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DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD

APRIL 29, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

BISHOP EMERITUS ARTHUR J. O'NEILL DIED SATURDAY

ROCKFORD, IL—The Most Reverend Arthur J. O'Neill, Bishop Emeritus of the Catholic Diocese of Rockford died peacefully Saturday, April 27, 2013 at his residence in Presence Cor Mariae here. Bishop O'Neill was 95 years of age. Bishop O'Neill was appointed Bishop of the Rockford Diocese on Aug. 19, 1968 and served until he retired on April 19, 1994. He was the Rockford Diocese's longest serving bishop and recently celebrated his 70th anniversary as a priest. He was the first native of the Rockford Diocese to serve as its bishop.

Attached is Bishop O'Neill's obituary and the schedule for his funeral and burial.

The funeral Mass will be streamed live Friday, May 3, at 11 a.m. at www.rockforddiocese.org

The visitation and Mass are open to the public.

NOTE TO MEDIA: You are welcome to cover these events. Due to the solemn and sacred nature of these events you are reminded to please dress appropriately in business attire.

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