



In Remembrance

OF THE

Episcopal Consecration

OF THE

Most Reverend Stephen J. Kocisko, D.D.

Auxiliary Bishop

to the

Most Reverend Nicholas T. Elko, D.D.

Apostolic Exarch of Pittsburgh

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1956

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CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA



Biographical Sketch

Most Reverend Stephen John Kocisko, D.D.

Auxiliary to the Most Reverend Nicholas T. Elko, D.D.

Stephen J. Kocisko

His Excellency, Bishop Stephen John Kocisko, D.D., the oldest of nine children born to John Kocisko and Anna Somos, was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 11, 1915. His parents are both American born; his mother a native of Nanticoke, Pennsylvania, and his

father a native of Minneapolis, Minnesota. His parents realized early the necessity of a sound Christian education for their children and therefore enrolled their son, Stephen, at St. Boniface School in Minneapolis at an early age. Following his first year at St. Boniface School, young Stephen transferred to St. Anthony's School in Minneapolis, where he completed his elementary education. It was the Christian Brothers at De La Salle High School in Minneapolis who led the future Bishop through his secondary education and aided him in attaining the highest scholastic standing in his class.

Upon graduation from De La Salle High School, the Bishop pursued college studies at Nazareth Hall Preparatory Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota. In October, 1935, His Excellency, Bishop Basil Takach, Apostolic Exarch of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, sent young Stephen Kocisko to Rome, Italy, where he completed his seminary studies at the Pontificium Athenaeum de Propaganda Fidei. While in Rome, he took advanced courses in theology and earned the degree of Licentiate in Sacred Theology in addition to his Baccalaureate in Philosophy. Bishop Alexander Evreinoff ordained him to the Holy Priesthood March 30, 1941, in Rome.

The family which he left in 1935 shared the joy of his First Solemn Divine Liturgy in St. John's Greek Catholic Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on Sunday, August 17, 1941. Then, in answer to the call of his Bishop, Father Stephen Kocisko assumed the pastorate of St. Stephen's Church, Detroit, Michigan. There he reorganized the parish and increased its membership from 40 to 110 families. Six years later, in March of 1947, he was transferred to St. John the Baptist Church, Lyndora, Pennsylvania, where another big task awaited him. It was during his ten-year pastorate at Lyndora that a beautiful new stone church was constructed and dedicated.

The talents of Father Stephen Kocisko were recognized and utilized by his Bishop. In addition to his duties as Pastor of St. John's

Greek Catholic Church in Lyndora, Father Kocisko served as a member of the Diocesan Tribunal and attained the position of Defensor Vinculi. He also taught Patrology at the Diocesan Seminary for a period of six years. In April, 1956, His Excellency, Bishop Nicholas T. Elko, D.D., appointed Father Kocisko Chancellor of the Diocese. On July 20, 1956, His Holiness signed the Papal Bulla nominating Father Kocisko Titular Bishop of Theveste and Auxiliary to His Excellency, Most Reverend Nicholas T. Elko, D.D., Apostolic Exarch of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

With the ancient ritual of the Byzantine Rite, Father Kocisko was consecrated a Bishop of the Catholic Church on October 23, 1956, the Feast of St. James the Less, in the Cathedral of St. Paul, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Consecrating Bishop, Most Reverend Nicholas T. Elko, D.D., was assisted by Most Reverend Ambrose Senyshyn, O.S. B.M., D.D., Apostolic Exarch of Stamford, Connecticut, and Most Reverend Maxime Hermaniuk, C.S.S.R., D.D., Apostolic Exarch of Manitoba, Canada.

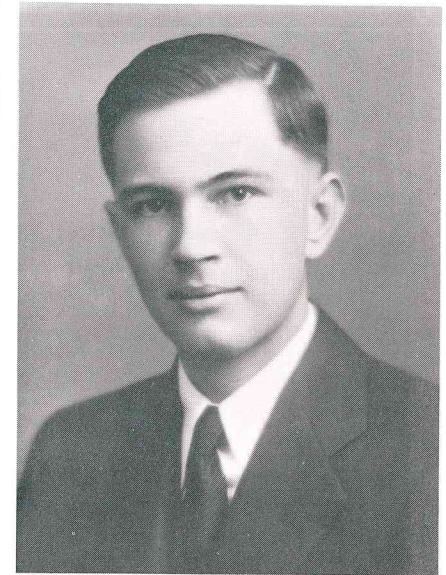




Pictorial Sketch



First Holy Communion



High School Graduate



Kocisko Family — 1956



Home Parish — Minneapolis, Minnesota



Assisting at Father John's First Mass

Rome, Italy



Student in Rome



Lake Albano, Italy



St. Peter's



St. Josaphat's College

Ordination Day — March 30, 1941



Detroit, Michigan



Main Altar



Burning of Mortgage



Dedication of Servicemen's Flag



St. Stephen's Softball Team

First Holy Communion



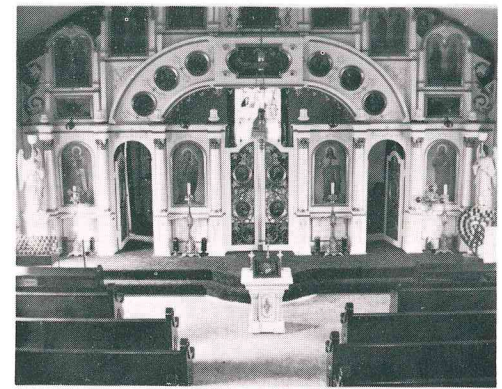
School Children



Lyndora, Pennsylvania



Old St. John's Church



Old Church Interior



First Holy Communion Class — 1947



First Holy Communion Class — 1956