Rev. Jerome Fioretti

Rev. Jerome S. Fioretti, 91, formerly of Newport, died March 19, 2002. Born in Buscemi, Sicily, Italy April 4, 1910, he was the son of the late Serafina (Musca) and Michele Fioretti. Rev. Fioretti entered the seminary at age 10, attending philosophy seminaries and theological seminaries. He became a sub-deacon at the age of 21 and was ordained to the priesthood Dec. 17, 1932. In Sicily, he taught philosophy, Canon law and holy scripture. In 1944 he successfully led a coalition against communism. Rev. Fioretti came to the United States in 1949, serving at several parishes in Michigan. In 1951 he moved to Rhode Island and was assistant pastor at St. Ann's Parish in Providence before becoming pastor of Our Lady of Grace church in Johnston. Upon retiring in 1980, Rev. Fioretti moved to Newport, where he served as the chaplain at the US Naval Hospital and assisted at local churches and the chapel at St. Clare's Home. He is survived by his nieces Sally Jenkins and Serafina DeAscentis, both of Newport, and Mary Bellagamba, Anna Springett and Rosemarie Nash, all of Middletown, and 35 grandnieces and grandnephews. He was the brother of the late Concetta Lozito and the uncle of the late Carlo Lozito. A Mass of Christian burial was held March 23. Burial was in St. Columba Cemetery in Middletown. Donations in his memory may be made to the St. Joseph's Church maintenance fund, 5 Mann Ave., Newport, RI 02840.