



THE SEMINARIES

OF SAINT PAUL

Joyful Catholic Leaders

Archbishop John R. Roach - 1995

Archbishop John R. Roach, a 1946 graduate of The Saint Paul Seminary, was ordained on June 8th of that year. His first appointment as a priest was to the parish of Saint Stephen in Minneapolis. He was assigned as teacher and then very quickly as Headmaster to Saint Thomas Academy. He occupied this post with distinction for 14 years. Archbishop Roach then generously agreed to undertake the founding of Saint John Vianney Seminary; he became its first Rector. Only three years later, he was named an Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. In July of 1975, he became Archbishop and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1995.

Numerous awards and honors have been bestowed upon him: twelve ecclesiastical honors as well as Honorary Degrees from Gustavus Adolphus, St. Mary's in Winona, Loyola University in Chicago, Villanova, St. Leo's College in Florida, and the University of Saint Thomas.

He was very active in the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, and twice was selected as their President.

Archbishop Roach always showed particular commitment to pastoral ministry, social justice, administrative demands, and outreach to the missions.