination he was appointed to the faculty of St. Joseph Seminary until 1962. From 1962 - 1968, then Father McKinney served parishes in Indian River, Mt. Pleasant and Conklin.

Ordained a bishop in September 1968 by Most Reverend Allen J. Babcock, he was appointed bishop to the Titular See of Lentini and an auxiliary bishop for the Grand Rapids Diocese. He served as an auxiliary bishop under the late Bishop Joseph M. Breitenbeck and Bishop Robert J. Rose. Bishop McKinney retired as auxiliary bishop in October 2001 while continuing to assist in liturgical ceremonies and in ways needed by the diocesan bishop.



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During his 33-year tenure as an auxiliary bishop, Bishop McKinney was appointed rector of the Cathedral of Saint Andrew, vicar general of the diocese, and a member of the diocesan College of Consultors. In addition to his diocesan work, Bishop McKinney served in various pastoral capacities in parishes throughout the diocese that included pastor at St. Stephen, East Grand Rapids; Holy Trinity, Alpine; and Our Lady of Consolation, Rockford.

In addition to his diocesan and parish ministry, Bishop McKinney served on various boards and committees within the diocese and was the national liaison to the charismatic renewal on behalf of the United States bishops.