

## THE BUFFALO NEWS

# REV. PATRICK MENDOLA, WORKED WITH YOUTHS

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A Mass of Christian Burial for the Rev. Patrick Mendola will be concelebrated at 10 a.m. Wednesday in St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Sheridan Drive and Elmwood Avenue, Town of Tonawanda. His identical twin, the Rev. Michael Mendola, will be principal celebrant.

Burial will be in the Franciscan Friars' Plot in St. Stanislaus Cemetery, Cheektowaga.

Father Patrick, 47, became ill and died Thursday (May 18, 1995) in Berkeley, Calif., where he had gone to receive his master's degree in theology from the Graduate Theological Union.

Since 1991, he had served as pastor of St. Philip Benizi Church in Jonesboro, Ga.

The beginning of Father Patrick's ministry was dedicated to youth. From 1976 to 1980, he was director of counseling and guidance services at St. Francis High School in Athol Springs.

In 1981, he entered a new ministry for troubled youth at the Franciscan Center on Cumberland Avenue in South Buffalo, where he served as executive director until 1990.

Born in Buffalo and raised in Kenmore, he attended St. Andrew's School and Cardinal O'Hara High School. He and his brother become professed members of the Conventual Franciscan Order in 1967 at Ellicott City, Md.

Continuing his studies at St. Hyacinth College and Seminary in Massachusetts from 1967 to 1971, Father Patrick was ordained in 1976 after completing his theological studies at St. Anthony-on-the-Hudson Seminary in Rensselaer. He earned a master's degree in pastoral counseling from Emmanuel College in Massachusetts in 1980.

Survivors include his mother, Jennie Mendola of Kenmore; three brothers, Father Michael of Granby, Mass., Dr. Vincent of North Boston, and Dr. Joseph of Lexington, Mass.; and a sister, Sharon Syracuse of Boston.

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