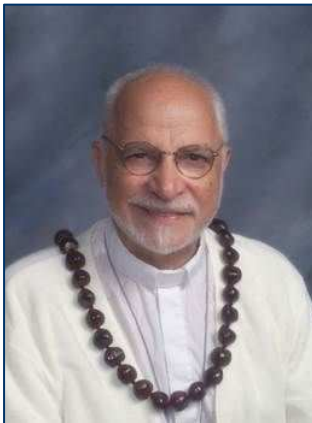


**CURIA GENERALIZIA MARIANISTI**  
**Via Latina 22 - 00179 Roma, Italia**  
**Tel. (39-06) 704 75 892 - Fax (39-06) 700 0406**  
**E-mail: [gensecsm@smcuria.it](mailto:gensecsm@smcuria.it)**

October 21, 2014

**Death Notice No. 27 (To all Unit Administrations):**



The Province of the United States of America recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **JOSEPH PRIESTLEY**, priest of the Marianist Hall Community, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on October 11, 2014 in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, at the age of 89 with 70 years of religious profession.

Fr. Joe was a preacher and parish pastor who taught school in the early years of his ministry. A talented pianist, he served mostly in his home state of Hawai'i.

Joseph Leonard Priestley was born on June 27, 1925, in Honolulu, Hawai'i. He was the youngest of three children in the family of John and Emily (Barrett) Priestley. He began his association with the Society of Mary at age 8 as a student at the former Saint Louis College elementary school. During the early stages of World War II, he lived and worked at the school's campus at Kalaepohaku, which had been transformed into the 147<sup>th</sup> General Army Hospital immediately following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Fr. Joe entered the novitiate at Beacon, New York, in 1943 and professed first vows there one year later. In an accelerated wartime program, he earned a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Dayton in 1947.

His first teaching assignment was a semester at Cathedral Latin School in Cleveland, Ohio. He then returned to Hawai'i, where he taught at St. Mary School in Hilo for two years and at his alma mater, Saint Louis College (now Saint Louis School), from 1949 to 1951. He professed his perpetual vows on June 19, 1949, in Honolulu.

In June 1951, Fr. Joe began seminary studies in Fribourg, Switzerland. He was ordained on April 17, 1955, in Fribourg.

The ensuing years were a flurry of teaching assignments for Fr. Joe. He taught religion, languages, music, history and other subjects at schools including Archbishop Riordan High School in San Francisco, California (1955 – 1957), Chaminade High School in Los Angeles (1957 – 1958), Saint Louis School (1958 – 1960), and St. Anthony in Maui, Hawai'i (1960 – 1961). From 1961 – 1963, he lived in Yokohama, Japan, where he taught English conversation, Mariology and Gregorian chant at St. Joseph College.

Fr. Joe returned to the United States, where he ministered as chaplain and teacher at Archbishop Riordan High School (1964 – 1968), then served as chaplain at St. Joseph School in Alameda, California (1968 – 1969). He spent the last year of the 1960s as chaplain at St. Anthony School in Maui.

From 1970 through 1986, Fr. Joe was based in California and traveled widely as a preacher for retreats and special liturgies. "In August 1975, Fr. Joe led a (Pacific) Province retreat," recalled Bro.

Tom Redmond. “Each morning he would give a short reflection on a Scripture passage as an encouragement for our prayer during the day. Some of those gems have stayed with me over the years, and I hold them with a thankful heart.”

During this era, Fr. Joe served on the board of directors of Retreats International. In 1978, he published a book titled “To Live Is to Love Now,” about spiritual renewal in the Church and world.

Beginning in 1986, Fr. Joe ministered as pastor at Saint Ann Church in Waihe’e, Maui. He remained there until 1995.

“Fr. Joe and I began our life as newly professed Marianists together 70 years ago,” said Fr. Steve Tutas. “He had a remarkable memory of people he cared for over the years, often reminding me in great detail of a visit with my parents. This was typical of his relationship with people whose lives God touched through him – and they were many!”

In 1996, Fr. Joe retired to the Marianist Hall Community on the campus of Saint Louis School and Chaminade University, where he had begun his Marianist journey many years before.

May he rest in peace.