SOCIETÀ SAN PAOLO casa generalizia



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

(Fr. Alberione)

In the morning of 27 June 2010, in the community of Santiago del Cile, our brother priest has returned to the Father.

FR. JOSÉ ABEL FELIPE DEL VALLE ECHEVERRÍA 75 years, 54 of Pauline life, 42 of priesthood

For several years his health has been a constant concern for him and for the brothers of the community: besides the kidney transplant and diabetes, cardiac failure had caused a worrisome dilatation of his heart. In spite of this, he has always lavished all his energies in animation and in apostolic activity with affability and serenity.

José Abel was born in Villarrica (Cautín, Chile) on 4 September 1934. He entered the Congregation at the age of 21 on 16 April 1956, in the community of La Florida (Santiago), city wherein he has spent the most part of his existence. For the year of novitiate he went to Buenos Aires in 1961 and there he made his first religious profession on 7 March 1962, taking the name of Felipe by which he is known by all.

After having completed philosophy and the first year of theology, from Buenos Aires he was sent to Rome to finish Theology. Here he made his perpetual profession on 8 September 1965 in the presence of Fr. Alberione and was ordained priest on 30 June 1967 through the hands of Mons. Ettore Cunial. He is the first Pauline priest of Chilean nationality.

Before re-entering Santiago del Cile he stopped in Ireland for the study of English. In Santiago he immediately made himself useful in the teaching and formation of the aspirants. While he continued that service, from 1969 to 1973 he completed his studies of pedagogy in English in the Catholic University. Besides following the group of the postulants, since 1974 he was given charge of vocation pastoral, to which he later added the direction of "El Domingo."

From 1978 to 1986 he was named for two terms as superior of the community of Santiago, a task that was still asked of him from 1990 to 1994 and from 1999 to 2002. He was also responsible for the formation of the novices (1983-1985), of the aspirants (1985-86) before going to Medellín (Colombia) in 1986 for a year of permanent formation on the Bible.

In 1987 he took charge of the Holy Family Institute in Chile and continued to animate the Institute until his health allowed it. He was asked for a contribution of his in formation as Master of the juniors from 2000 to 2003 and he committed himself in redaction, where besides reviewing the texts for the Edizioni San Paolo, he wrote some books of spirituality.

Fr. Felipe was a humble and understanding soul, affable in character. He was a great help in the atmosphere of the community. We recommend him to the prayers of all and to the mercy of the Father. To his intercession we entrust the Pauline Family in Chile, the young men now in formation and the members of the Holy Family Institute of this nation who still bear the marks of the recent devastating earthquake.

Rome, 28 June 2010

Bro. Lorenzo Vezzani

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