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)

The divine Master has called to himself our brother Priest

FR. SAVINO ANGELO MARANDOLA 87 years, 77 of Pauline life, 63 of priesthood

He has passed away at 11,15 a.m. (local time) today, Wednesday 27 February 2013, at the Ospedale San Lazzaro in Alba, where he was admitted about a month ago with diagnosis of probable viral pneumonia.

Born in Acquafondata (Frosinone, Italy) on 9 November 1925, of a family made happy by four children and rich in human and religious values, Savino while still very young crossed the threshold of the Society of Saint Paul in Alba on 29 September 1935; he was not yet ten years old, but accompanying him was the assurance of his parish priest about his very praiseworthy conduct and true vocation to the priesthood.

He had his first Pauline formation in the Motherhouse and he finished his high school and upper school; he carried out his novitiate, which he concluded with his religious profesion on 8 September 1942; his studies in theology followed in Rome, where where he made his perpetual profession on 8 December 1946, feast of the Immaculate Conception, and was ordained a priest on 10 July 1949 by Mons. Giovanni Urbani in the parish Basilica of the Holy XII Apostles.

The Pauline priestly life of Fr. Savino can be summed in three words: formation, animation, ministry. He started in the house of Modena with the task of master of the aspirants and teacher of various disciplines (1949-1958), attending also to the Pauline cooperators; the mansion of teacher characterized also his first period of stay in Cinisello Balsamo (1958-1969). He spent in Rome the year 1969-1970 to obtain the license in theology at the Pontifical Lateran University; from there his reentrance in Cinisello Balsamo, which protracted until 1982, with his commitment as corrector of proofs, as vocation animator and in ministry. He was again in Modena from 1982 to 1994: superior of the community (1984-1987), vocation promoter, Pauline cooperators. The year 1994-1995 was a "sabbatical" year in the diocese of Carpi, followed by his transfer to Alba/Motherhouse.

The priestly ministry, above all, has been the guiding thread of his life; he felt himself led to it and he strongly felt for direct personal contact with persons. From here the long time given to the ministry of reconciliation in the course of the years, and above all in the Temple of Saint Paul in Alba in his fifteen years of stay; from here his assiduousness in spiritual direction and his dedication to the Pauline cooperators in the zone of Alba. Fr. Savino had a word of comfort and encouragement for everybody; he aimed at the human and spiritual maturation of individuals, and he knew how to instil reasons of faith and to involve in works that enthuse: it is enough to think of the admirable work of animation of the cooperators for the initiative of the Pauline Family "the Bible for China," taken to heart from its birth, nourished by prayer and pursued with constancy and excellent fruits. He confided in 2006: "I accompany with my prayers this holy Pauline initiative of the printing and diffusion of the Bible in the Chinese language. With the blessing of the Lord, even through this apostolic activity may the light of faith and the civilization of the Gospel reach the great Chinese people."

His unassuming bearing and kept to himself, his ever-present habit, his serene countenance, his appropriate and meditated words, always useful and pleasing to the ears, the tone itself of his voice were an invitation to recollection and to what is essential. And they were, probably, his secret to enter into minds and hearts even in new situations: how many encounters in so many fortunate trips, in hitchhikings, which sometimes he narrated with simplicity and humility!

Now the earthly journey of our dear Priest is done and his presence in God is a guarantee of intercession for the needs of the Congregation and, in a special way, for the Pauline cooperators who he has guided with love and generous availability. And we, with gratitude, reciprocate through our fraternal suffrage.

Rome, 27 February 2013

Fr. Giuliano Saredi

His funeral will take place on Friday 1 March at 3 p.m. in the Temple of Saint Paul in Alba. His burial will follow, in the Chapel of the Pauline Family in the city cemetery.