



Our Lady of Sorrows

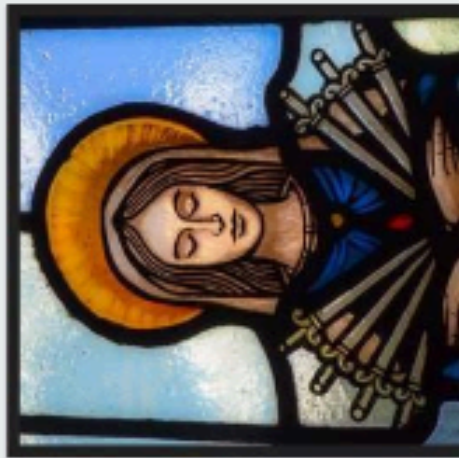
June 26, 2016 · 🌐

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A LOOK BACK: The sixth pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Church was Msgr. Edgar M. Holihan. Msgr. Holihan was a native of Syracuse and graduated from St. Patrick's High School and went on to graduate from St. Michael's College University of Toronto and St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester, NY. He was ordained into the priesthood at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse by Bishop Walter A. Foery on June 5, 1943. Prior to his assignment as pastor of OLS, he served in various parishes in the Syracuse Diocese such as St. Charles Borromeo & St. John the Evangelist, St. Francis de Sales, Utica, St. Mary's, Rome, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Endicott and St. Josephs, Lafayette. Msgr. Holihan came to Our Lady of Sorrows on May 24, 1974. He served our parish until his death on Sunday, May 10, 1987. He was elevated by Pope Paul VI to honorary prelate with the title of Rev. Monsignor in 1971.

"Under his guidance, the parish grew in the areas of its school, religious education program and sacrificial giving..." according to a representative of Parish Council for a newspaper article on Monsignor's 40th anniversary of his ordination celebration on June 2, 1983. During his pastership, the altar of the church was renovated and a new backdrop constructed. Gifts to the church during his time, some of them anonymous, included the tabernacle, the Pieta, and new altar furnishings. In the fall of 1987, the catechetical center or parish center and the Knights of Columbus Council #4746 was renamed in his honor.

The Rev. David Barry, co-chancellor of the Syracuse Diocese, at the time of Msgr's death said "He will be remembered for his deep spirituality, dry wit and warmth." Some interesting facts to note about Msgr. Holihan include that he baptized our current Pastor, Father John Kurgan, and the chalice that Bishop Robert Cunningham used at the Dedication Mass of our new church on December 22, 2013 was Msgr's Holihan's chalice that he received from his parents on the day of his ordination in 1943.



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