Bishop of Baton Rouge dies Sept. 4 at age 63

BATON ROUGE, La. (NC)
Bishop Joseph V. Sullivan of Baton Rouge died Sept. 4 of cardiac arrest at his residence. He was 63.

Archbishop Philip M. Hannan of New Orleans was the principal celebrant of a funeral Mass in St. Joseph's Cathedral in Baton Rouge on Sept. 8. Burial was in Roselawn Cemetery, Baton Rouge.

Bishop Sullivan was named head of the Baton Rouge Diocese in August 1974 and installed there a month later.

For the previous seven years he had been auxiliary bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Mo.

Joseph Vincent Sullivan was born on Aug. 15, 1919, in Kansas City, Mo. He was the first native of that city to be named a bishop.

He attended St. Vincent's elementary school, De La Salle Academy and St. John Seminary in Kansas City. He also studied at St. Louis Preparatory Seminary in St. Louis and the Sulpician Sem-

inary at the Catholic University of America.

Ordained in 1946, he then earned a doctorate in theology at the Catholic University of America. He also earned a master's degree in education.

While in the major seminary, he held summer jobs as a news commentator on radio station KCKN in Kansas City and was also master of ceremonies for numerous orchestral programs originating from WDAF radio studios in Kansas City for the National Broadcasting Company.

He was an assistant pastor in several Kansas City parishes and a teacher at Catholic high schools there before being named assistant superintendent of schools in 1948. From 1951 to 1957 he was diocesan superintendent of schools.

In 1957 he was named chancellor of the diocese.

He also served for several years as chaplain of the Kansas City police department.