



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

(Fr. Alberione)

At 3 p.m. today (local time), 8 November, in the infirmary of the community of Alba, following a serious respiratory crisis, our brother Disciple of the Divine Master has returned to the Father.

BRO. PIETRO STEFANO GARELLI
91 years, 61 of Pauline life, 56 of religious profession

Bro. Pietro – known by everybody through his pet name “Pierino” – was born in Gorzegno (Cuneo) on 17 May 1921 and has passed the threshold of the Congregation already as an adult on 15 September 1951 in Alba. He had lived the terrible experience of the war as a soldier; with reason his superiors, in their report for the religious investiture (1953), note down: “He is a made man, familiar with the hardships of life.” At the end of his two years of novitiate at Ostia (1954-1956), he made here his first profession on 8 September 1956 and, at the end of his formation, the perpetual profession on 8 September 1961 in Rome.

But already in 1959 Bro. Pietro had been sent to Ireland, in the community of Ballykeeran, where he stayed for a decade until 1969, carrying out his apostolate in the lithography. After two years spent between Rome, in the General House (1969 and 1970-1971), and Portugal (1970), committed respectively in the bookstore and in the offset, he is sent to the United Kingdom for another long period, in the community of Langley, where he stays from 1971 to 1986, working at the offset. He reenters Italy in the community of Alba, where he will stay starting 1986, working in the printing press of Alba (paperback binding sector). Since 2012, following problems of a health that started a swift decline, he was found in the infirmary of Alba.

Of this confrere we can say that the judgment expressed by his superiors during his formation has been confirmed in the passing of the years, showing the personality of a Pauline humble and solid at the same time: “He is more than decisive in his religious vocation... He is of an advanced age, but equally advanced in virtue, in piety, in equilibrium, in goodness of character, in delicateness of conscience. He is a very good boy in all respects; exemplar among his companions; loved by all... Loving the apostolate, generous and enterprising; always coherent in the attainment of donation. Worthy of praise poverty.” Added to this human, religious and Pauline depth was an extremely affable, fatherly character, solicitous of others, and a sense of fun, of jest and of humor that made him lovable, well accepted and esteemed by the community.

We now entrust this dear confrere to the Divine Master who waits for him for his eternal reward, and we recommend to his intercession the needs of the Congregation and of the Pauline Family and, above all, of the Disciples of the Divine Master.

Rome, 8 November 2012

Fr. Vincenzo Vitale