

## **REVEREND MONSIGNOR JOHN JENIK**

Monsignor John Jenik was born to John and Helen (Kelly) Jenik in Manhattan, New York on March 7, 1944.

He attended Immaculate Conception Elementary School and Cathedral College High School, both in Manhattan. In 1962, he entered Cathedral College and, in 1964, the archdiocese's major theologate, Saint Joseph's Seminary, in Yonkers, New York, during which time he earned a bachelor of arts (BA) degree.

Monsignor Jenik was ordained a priest by Cardinal Terence Cooke in Saint Patrick's Cathedral on May 30, 1970. In June, Cardinal Cooke appointed him to the Catholic University of Ponce, Puerto Rico for the summer months to learn the Spanish language and culture. That September, Cardinal Cooke appointed him as parochial vicar for Saint Jerome's Parish in Bronx, New York. In 1974, Cardinal Cooke reassigned Monsignor Jenik to Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish, also in the Bronx, where he soon became involved in what has become a near forty-year dedication to providing housing for the poor and fighting crime, corruption, drugs, and prostitution.

In 1974, Monsignor Jenik earned a masters degree in education (M.Ed.) from Fordham University, at the Rose Hill (Bronx) campus.

Cardinal Cooke, in 1978, appointed Monsignor Jenik as parochial vicar for Our Lady of Refuge Parish in Bronx, New York. Seven years later, in 1985, he was appointed pastor of the parish by Cardinal John O'Connor, where he still serves.

Ten years after his appointment as pastor of Our Lady of Refuge, Monsignor Jenik was appointed a prelate of honor to His Holiness.

In 2006, Cardinal Egan named him vicar for the Northwest Bronx, and he continues to serve in this position.

Throughout his priesthood, and at various times, Monsignor Jenik has been elected to the presbyteral council; has been appointed to the college of consultors; and has been named to a number of special archdiocesan committees, including education, healthcare, and housing. Monsignor Jenik was instrumental in the work of the committee for regionalizing Catholic schools in the archdiocese in order to preserve and strengthen its school system.