MONSIGNOR ROMANO CIOTOLA PASSES AWAY

COLUMBUS – Monsignor Romano Ciotola, longtime priest in the Diocese of Columbus and pastor of Columbus’ Our Lady of Victory Parish, died on February 17, 2019, at Riverside Methodist Hospital.

The son of Felix and Silvia (Iacovetta) Ciotola, Msgr. Ciotola was born May 11, 1940, in the village of Cerreto, Italy. He began his high school seminary formation and studies at the Diocesan Seminary of Trivento, Italy, continuing with his first year of college seminary studies at the Saint Pius X Pontifical Seminary, Chieti, Italy.

After emigrating to the United States in 1958 with his family, he continued with his philosophy studies at the former St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Columbus, and theology studies at Mount Saint Mary’s of the West Seminary, Cincinnati, where he received his Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained to the priesthood at St. Joseph Cathedral on May 29, 1965, by the Most Rev. John J. Carberry, Bishop of Columbus.

During his years of priestly ministry, Msgr. Ciotola served at St. Matthew the Apostle Parish, Gahanna, also serving as an instructor at Columbus’ Bishop Hartley High School; and St. Agnes Parish, Columbus, also serving as an instructor at Columbus’ Bishop Ready High School.
He also served at Immaculate Conception Parish, Dennison, while also serving as an instructor at New Philadelphia’s Tuscarawas Central Catholic High School; as an instructor at Columbus’ St. Francis DeSales High School; and at Blessed Sacrament Parish, Newark. also serving as an instructor at Newark Catholic High School.

In addition to his 18 years of service as pastor at Our Lady of Victory, Msgr. Ciotola served as pastor at St. Patrick Parish, London; and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Grove City. He was named a Prelate of Honor, with the title of Monsignor, by Pope John Paul II in 1992.

Calling hours for Msgr. Ciotola will take place on Sunday, February 24, at Our Lady of Victory Church, 1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus, from 1–7:30 p.m., when a Rosary will be prayed. Visitation will resume at Our Lady of Victory at 9 a.m. on Monday, February 25, and will continue until the Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. The Most Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, Diocesan Apostolic Administrator, will be the principal celebrant and preach the homily; priests of the Diocese will concelebrate. Burial will take place at St. Joseph Cemetery, Lockbourne.

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