

Monsignor Joseph J. Hassler Dies; Served at Alden Church for 7 Years

A Mass of Christian Burial for Monsignor Joseph J. Hassler, 61, pastor of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Alden, will be offered at 10:30 a.m. Thursday by Bishop Edward D. Head. Burial will be in St. John's Cemetery, Alden.

Monsignor Hassler, the only monsignor at St. John's in its 134-year history, died Sunday (June 22, 1986) in Sisters Hospital. He was stricken with a heart attack June 12 in the parish's rectory.

Monsignor Hassler had served at St. John's Church for almost seven years. He came to Alden from St. Mary's Church in Belmont.

A graduate of St. Louis Elemen-

tary School and Canisius High School, he attended Canisius College before entering Christ the King Seminary in Olean for his theological studies.

He was ordained June 4, 1949, and assigned as administrator of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Sinclairville. He served as assistant pastor at St. Mary's in Lancaster for 18 years before receiving his first pastorate at St. Mary's in Belmont.

Surviving are three sisters, Rosemary Hassler, Gloria Emminger and Susan Oswald of Tonawanda, and a brother, Raymond of Florida.