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Rev Msgr John Kempczynski

BIRTH	20 Oct 1919 Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, USA
DEATH	25 Jan 2009 (aged 89) Buffalo, Erie County, New York, USA
BURIAL	<u>Mount Olivet Cemetery</u> Kenmore, Erie County, New York, USA Add to Map
PLOT	Priests' Plot, Ascension Chapel
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Msgr. John Kempczynski, longtime pastor of St. Joseph Church in North Tonawanda, died in Mercy Hospital, Buffalo. He was 89.

He was the son of the late Felix and Helen Kempczynski and moved to Poland with his family in 1932. He graduated from St. Stanislaus Kostka, in Plock, Poland, and attended the Diocesan Seminary in Plock. After moving to Western New York in 1949, he completed his studies at Christ the King Seminary at St. Bonaventure University. Msgr. Kempczynski was ordained to the priesthood on May 19, 1951 by Bishop John O'Hara at St. Joseph New Cathedral in Buffalo. He served at St. John of the Cross, Williamsville, St. Josaphat, Cheektowaga, St. Hyacinth, Dunkirk; St. Barbara, Lackawanna; Our Lady of Czestochowa, Cheektowaga; and St. Stanislaus, Buffalo. In 1969, he was named pastor of St. Rose of Lima in Forestville, where he served for five years before becoming the pastor at St. Joseph in North Tonawanda. In 1981, he was named a monsignor and remained at St. Joseph until his retirement in 1995.

While in retirement, Msgr. Kempczynski served as a senior priest at St. Timothy Parish in the Town of Tonawanda.