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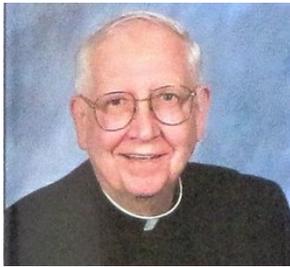Photo added by Charles Zadora

Added by Charles Zadora

Rev Joseph Henry Penkaul

BIRTH	2 Nov 1938 Buffalo, Erie County, New York, USA
DEATH	2 Sep 2008 (aged 69) Buffalo, Erie County, New York, USA
BURIAL	Arlington National Cemetery Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia, USA
PLOT	60-8591
MEMORIAL ID	31442467

Rev. Joseph H. Penkaul was a priest of the Diocese of Buffalo, New York. He was a longtime pastor of St. Philip the Apostle Parish in Cheektowaga. He was 69 and passed away after suffering a stroke.

Father Penkaul was the son of the late Genevieve Penkaul and Joseph J. Muszynski and the stepson of the late Alvin Penkaul. In preparation for the priesthood, he attended high school and college at Diocesan Prep Seminary in Buffalo, and earned a bachelor's and master's degree from St. John Vianney Seminary, in East Aurora.

During this time he took two years off from his studies to serve in the military then resumed his studies. After ordination he attended Canisius College, Buffalo, where he received a master's degree in education and Niagara University where he received certification of specialization in educational administration.

Father Penkaul was ordained to the priesthood on May 25, 1968, by Bishop Pius Benincasa, at St. Joseph New Cathedral in Buffalo. His first assignment was to the Buffalo Missionary Apostolate at St. John of the Cross in Whitesville from 1968-1969, and then as associate pastor at St. John the Baptist in Lockport until 1971.

He was named assistant principal of Notre Dame High School in Batavia in 1971. He became assistant principal at Bishop Turner High School, Buffalo in 1974 and principal at Baker-Victory High School, Lackawanna in 1977.

Father Penkaul served as chaplain at Attica Correctional Facility from 1979-1991, then was named pastor of St. Mary Parish, Belmont, St. Joseph Parish, Scio and Sacred Heart Parish, Angelica, from 1991-1996. In 1989, he received the Distinguished Teachers Award from Rochester Institute of Technology. In 1996, he was assigned pastor of St. Philip the Apostle Parish in Cheektowaga, where he served until his death.

A longtime Air Force Reserve chaplain, Father Penkaul was promoted to brigadier general in 1994. He served as chaplain in Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He was a member of many religious and social organizations.

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