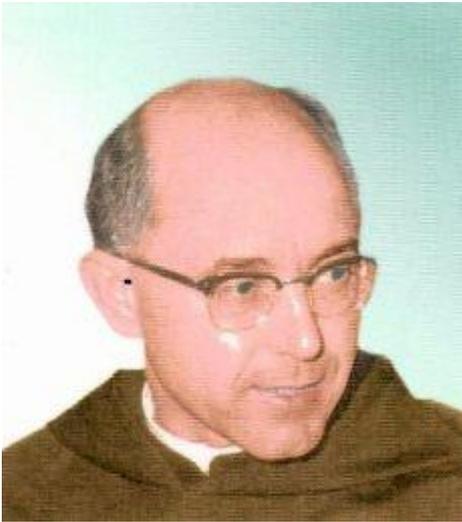


**FATHER ANDREA M. CECCHIN**  
**(1914-1995)**



Father Andrea M. Cecchin was born in Castelfranco Veneto (Treviso) on October 22, 1914. He entered the Servite Order as a postulant and studied at the Istituto Missioni in Vicenza (1927-1932). On July 28, 1932 he entered the novitiate. He then studied philosophy at Sant'Elena in Venice. In 1935 he was sent to St. Alexis Falconieri International College in Rome to study theology. On October 14, 1936 he made his solemn profession and on October 28, 1938 he was ordained to the priesthood.

From 1938 to 1942 he lived in Louvain (Belgium) where he was awarded a licentiate in theology (1941) and a doctorate (1942). He returned to Rome and began teaching in the 1942-1943 school year. When the Holy See recognized the Marianum Theological Faculty in 1950 he was made Ordinary Professor of Patrology, Liturgy and Ascetic Theology.

From 1947 to 1950 he was the Master of Students and Prior of St. Alexis Falconieri College community.

In the summer of 1955 he returned to the Venetian Province as Socius Provincial and three years later he was elected Prior Provincial. He held this office uninterruptedly until 1967,

He was one of the founders of CONPRIS (Conference of Italian Priors Provincial) and was its president and drew up statutes for the organization. He played an active role in preparing for the Extraordinary General Chapter of 1968 as President of the Commission for Common Life.

After the 1968 Chapter he was appointed President of the Commission for the Missions of the Order. In this capacity he visited each jurisdiction. In 1971 at the General Chapter in Opatia (Yugoslavia) he presented the results of the work he and his fellow commission members had accomplished. He performed other tasks on behalf of the *Regnum Mariae* Secular Institute.

He spent the last years of his life at Monte Berico, involved in spiritual direction, assisting the Community sick and working on behalf of the poor. He carried out all these activities with great calm even in the time immediately preceding his death when he knew he had a tumor in his liver.

On September 15, 1995 he died in the Civil Hospital in Vicenza. He had been brought to the hospital that very morning when he became gravely sick.

The cause for his beatification was initiated on March 2, 2002 and concluded on September 15, 2008. We are now waiting for a decree to open the Diocesan Inquest at the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints.