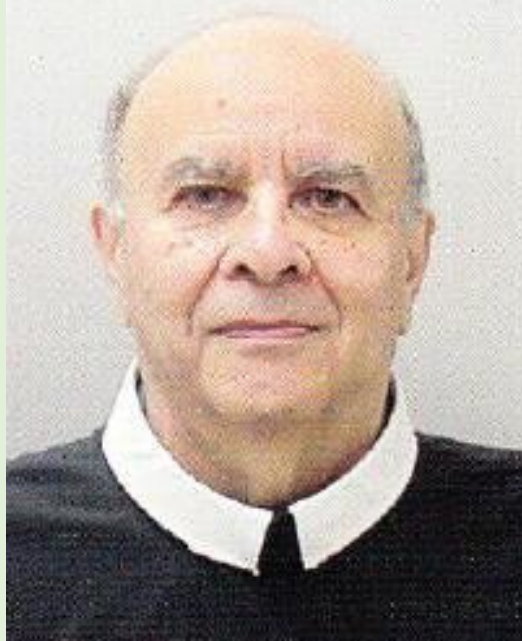


Father John Gauci, C.Ss.R.
1932-2020

Father John Gauci, C.Ss.R., a member of the Baltimore Province, died on April 5, 2020 at the age of 87. He was born in New York City, June 12, 1932, to pious parents from Malta—Alfred Gauci and Antonia Barbara. He attended the Redemptorist parish school of St. Cecilia in Manhattan and later entered the Redemptorist juvenate in St. Mary's, North East, Pennsylvania (1951-1953). He made his novitiate at St. Mary's, Ilchester, Maryland, where he professed vows on August 2, 1954. He was ordained to the priesthood at Mount St. Alphonsus in Esopus, New York, June 21, 1959.

Father Gauci began his priestly ministry as a missionary to Puerto Rico, arriving in Mayaguez—the province's first foundation on that island—on June 12, 1961. For over 26 years he labored in the Caribbean, first as part of the Vice-Province and then Province of San Juan. He was stationed in Frederiksted, St. Croix, USVI; Caguas, Puerto Rico; St. Thomas, USVI; Ponce, Puerto Rico; returning to Mayaguez; then Caguas and finally San Lorenzo. In 1987 he served in the provincial archives, assembling a considerable stock of historical material from Redemptorist units around the Caribbean.

After 1989, Father Gauci could be found working on the American materials in the Redemptorists' General Historical Archive in Rome. In 1990 he returned to the Province of San Juan as archivist and remained in that position until health issues necessitated his assignment to the St. John Neumann Residence in Saratoga Springs, New York, in 1998. In 2002, he was assigned to his home parish of St. Cecilia's in Manhattan, but the following year reported to Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Brooklyn, for assisted living. In 2015, he moved to the St. John Neumann Residence in Timonium, Maryland, where he died. Due to the restrictions on burials due to the corona virus outbreak, his obsequies have been postponed.



Father Gauci's contribution to the history of Redemptorists in the Caribbean is crowned with an important bi-lingual publication, *Redemptorist Apostolates in the Caribbean of the Nineteenth Century*, published in Santo Domingo in 1989. Perhaps more importantly, he was known as having a firm spirituality of generosity, mercy, and mission, especially in the confessional.

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Redemptorist Archives

