



April 19, 2020

Dear Fathers, Deacons, Members of Religious Orders and Diocesan Staff,

In your prayers, please remember Father Vytas Memenas who entered Eternal Life on April 19, 2020.

Father Memenas was born on March 30, 1929 in Anyksciai, Lithuania to George Memenas and Rosalie Vezis Memenas. After completing his studies at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, he was ordained to the priesthood on April 27, 1957 in Rome by Cardinal Luigi Traglia.

Father Memenas served at Visitation Parish in Elmhurst (1957), Holy Trinity in Westmont (1958), St. Anthony Parish in Joliet (1962) and at St. Dennis Church in Lockport (1967). He was named pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Gibson City and St. George in Melvin (1967), St. Mary Church in Mokena (1972), St. Patrick Church in Joliet (1978) and St. Anthony Church in Frankfort where he served until his retirement (1999). During his retirement Father Memenas served as Temporary Administrator at the Church of St. Anthony in Joliet.

In addition to his pastoral responsibilities, Father Memenas served as Member of the Diocesan Liturgy Committee (1969-1971), Dean of Will County and Minooka (1972-1978), Member of Diocesan Budget Committee (1972-1980), Member of Board of Consultors (1979). He served for 20 years on the Diocesan Presbyteral Council and during those years he was Vice-President (1973-1974) and President (1974-1976). Father served also as Member of the Diocesan Priest Pension Board for 13 years.

Father Memenas was Co-Chaplain of the IL State Police Dist. 5, Joliet (1972), Chaplain of the Joliet Fire Department (1979-1980), Chaplain of the Joliet Police Department (1980-1995), Chaplain of the Will County Chiefs of Police (1989-2017), Chaplain of the Frankfort Police Department (1994), National Chaplain, FOP (1996-1998), Chaplain of the International Chiefs of Police (10/96-10/97) and Member of the Will County Law Enforcement Memorial Committee (1997-2017).

Funeral arrangements are underway in accordance with the guidelines issued for Covid-19 and they will be communicated later.

Sincerely in Christ,

Dr. David Castronovo, JD, JCD
Chancellor