



**RIGHT REVEREND
MONSIGNOR
CHARLES S. NIX, V.F.**



September 2, 1878 – October 4, 1960

Ordained July 11, 1903

FATHER CHARLES SILAS NIX, V.F.

Father Nix was born September 2, 1878, in Clay County, Illinois the son of Jacob Bernard and Maria (Wolf) Nix. Father Nix was baptized on March 4, 1879, at Holy Cross by Rev. Molitor with Godparents Silas and Regina Nix, his Uncle and Aunt. His siblings were Jennie, George, John, Henry, Peter, and Joseph. Shortly after his baptism, the family moved to Kansas and eventually the Chicago area, as his father a welder followed work.



Father Nix attended St. Martin parochial school in Chicago, Illinois, St. Lawrence Seminary High School in Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin, and studied philosophy and theology at St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Rev. Charles S. Nix was ordained into the Holy Priesthood on July 11, 1903, by Most Rev. James Edward Quigley, Archbishop of Chicago.

Following ordination, Father Nix celebrated his First Solemn Mass on July 17, 1903, at St. Martin's on Princeton Ave. in Chicago, Illinois. Father Nix was named assistant at St. Joseph's in Aurora, Illinois when the Diocese of Rockford was established in 1908.

A self-named "brick and mortar" priest, Father Nix built a church and school at St. Peter and Paul Parish in Virgil, Illinois when assigned as Pastor there in 1909. Father Nix was described as a man that could butcher a beef, cut hair, play the organ, lay brick, and pound nails without losing the dignity of a man who could forgive sins, change bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ and teach school.

Beginning August 10, 1921, Father Nix was assigned to St. Mary's in McHenry, Illinois. A pioneer and builder, he undertook the rebuilding of the church and rectory that had been destroyed by fire as well as a school and convent that were built during his 39 years at St. Mary's. For many years he would serve as Diocesan Consultor.

For his years of service to the Church, Father Nix was named a papal chamberlain with the title of Very Reverend Monsignor on April 18, 1935. On December 21, 1944, he was honored by Pope Pius XII with the office of Domestic Prelate and the title of Right Reverend Monsignor.

Father Nix passed away on October 4, 1960. The funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Mary's in McHenry, Illinois with burial in the church cemetery.