## Father Cosimo Fazio, Was Pastor in New Rochelle, Staten Island

**N**ather Cosimo Fazio, who served as pastor of St. Joseph's in New Rochelle and Holy Rosary on Staten Island, died Dec. 24. He was 92.

He served as pastor of St. Joseph's from 1984 until his retirement in 1999. He served at Holy Rosary, 1974-1984.

Cardinal Dolan offered a Funeral Mass on Dec. 30 at St. Gabriel-St. Joseph Church in

New Rochelle. The homilist was Msgr. Ferdinando Berardi, superior of Casa Santa Maria, a residence for Englishspeaking priests continuing graduate studies in Rome.

Msgr. Berardi met Father Fazio at St. Benedict's on Staten Island in 1958. Msgr. Berardi's family had just emigrated from Italy and Father Fazio,



Father Cosimo Fazio

parochial vicar from 1956 through 1960, became fast friends with the family because they could easily communicate in Italian.

Msgr. Berardi, in his homily, shared the life of a man who had a profound impact on his own vocation and faithfully served the Lord for 68 years as a priest.

"For those of us who were fortunate to engage with Fa-

ther Fazio, we experienced a faith-filled temperament and joyous spirit, which was contagious. His smile and laugh in themselves eased our burdens, reminding us that we were not alone on our journeys—Jesus was walking alongside us and would always be there for us," Msgr. Berardi said.

"This prophetic spirit of Father Co-

simo Fazio was what helped me over the years, first in the seminary, and then in the priesthood that I was able to share with him, and I know that so many of my brother priests had a similar experience," he said.

Father Fazio served as a model to other priests even in times of great turmoil, said Msgr. Berardi. In 1973, Father Fazio celebrated his silver anniversary of priesthood and Msgr. Berardi entered St. Joseph's Seminary in Dunwoodie. The Vietnam War was raging and the impending impeachment of President Richard Nixon loomed over the United States; the Church was also experiencing its own challenges.

"Fortunately, for me and for some of my classmates and contemporaries, in the midst of all this confusion and divi-

sion, we had Father Fazio's example of unwavering and clear commitment as a priest of Jesus Christ to assist us in dealing with all the doubts and questioning of that period," Msgr. Berardi said.

"He was anchored in his relationship to Christ, the High Priest," he added.

Born in Nardodipace, Italy, Father Fazio studied for the priesthood and was ordained in his native Italy on June 29, 1948. He came to the United States in 1953 and was incardinated into the archdiocese in 1957.

He served as parochial vicar at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 1960-1974, and St. Rita's, 1953-1956, both on Staten Island.

Father Fazio retired to New Smyrna Beach Fla. in 1999.

Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in New Rochelle.

# Brendan Dugan, College President

Brendan J. Dugan, president of St. Francis College in Brooklyn since 2008, died Dec. 18. He was 69.

Mr. Dugan also served on the college's board of trustees, 1996-2008, and was board chairman, 2006-2008.

He worked in commercial banking at Sovereign Bank, 2003-2008; Citibank Commercial Markets, 2001-2003; European American bank, 1991-2001, and NatWest USA, 1974-1991.

In 2009, he was inducted into the Pon-

tifical Order of St. Gregory the Great.

Born in Brooklyn, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from St. Francis, which later gave him an honorary doctorate.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; their sons, Joseph, Michael and Patrick; a sister, Patricia Curtin; and a brother, Brian. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Dec. 22 at St. Mary Star of the Sea in Brooklyn. Burial was at Green-Wood Cemetery there.

## Father Greco, Pastor in Sullivan County

Father Evan J. Greco, O.F.M., who served as pastor of two parishes in Sullivan County and was a U.S. Navy chaplain, died Dec. 27 at Chilton Hospital in Pompton Plains, N.J. He was 86.

Father Greco was interim pastor at St. Francis Xavier parish, Narrowsburg, 2002-2005, and pastor at St. Anthony of Padua, Yulan, 1993-2002. He also served in California, Georgia and Virginia.

He was a U.S. Navy chaplain, from 1962 until his retirement in 1986, serving in Vietnam, Guam, Italy and California. He received the Navy Commendation

Medal in 1970, awarded for sustained acts of heroism or meritorious service.

Born in Bloomfield, N.J., he entered the Franciscan Friars' Holy Name Province in 1952 and professed final vows in 1957. He was ordained in 1958.

He is survived by his sisters Alberta Greco, Angela McCluskey and Mary Ann Scharf, and brothers John, Richard and Father Raymond Greco, O.S.B.

A Funeral Mass was offered on Dec. 31 at St. Anthony Church in Butler, N.J., followed by burial at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Butler.

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