

PROFILE
REVEREND MONSIGNOR RICHARD E. MARCHESE, S.T.L., Ph.D.

MONSIGNOR RICHARD E. MARCHESE was born in Saint Patrick's Parish, Fort Hamilton, Brooklyn, New York on September 10, 1945 to Emil and Caroline Marchese. He was baptized in St. Rita's Parish, Staten Island, where the family has roots dating back to 1928. He attended Saint Patrick's grammar school, Saint Augustine's Diocesan High School, and Cathedral College, Brooklyn. After completing two years at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington, New York, he received a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy.

In 1967 Monsignor Marchese was assigned by Archbishop Bryan J. McEntegart, then Bishop of Brooklyn, to the North American College in Rome, and studied at the Pontifical Gregorian University where he earned his Bachelor's Degree and Licentiate in Sacred Theology. On December 18, 1970 Monsignor Marchese was ordained in Saint Peter's Basilica, Rome, by the late Cardinal (then Bishop) James A. Hickey, Rector of the College, and later Archbishop of Washington, D.C.

After returning to the States in 1971, Monsignor was assigned as Parochial Vicar at Saint Fortunata's Parish in East New York. There he devoted himself extensively to the various youth programs, especially the Religious Education (CCD) and Sports programs. He was actively engaged in the hospital and nursing home ministry in that Parish. After teaching part-time at Cathedral Preparatory Seminary in Elmhurst, he was assigned there as a permanent faculty member in 1974, where he taught European and American History, Latin and Religion. In 1976 Monsignor was appointed Dean of Students, and in 1984 Vice-Rector and Academic Dean.

While at Cathedral, Monsignor served as Assistant Vocation Director for the Diocese from 1975 to 1978, and Director of the Italian Apostolate from 1979 to 1981 in the Migration Office under Cardinal (then Monsignor) Anthony Bevilacqua, presently retired Archbishop of Philadelphia. He also earned a Master's Degree in Modern European History in 1976, and a Ph.D. in Church History in 1986 from Fordham University.

During 1990-1991, Monsignor taught Catechesis and Theology at the Pontifical Institute at Saint John's University, where he is Adjunct Professor. In 1992 he was assigned to the Vatican Embassy in Washington, D.C. as Secretary to the Pope's Personal Representative in America, Archbishop (now Cardinal) Agostino Cacciavillan.

Monsignor Marchese returned to Cathedral Preparatory Seminary in 1994 as Rector, succeeding Monsignor Ignatius A. Catanello, who became Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn. In 1995 Pope John Paul II named him Prelate of Honor with the title of Reverend Monsignor.

During his Rectorship he also served on the Bishop's Committee for the New Catechism, as well as teaching Theology, Church History, Spirituality and Homiletics in the Diaconate Formation Program. During the summer months and on weekends, Monsignor also ministered to the people at Sacred Heart Parish in Bayside, Saint Stanislaus Parish in Maspeth, Our Lady of Hope Parish in Middle Village, Guardian Angels Parish in Brighton Beach, and Saint Francis de Sales Parish in Belle Harbor.

Monsignor Marchese was assigned to Saint Frances Cabrini Parish on September 13, 1998. During his assignment there he became a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre, a Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus, and helped to found a seminary in Rome for the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT). He also became a member of the New York Academy for Public Education in 2003. Monsignor continues in the Diaconate Program as teacher, mentor, and spiritual director, and serves as a member of the Cabinet of Cathedral Preparatory Seminary for its Capital Campaign. In May 2005 Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio appointed Monsignor as Pastor of St. Helen's Parish, Howard Beach, NY, effective June 30, 2005.