



**REV. MONSIGNOR PAUL  
BRESNEHAN**

PROCTOR — The Rev. Monsignor Paul Bresnehan, 75, of Proctor died Wednesday in Eden Park Nursing Home in Rutland.

He was born in Proctor on July 11, 1928, the son of Paul J. and Mary (McDonough) Bresnehan.

He attended Proctor Public Schools and graduated from Mount St. Joseph Academy in 1946. He was a graduate of St. Michael's College in Colchester and St. Paul Seminary in Ottawa, Canada, and National Catholic School of Social Service/Catholic University of America (1957-1959).

He was ordained to the priesthood June 5, 1954, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception by Bishop Edward F. Ryan for the Diocese of Burlington.

Father Bresnehan's priestly ministry began at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (1954-1956). He also served as parochial vicar at Sacred Heart in Bennington and assistant principal at Bennington Catholic High School (1956-1957). He served as administrator at St. John the Baptist, in Enosburg Falls for the summer of 1957.

From 1957 to 1959, he attended the National Catholic School of Social Service and the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He was appointed director of Vermont Catholic Charities (1966-1983).

March 22, 1967, he was appointed monsignor. Monsignor Bresnehan served as chaplain at St. Joseph's Child Center (1966-1977) and was a member of a team ministry at Holy Cross parish in Colchester from 1977-1983.

Monsignor served as parochial vicar at St. Mary's in Middlebury (1983-1984) and was appointed pastor for St. Mary's in Middlebury, where he served from 1984 until 1996.

He served as pastor at St. Dominic's Church from 1996 until his retirement in 2002.

Diocesan responsibilities include associate director, Bishop's Fund for Charities and Development (1962-1966), and diocesan director for the Bishop's Fund (1966-1979). He also served as diocesan director for Campaign for Human Development (1970-1983), Holy Year chairman (1975-1976), Diocesan Bicentennial Committee chairman (1975-1976), and diocesan coordinator for the International Eucharistic Congress (1976).

Monsignor Bresnehan was appointed to the Board of Consultors in 1993 and dean of the Addison Deanery in 1995.

Civic organizations include president of the Vermont chapter of National Association of Social Workers (1964-1965), Governor's Committee on Children and Youth (1961-1977) and delegate to White House Conferences on Children and Youth (1960-1970). Survivors include two sisters,

Margaret B. Curtis of Proctor and Charlotte B. Erkson of Burlington; a brother, John P. Bresnehan of Natick, Mass.; 18 nieces and nephews; and 37 great-nieces and great-nephews. He was predeceased by a sister, Mary B. O'Rourke of Burlington, who died in August 2001.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Monday, July 28, at 11 a.m. in St. Dominic Church in Proctor with retired Bishop Louis Gelineau of Providence, R.I., officiating and Bishop Kenneth A. Angell of Burlington concelebrating. Burial will follow in St. Dominic's Cemetery in Proctor. Visiting hours will be held Saturday from 3 to 5 p.m. at Clifford Funeral Home in Rutland. Transfer and reception of Monsignor Bresnehan will take place Sunday at 1 p.m. in St. Dominic Church in Proctor, with the Rev. Richard Tinney, pastor of Our Lady of Seven Dolors Church, officiating. Visiting hours will continue at St. Dominic Church on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. and Monday from 10 to 11 a.m. Contributions may be made to St. Dominic Church, South Street, Proctor, Vt. 05765, or to Priests' Benefit Fund, 351 North Ave., Burlington, Vt. 05401.