



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

(Fr. Alberione)

At 7:05 p.m. (local time) yesterday, 20 October 2011, in the house “Don Alberione” of Albano Laziale (Rome, Italy), the Divine Master has called to his eternal reward our brother Priest

FR. FRANCESCO GAVINO CAMPUS

77 years, 65 of Pauline life, 60 of religious profession, 52 of priesthood

Fr. Francesco came from the island of Sardinia, born at Osilo (Sassari) on 31 October 1933. He entered the Congregation on 10 August 1946, five days after his cousin Pietro, in the community of Rome, where he received his first formation; he then continued his novitiate in Albano Laziale (1950-1951), at the end of which he made his first religious profession on 8 September 1951. In 1953 also the brother of Fr. Francesco, Paolino, entered the Congregation. The following stages of his formation sees him again in Rome, where he makes his perpetual profession on 8 September 1956 and receives the presbyteral ordination through Mons. Luigi Traglia on 5 July 1959.

In Rome Fr. Francesco remains yet for more than a decade, committed in formation as vice-master of the young disciples (1959-1970) and successively as master of the Maggiorini (1970-1971). In 1971 he is destined to the mission in the Congo, where he will stay for almost forty years until his return to Italy in 2009 in the house “Don Alberione” of Albano Laziale, for reasons of health.

In the Congo Fr. Francesco passes through a long series of responsibilities: he is sector head of the printing press and superior at Kinshasa (1971-1973), parish priest at Lubumbashi (1973-1984) and superior of the community of Lubumbashi (1979-1984); after an intervening period at Kinshasa as bursar (1984-1987) and as regional delegate and bursar (1987-1989), he is again at Lubumbashi as superior delegate and bursar (1989-1993); and then superior delegate and master of the aspirants at Kimwenza (1993-1996); from 1996 to 1999 he is still in Kinshasa, committed in accounting and as regional secretary (1997-1999); after a year at Lubumbashi doing accounting and in formation (1999-2000), we find him at Kinshasa serving as regional bursar (2000-2003), councilor and regional vicar (2001-2003) and as master of the novices and regional bursar (2003-2004); finally, he is again at Lubumbashi, committed in the sector of formation (2004-2009).

In 2008 some serious health problems start to show that advise Fr. Francesco to come to Italy for suitable treatment. The following year he is diagnosed as having multiple myeloma, with which he lives while maintaining great serenity; notwithstanding the deteriorating condition of his health, he is even able to participate in the General Chapter of 2010 as substitute delegate. However, his illness makes its course, through a progressive worsening of the conditions of his health until death, which finds him aware and prepared.

Of a serene and amiable character, enthusiastic of his Pauline vocation and generous in his dedication to the apostolate, Fr. Francesco has fought his good battle and finished his earthly course (cf 2Tim 4,7). We now entrust Fr. Francesco, already united to the “multitude of witnesses” (cf Heb 12,1) of the Pauline Family in heaven, to the kind countenance of the Divine Master who awaits his faithful servants for their eternal reward. We ask of him to intercede for us before the Lord of glory for the needs of the Congregation, in particular for those of the Region of the Congo.

Rome, 21 October 2011

Fr. Vincenzo Vitale

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