



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS  
305 Michigan Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan 48226  
[www.AODcommunications.org](http://www.AODcommunications.org)  
TEL 313-237-5943  
FAX 313-237-4644

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## **Bishop Walter J. Schoenherr Dies at Age 87**

Retired Detroit Auxiliary Bishop Walter J. Schoenherr (*Shane-err*), 87, died of natural causes on April 27, at St. Mary's Hospital, Livonia. Ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit in 1945 and as an auxiliary bishop in 1968, he had a long and distinguished career that included a variety of assignments. Special concerns included the pastoral care of his brother priests and human rights issues.

Although Bishop Schoenherr's given name was Walter, he preferred using the shortened version of his middle name, Joe. His many assignments included service at St. David, St. Leo, St. Rose, Presentation, and St. Aloysius Parishes, all in Detroit, and as rector of the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, in Detroit. Bishop Schoenherr was appointed Bishop for the South Region of the Archdiocese of Detroit in 1977. He retired in 1995.

In a statement issued earlier, Cardinal Adam Maida, archbishop of Detroit, noted that "losing Bishop Schoenherr feels like losing a good friend, someone you could always count on for down-to-earth wisdom and spiritual encouragement."

Bishop Schoenherr's body will lie in state at the Felician Motherhouse Chapel, 36800 Schoolcraft, Livonia, on Sunday, April 29, from 1 to 8 p.m., with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

Transfer of the body to the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral will take place at noon on Monday, April 30, with the body in state until 8 p.m. and a prayer service at 7 p.m. Visitation will continue at the Cathedral on Tuesday, May 1, from noon until 8 p.m., with a vigil service at 7 p.m.

The funeral Mass will be celebrated by Adam Cardinal Maida at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, 9844 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, on Wednesday, May 2, at 11 a.m. Bishop Schoenherr's body will lie in state from 9 a.m. until the celebration of his funeral Mass.

Burial will be at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Bishop Schoenherr is survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

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\*\*More information on Bishop Schoenherr, including his picture, can be found on the Archdiocese of Detroit website at [www.AODonline.org](http://www.AODonline.org).