



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

(Fr. Alberione)

At 6:45 p.m.(local time) yesterday, Sunday 3 February, at the hospital Leforte of São Paulo, our brother Disciple of the Divine Master has returned to the Father.

BRO. FRANCISCO MAJORINO PEDROSO DA SILVA
91 years, 73 of Pauline life, 70 of religious profession

Frei Majorino – thus he was habitually called by all – was born on 3 September 1921 in Santa Cruz do Rio Parto (Brazil, State of São Paulo). After a vocational experience with the Redemptorists, on 2 February 1940 he entered the Society of Saint Paul that arrived a few years back in Brazil, in the Pauline seminary that was then located at Rua Major Maragliana. Here he met Fr. Andrea Ferrero and Fr. Sebastiano Trosso, then superior of the community. Oriented to the vocation of Disciple of the Divine Master, frei Majorino, who was asked several times to tell the story of his vocational journey, describes the beginnings of his Pauline vocation with the learning and activity in the printing press. After six months of preparation he received the religious habit but because of the Second World War, he could not come to Rome for the novitiate: so he entered the novitiate in São Paulo on Christmas Day of 1940 with two other young men and made his first profession on 25 December 1941, on which occasion he assumed the name of Maggiorino, getting inspiration from the name of Maggiorino Vigolungo.

Calling to mind the various passages of his life means to have a quick look at a life spent in the service of the Pauline mission: after his formation in São Paulo and perpetual profession made on 25 December 1947, sharing in the joys and difficulties of the beginnings of the Congregation in Brazil, he was in the community of Rio de Janeiro (1946-1947), then again in São Paulo (1947-1956), lending service as linotypist and in diffusion, apostolates that he carried out successively also in Caxias do Sul (1956-1970). He made available his precious help to the Daughters of Saint Paul in resolving frequent problems in their printing press. From 1971 to 1988 he worked at the duplicating machines in Cidade Paulina, enjoying during his free time the cultivation of fruit trees and the gathering of fruits of the earth: his confreres remember his joy in gifting with bunches of bananas whoever came to visit him.

His various health problems have not prevented frei Majorino to live a life noted for cordiality and availability for service, in the printing press as for the various needs of the community. He announced the Word like saint Paul, imitating our Father and protector described by the Founder as “the great walker”: in fact, besides his apostolate as linotypist and with other printing press machines, we cannot count the kilometers that he traveled in his forty years as driver (from 1946 to 1990), at the service of the Pauline mission.

In his last years frei Majorino faced victoriously various serious illnesses. All this was accompanied by the need for a continuous and meticulous spiritual purification. His

physical resistance in facing months of intensive therapy was surprising. During the last period of suffering he has been assisted by the community and above all by the young men with every attention and care.

His words entrusted to one of his memoirs are still very up-to-date: «Today, at more than 60 years – he wrote – I feel myself very much realized in my dreams of those times. Here is my message to the young men of today: cost what may cost, its worth the pain dedicating all your life to a similar activity, “for the glory of God and the good of souls,” using the great means of evangelization that we have at our disposal in the Society of Saint Paul. If I had to restart today, I would be again in the Society of Saint Paul. It is fascinating!» It is a simple but eloquent testimony of a dedication to the Pauline mission without reserve.

We now entrust this dear confrere to the Lord of the dead and the living (Rom 14,9), who awaits the athletes who have “fought according to the rules,” so that he may receive his eternal reward (2Tim 2,5). May he intercede for the needs of the Congregation in Brazil and above all for the vocation of other disciples, as we accompany him with our fraternal suffrage.

Rome, 4 February 2013

Fr. Vincenzo Vitale

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