

Biography of Bishop Walter A. Hurley

Bishop Walter A. Hurley was born May 30, 1937 in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. He is the son of Charles R. Hurley and Anne Elizabeth Ball (both deceased). He has four sisters and a brother: Elizabeth Deal, Gerald Hurley, Eileen Godin, Charlene Soleau and Annette Burt.

Bishop Hurley attended St. Dunstan Grade School in Fredericton, and St. Anne High School, Church Point, Nova Scotia. He moved to Detroit in 1955. He graduated from Sacred Heart Seminary in 1961 (B.A.) and St. John's Seminary, Plymouth, Michigan 1965 (M.Div.).

Following ordination to the priesthood by Archbishop (later Cardinal) John F. Dearden, he was assigned as associate pastor, St. Dorothy Parish, Warren. He served as Vicar for the Warren-Centerline Vicariate. In 1972, he became pastor of St. Cyprian's Parish, Riverview (1972-76), then Sacred Heart Parish, Roseville (1976-1979), and St. Lucy Parish, St. Clair Shores (1979-1982).

At the invitation of Archbishop (later Cardinal) Edmund Szoka, he began graduate studies at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. earning a license in canon law (J.C.L) in 1984. Upon returning to Detroit, he served as Judicial Vicar of the Metropolitan Tribunal from 1984-1989. In addition, he served as Moderator of the Curia for the Archdiocese from 1986-1990. In 1990, he was designated a Prelate of Honor with the title of Monsignor by His Holiness Pope John Paul II. In 1994, he became a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre.

In 1990, Bishop Hurley was appointed pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Farmington, Michigan, where he served until November of 2003. From 1988-1995, and again from 2002 to the present, he has served as Delegate of the Cardinal for Clergy Misconduct issues. From 1995-2001, he was the Cardinal's Delegate and project manager for the construction of the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington, D.C.

Bishop Hurley was ordained the 22nd auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit on August 12, 2003, at Detroit's Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. He was named the Bishop of the Titular See of Cunavia. Bishop Hurley has responsibility for the Northwest Region of the Archdiocese encompassing Oakland and Lapeer Counties.
