

Ex-principal, Brother Peter Russell, dies

By **CHRISTOPHER MUMMA**

Staff Writer

Brother Peter J. Russell, the former principal of St. Joseph's Regional High School in Montvale, died Saturday in Mission Hills, Calif., after a brief illness. He was 65.

Brother Russell, formerly of Montvale, was a member of the Xaverian Brothers religious order for 47 years. He served at St. Joseph's for about 30 years, first as a teacher and then as principal from 1980 to 1993.

Brother Russell also coached the tennis team at St. Joseph's for 30 years until his retirement from the school. From 1993 until earlier this year, he was director of vocations for the St. Joseph province of the Xaverian Brothers.

Earlier this year, Brother Russell joined the faculty at Bishop Alemany High School in Mission Hills as a religion teacher and guidance counselor.

Brother Russell joined the Xaverian Brothers after graduating from St. John's preparatory school in Danvers, Mass., in 1948. In the years following, he taught in Xaverian schools in Kentucky, Brooklyn, and Utica, N.Y., before returning to St. John's to teach. He later joined St. Joseph's.

He is survived by two sisters, Jeanne Scova of Valhalla, N.Y., and Patricia Lyons of New Port Richey, Fla., and two brothers, John R. of Tulsa, Okla., and Robert of Salinas, Calif.

A funeral service will be today at Bishop Alemany High School in Mission Hills. There will be a wake at St. Joseph's in Montvale on Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. A Mass of Christian burial will be said Friday at 1 p.m. at Our Lady of Mercy R.C. Church in Park Ridge. Interment will be at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Mount Pleasant, N.Y.

A memorial Mass will also be said Saturday at St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the scholarship fund at St. Joseph's Regional High School, 40 Chestnut Ridge Road, Montvale, N.J., 07645, or to the Xaverian Brothers' Province Support Fund, 704 Brush Hill Road, Milton, Mass., 02186.