



### **Bishop George Rassas**

Bishop George Rassas was born in 1942 in Baltimore MD. In 1945 his parents moved to Winnetka where they were lifelong members of Sts. Faith, Hope and Charity. He attended the parish grade school. After graduation, in the fall of 1956, he attended the Archdiocesan Seminary system at Quigley Preparatory Seminary for five years, then Niles College Seminary for one year and St. Mary of the Lake Seminary where he was ordained a priest in 1968.

His parish assignments were Queen of the Rosary Parish in Elk Grove Village, St. Genevieve Parish, Chicago, St. Norbert Parish, Northbrook and Sacred Heart Parish, Winnetka. In 1990 he was named Pastor of the Church of St. Mary in Lake Forest where he served for 14 years.

In November of 2004, he was named Vicar General of the Archdiocese and on February 2, 2006, he was ordained Bishop. In March of 2006 he was assigned as Vicar of Vicariate I until his retirement in 2018.

In addition to his services in parishes, Bishop Rassas has held various additional responsibilities in the Archdiocese. Before retirement he was Associate Director of Catholic Family Consultation Service and the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women. He also served as Chairman of the Archdiocesan Presbyteral Council and was the Director of Family Ministries and previously served on the Board of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary. He currently is serving on the Board of Directors of Maryville Academy.

While an active member of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, previous to his retirement, he was a member of the Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth and also served as a member of the Subcommittee on Certification for Ecclesial Ministry and Service.

In 2001 he began the process leading to the establishment of Cristo Rey St. Martin College Prep High School in Waukegan which opened in 2004 at its original site at St. Joseph Parish in Waukegan and later moving to a repurposed K-Mart on Belvidere Road which is its current site. As first founder he served as Chair of the Board of Directors for a number of years and is currently Chair Emeritus. The current enrollment of the school is just over 400 students. The program consists of college preparatory courses and a work study program. For the last four years 100 percent of the graduates have been accepted at four-year colleges.