

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

(Fr. Alberione)

At 4.30 a.m. today, at the Clinica Fuensanta of Madrid, our brother priest has returned to the house of the Father.

FR. VÍCTOR TOMÁS LARRAURI UZQUIANO

71 years, 59 of Pauline life, 52 of profession and 45 of priesthood

Fr. Tomás, the youngest of seven brothers belonging to a family of workers with deep Christian roots, was born in Lagrán (Álava, Spain) on 6 March 1943. A sister of his and two of his nephews are religious. He entered the Congregation at Zalla (Vizcaya) on 1 October 1955. At Coslada (Madrid) he finished his novitiate and made his religious profession on 8 September 1962. At Zalla he finished high school and studies in philosophy. For studies in theology he then transferred to Rome, where he made his perpetual profession on 8 September 1967. He was ordained a priest on 30 June 1969.

Soon after ordination he was transferred to the community of Coslada to complete his ecclesiastical studies through a year of pastoral theology (1969-1970). His first apostolic commitment brought him to Seville (1970-1972), where together with two other confreres he had the task of laying down the bases of the Pauline presence in the Andalucian captial. From Seville he returned to Zalla (1972-1980), where he combined the work of formator and master of the aspirants and the administration of the bookstore in Bilbao.

Later on in Barcelona (1980-1990) he took care of the diffusion of our editorial products in the center of distribution, a responsibility that he coordinated with that of superior of the community (1986-1990). In 1990 he returned to Bilbao as administrator of the bookstore, and also as local superior of the community (1991-1993). In concomitance with the transformation of the distributor in the bookstore, he was again transferred as superior to Barcelona (1993-1996), where he continued his work in the bookstore until the end of 2002. Then he returned to Madrid, but still being young in spirit and desiring further formation, he attended the Charism Course in Rome (2005-2006) reentering Madrid to continue his service in the San Paolo bookstore in via Alcalá (2006-2010).

Somewhat tired and afflicted by circulatory and heart problems yet still enjoying good health, in 2010 he passed to the community of Las Rozas (Madrid), to be able to cure himself and also to take care of other sick members. Starting 20 January 2012, at the same time as the closure of the community of Las Rozas, he has lived in the community of Vizconde de los Asilos (Madrid), until 12 November, when he has been hospitalized due to a cerebral embolism which he has not been able to overcome.

Of affable and cordial disposition, Fr. Tomás, has been known for his love of the Congregation and for the Pauline Family, living with intensity his Pauline priestly life in its various dimensions: charismatic-spiritual, apostolic and communitarian, always exhibiting good humor and willing to give a hand or a good advice to whoever needed it.

As we conclude the Centenary of our foundation, we entrust this our brother to the mercy of the risen Christ so that as he ever rejoices in the liturgy of heaven, he may intercede for the needs of the Congregation and in particular for those of the Province of Spain.

Rome, 15 November 2014

Fr. Vincenzo Vitale