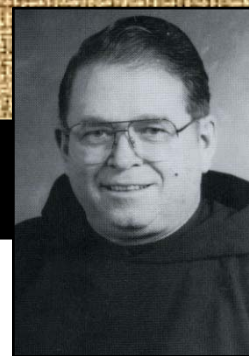


+John E. Mahoney was born on 01 November 1938 and died on 15 December 2004 at the age of 66 in Beacon, New York.



Our friar came from Yonkers NY, attended the minor seminary in Garrison, and was a serious and friendly student who enjoyed dramatics and public speaking, but with little inclination toward athletics. He entered the novitiate in Milton MA in 1956 and received the religious name of 'Edmund'. This pleasant youth finished the study of philosophy at Hudson NH and theology at Mary Immaculate with honor, and would later take a degree in library science. He was ordained in 1964. His first assignment was director of the province's retreat house in Garrison, and in addition was the librarian at the house of theology. In 1973 this gentle and compassionate man, who resumed the use of his baptismal name at this time, moved to St. Anne's Friary in Smithtown NY to assist in the hospital ministry for three years. He then brought his personal gifts of heart and spirit to aid the severely mentally handicapped at Wassaic State School for six years and then regular hospital chaplaincy for two more years at North Shore Hospital, Manhasset NY.

He had his first experience of parish ministry at St. John NYC in 1984 that lasted six years, followed by assignment to another parish, Blessed Sacrament in Manchester NH until 1994. Then the task of archivist/ business manager at Mary Immaculate, Garrison, became his responsibility until he joined the provincial staff as archivist in 1998. When the province decided to terminate the chapel ministry in Springfield in 2000, his low-key and competent nature was the perfect choice as temporary rector to prepare the people for that eventuality. He continued the sacramental responsibilities that the people were accustomed to, and was successful in making the transition as painless as possible. The regular clients of the chapel were gently guided through the difficult emotional responses that surfaced at learning that they were losing the Capuchins whom they had come to love and appreciate. His congenial personality was present to them every day and he gave his time to greet them after Mass. The people were especially grateful that he was a compassionate listener, who did not minimize their grief.

After the friars left Springfield, John returned as archivist at the provincialate. During that same time was chaplain to the patients at Rosary Hill Cancer Home. At this time it was discovered that he himself had developed a cancerous condition that led to his retirement, and in 2002 he moved to St. Lawrence infirmary in Beacon NY. While there he was able to serve as the business manager for a time. Eventually this very gentle friar accepted the inevitable with typical serenity and prepared for his death with quiet anticipation of the glory to come.