



"As we have been united in the profession of faith, so let us keep ourselves united in suffrage and intercession."

(Fr. Alberione)

In the early afternoon of yesterday, Tuesday 17 November 2009, in the community of Milan our brother Priest has returned to the Father.

FR. GIUSEPPE AURELIO SORO
63 years, 50 of Pauline life, 32 of priesthood

Thinking of Fr. Giuseppe Soro, our mind spontaneously turns to his priestly life spent entirely in Saint Paul Periodicals: in fact, it has been the specific place of his apostolate for over thirty years, the "pulpit" from which he has preached with the typically Pauline eagerness of "reaching everybody everywhere," pouring his best energies in Pauline journalism. And here – on the breach, we can say – convalescent after a recovery in the Columbus clinic due to heart problems, the Lord has called him almost unexpectedly to his eternal reward.

He comes from Sarule (Nuoro, Italy), where he was born on 18 March 1946. He had entered when he was thirteen the Society of Saint Paul in Rome, on 20 September 1959. Being straightforward and helpful, he brought from his numerous family the traits of a simple and active faith, and from his native land in Sardinia the spirit of enterprise and that bit of stubbornness that, according to our Founder, is needed to "accomplish the will of God, always, in spite of any difficulty." He finished grammar school and had his first Pauline formation in the Roman seminary. He entered the novitiate in Ostia-Lido (Rome) in August of 1965 and made his first religious profession on 20 August 1967, taking on that occasion the name of Aurelio.

Alba and Rome were the houses wherein he spent successively the years of his temporary profession (1967-1976), committed in the typographical apostolate and, during the years of theology, in editorial activity for *Vita Pastorale*. It was his debut in Pauline journalism, one that will characterize his whole life. He consecrated himself for good to the Lord on 8 September 1976, in Rome, and was ordained a priest the following year, on 6 August 1977, at Sarule, where he was born, through the hands of the Bishop of Nuoro, Mons. Giovanni Melis.

His activity in *Vita Pastorale*, first in Rome and then in Alba continued for more than twenty years as redactor and for other four years as director (1975-1999). At the same time, thanks to his talent in organizing, he did for some years (1978-1986) the role of Secretary of the National Conventions of Social Communication organized by the magazine and for six years (1989-1996) he was superior of the community of Alba Periodici. He was also a member of the Presbyteral Council and of the Central Commission for the Synod of the Diocese of Alba. – He said goodbye to the readers of *Vita Pastorale* in December of 1999, writing: "I have carried out with love and passion my priestly and apostolic ministry as a Pauline in the "parish of paper," according to the charism and teaching of Fr. James Alberione" and announcing his future task with *Famiglia Cristiana* as vice director, in the office at Milan which he held until January of 2007, to then transfer as director general of Saint Paul Periodicals.

From 1997 to 2001 he had been director of *Gazzetta d'Alba*. In becoming its director in April 1997, while he showed his "concern to not delude anybody, together with the hope of not deceiving," he situated the direction of the weekly in the Alberionian track of "talking about everything in a Christian way": about everything – he explained – without qualms and always from the Christian viewpoint, with the greatest possible objectivity and honesty; a journal that gives space to what happens, be they big or small in the reality of every day, that gives voice both to public figures as well as to humble citizens, stimulates dialog and contributes to a better society.

They are words that depict well the genuine and passionate Paulinism of our beloved Fr. Giuseppe, the Pauline charism he thought and lived with praiseworthy dedication, drawing light and strength from the Divine Master. Now that he has been added to the Pauline Family in heaven, we trust in his intercession for the needs of the Congregation, above all for the apostolic activity of the Pauline periodicals. We accompany him with our fraternal prayers of suffrage, so that he may enjoy in God solace after hard toil, life after death and eternal rest.

Rome, 18 November 2009

Fr. Giuliano Saredi

His funeral will take place on Thursday, 19 November, at 2.45 p.m., in the Parish of S. Pietro in Sala, Piazza Wagner, Milan. – His body will be transported to Sarule, the town of his birth where he will be buried in the local cemetery.

Let the Superiors of Circumscription inform their communities for the prescribed suffrages (Const. 65 and 65.1)