

Biography of Bishop Francis R. Reiss

August 2003

Bishop Francis Ronald Reiss (pronounced *Rees*) was born in Hamtramck on November 11, 1940 and grew up in southwest Detroit at St. Stephen Parish. He is the oldest of the three children of the late Joseph and Emily Reiss.

Bishop Reiss' sister, Sandra Murphy, and her husband, John, reside in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. His brother, John Reiss, lives in Waterford, Michigan.

Bishop Reiss attended St. Stephen Elementary School, Detroit, and graduated from St. Andrew High School, Detroit, prior to entering the seminary.

Bishop Reiss was ordained to the priesthood on June 4, 1966 at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Detroit.

Bishop Reiss studied at Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit; the University of Detroit; St. John's Provincial Seminary, Plymouth; and the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome.

Bishop Reiss holds a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in philosophy from Sacred Heart Seminary College; a Master of Arts (M.A.) in religious studies from the University of Detroit; a Master of Education (M.Ed.) in administration from the University of Detroit; a Master of Divinity (M.Div.) from St. John's Provincial Seminary; and a Licentiate in Canon Law (J.C.L.) from the Pontifical Gregorian University. He speaks English, some Italian and some Polish.

Bishop Reiss has had a variety of assignments in parish ministry, campus ministry, canon law and education. His many assignments include campus minister at the University of Michigan, Dearborn, and Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn; dean of admissions and academic dean of the School of Theology of Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit; defender of the bond, Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Detroit; director of the Department of Education of the Archdiocese of Detroit; and pastor of Holy Ghost Parish, Detroit, St. Mary Parish, Port Huron, and SS. Peter and Paul (Westside), Detroit. Since 1998, he has served as pastor of St. Frances Cabrini Parish, Allen Park.

Bishop Reiss was ordained as the 24th auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit on August 12, 2003 at Detroit's Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. He was named head of the Titular See of Remesiana. A titular see is a former diocese, now nonexistent, to which a bishop is given honorary title if he is not the residential bishop of a diocese or archdiocese.

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