

Vitae

Moses B. Anderson was born in Selma, Alabama on September 9, 1928, the oldest of five children. He started his education at Presbyterian Elementary and then attended Payne and Clarke Elementary Schools. He then went to Knox High School and helped in the formation of the Don Bosco Boy's Club which was run by the Society of St. Edmund. He converted to Catholicism and on May 25, 1949, Moses was received into Catholic Communion. He graduated as valedictorian from Knox Academy High School, Selma in that same year. Two months later he was in Xavier University in New Orleans studying for the priesthood.

In 1951 he went to Putney, Vermont and later, in 1952 attended the Edmundite College of St. Michael's in Winooski, Vermont. He went on to earn a BA Degree, Magna Cum Laude, with a major in Philosophy. He next attended St. Edmund Seminary in Burlington, Vermont. Moses Anderson was ordained a priest on May 30, 1958 by Bishop Robert Joyce in Burlington, Vermont. He earned an MAT in sociology at St. Michael's College in 1961. From 1961 to 1964, he served as pastor of St. Catherine's Parish in Elizabeth City, North Carolina where he began a landmark interracial tutorial program. He then returned to academia where in 1968, he earned an MA in Natural Law & Theology at Xavier University.

In 1964, Fr. Anderson returned to St. Michael's as a theology professor and vice president for student affairs. In 1968, he became involved in the New York – Vermont Youth Project where he was an advocate of educational and civil rights issues for young African-Americans. In 1971, he returned to Xavier University where he remained as an administrator and professor for ten years. During that time, he taught theology at Notre Dame Seminary and was awarded a Danforth Underwood Scholarship. In 1974, Fr. Anderson pursued advanced studies at the University of Legon in Ghana.

In 1981, after a career as an educator and college administrator, Fr. Anderson took up the pastorate of All Saints Parish in Anniston, Alabama. It was there that he received the call from Pope John Paul II that he was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Detroit on December 3, 1982. Bishop Anderson was ordained a bishop on January 27, 1983 at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral by Archbishop Edmund C. Szoka. The co-consecrators were Bishop Harold R. Perry, S.V.D., and Bishop Arthur H. Krawczak.

Bishop Anderson was appointed to serve Region One within the Archdiocese which included 63 churches, 250 priests, three colleges, a university, a hospital, a boy's home and several schools. In 1992, he was appointed Pastor of Precious Blood Parish in Detroit, in addition to his responsibilities as Auxiliary Bishop.

On September 9, 2003, Bishop Anderson turned 75, thus reaching the mandatory retirement age for bishops. As required by canon law, he submitted his resignation to the Holy Father. The Vatican announced on October 24, 2004, that his resignation, as an auxiliary bishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit, had been accepted. In his retirement, Bishop Anderson continues to give service to the Archdiocese. He is currently involved with the building of two mission churches and schools in the Turkeokos Islands in the Bahamas.

The Bishop's special interests continue to be Black Theology, Art, and Evangelization. He has cultivated many friendships with artists and musicians over the years. His art collection now resides at Xavier University. Music, organic gardening and cooking continue to be his hobbies.