

## Kohler Funeral Home

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### Edward Eilert

( March 6, 2024 )

RUTHERFORD - Rev. Msgr. Edward J. Eilert, M.Div., of Rutherford, formerly of Wallington, died on March 6, 2024. He was 85 years old.

He is survived by his devoted brother William “Bill”; his nephew Chris and his companion Brenda Blum of Wood-Ridge; his nephew Michael and his wife Ericka Ravettine and their children Cooper, Hudson and Finley of Franklin Lakes; and many cousins and cherished friends. He was predeceased by his parents Edward and Helen Eilert and his sister-in-law Marilyn Eilert.

Monsignor Eilert was born in St. Mary’s Hospital in Passaic on November 8, 1938. His parents raised him and his brother in a three-room house in Wallington surrounded by a large and loving extended family of grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

He graduated from Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Grammar School in Wallington, St. Mary’s High School in Rutherford, Seton Hall University in South Orange, and Immaculate Conception Seminary at the Darlington campus in Mahwah. He was ordained by Archbishop Thomas Boland at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Newark on May 23, 1964 and celebrated his First Mass at Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Wallington on May 24, 1964.

Monsignor Eilert’s parish assignments included serving as Associate Pastor of St. John’s in Linden and Our Lady of Lourdes in Mountainside and as Pastor of St. Vincent de Paul in Bayonne and St. Philomena’s in Livingston. During his parish ministry, he was a founder of the Search Program and a co-founder of the Crossroads Program, both of which served Catholic parishes throughout Union County.

In addition to his pastoral ministry, Monsignor Eilert served the Archdiocese of Newark in many leadership roles. These included serving multiple terms as a member of the College of Consultors and the

Presbyteral Council, Dean of the Bayonne Deanery, and Chair of the Archdiocesan Synod. He also served as a Board Member of the National Federation of Priest Councils. In retirement, Monsignor Eilert resided at the St. John Vianney Residence in Rutherford.

Monsignor Eilert's Funeral Mass will be at Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Wallington on Friday, March 15th at 10am. Visitation will be at Kohler Funeral Home 280 Hackensack St. Wood-Ridge on Thursday, March 14th from 4pm to 8pm with a prayer service at 7:30pm. In lieu of flowers please make donations to the St. John Vianney Residence for Retired Priests in Rutherford.