

Cardinal Edmund Szoka
President, Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State



PERSONAL AND FAMILY INFORMATION

Born: September 14, 1927

Birthplace: Grand Rapids, Michigan

Parents: Casimir and Mary Wolgat Szoka

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Academic Degrees Earned:

- B.A., Sacred Heart Seminary, Detroit
- J.C.B. in canon law, Pontifical Lateran University, Rome
- J.C.D. in canon law, Pontifical Lateran University, Rome

PRIESTLY ORDINATION

Ordained to the priesthood on June 5, 1954
for the Diocese of Marquette

Bestowal of Papal Honors:

- Papal Chamberlain, 1962
- Domestic Prelate, 1964

EPISCOPAL APPOINTMENTS

Appointed first Bishop of Gaylord on June 11, 1971
Ordained July 20, 1971

Subsequently appointed Archbishop of Detroit on March 21, 1981
Installed May 17, 1981

CARDINALATIAL CREATION

Elevation to the College of Cardinals announced: May 29, 1988

Date of Consistory at which Pope John Paul II created him Cardinal: June 28, 1988

Titular Church: Saints Andrew and Gregory al Monte Celio

Rank: Cardinal-Priest¹

VATICAN CURIAL MEMBERSHIPS

Secretariat of State (second section – for relations with States)
Congregation for Bishops
Congregation for the Causes of Saints
Congregation for Clergy
Congregation for Evangelization of Peoples
Congregation for Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life
Council of Cardinals for the Study of the Organizational and Economic Problems of the Holy See (1988-1994)

VATICAN SERVICE

President, Prefecture for the Economic Affairs of the Holy See, 1990-1997
President, Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State, October 15, 1997-present

USCCB MEMBERSHIP

From November 1981, to November 1984, Cardinal Szoka was Treasurer of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops/United States Catholic Conference (now known as the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops). He also served as a member of the Administrative Committee, the Administrative Board, and the Finance Committee of the NCCB/USCC.

OTHER MEMBERSHIPS

Cardinal Szoka served as a member of the Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee, and Chairman of the Committee for University Relations of The Catholic University of America, Washington. He also served as a member of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington.

From 1981 to June of 1990, he served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Catholic Conference, Lansing, Michigan; and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, Michigan and SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake, Michigan.

In October 1983, Cardinal Szoka attended the Synod of Bishops in Rome by special appointment from Pope John Paul II.

In September 1984, he was appointed as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Catholic Telecommunications Network of America (CTNA).

In January 1985, he was elected to the Board of Directors of Catholic Relief Services.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Cardinal Szoka has received honorary doctoral degrees from the University of Detroit; Madonna University, Livonia, MI; Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit; De LaSalle University, Manila; and St. John's University, New York (Rome Branch), and the University of Notre Dame.

¹ Canon 350, paragraph 1, states: "The College of Cardinals is divided into three ranks: the episcopal rank, which consists of both the cardinals to whom the Roman Pontiff assigns the title of a suburbicarian church and the oriental patriarchs who have become members of the college of cardinals; the presbyteral rank; and the diaconal rank."