



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

(Fr. Alberione)

Alle 6:00 a.m. this morning (local time), in the hospital "Regina Apostolorum" of Albano Laziale, our brother priest has returned to the Father.

FR. EGIDIO STEFANO SPAGNOLI

88 years, 77 of Pauline life, 71 of religious profession, 64 of priesthood

Fr. Egidio was born in Paganico (Rieti, Italy) on 29 March 1925 and crossed the threshold of the Society of Saint Paul while very young, in the community of Rome, on 28 September 1936. After finishing his novitiate in Alba (1941-1942), he made his first religious profession on 8 September 1942. He made his perpetual profession in Rome, on 15 September 1946. On 10 June 1949 he was ordained a priest by Mons. Giovanni Urbani.

A few months after ordination he was sent to Spain, in the community of Zalla, where he remained for almost twenty years (1949-1967) filling various mansions and lavishing his Pauline dedication in various areas: he was active above all in the teaching of the boys (1950-1967), in managing the printing press (1953-1956) and serving as superior of the community (1961-1967). His fruitful international experience continued in Portugal, in the community of Apelação, where he was superior from 1967 to 1970, before his definitive return to the Italian Province.

In 1970 Fr. Egidio was destined to the SAIE in the community of Turin, of which he was also superior (1971-1975) and bursar (1978-1982). In 1982 it is the turn of the community of the Motherhouse in Alba, where he was superior (1982-1985), before being transferred to Rome in the community of San Paolo as bursar (1985-1988) and eventually in Albano Laziale (vocation house). He was committed here as bursar of the community (1988-1994) and in ministry for the Pauline Family (1994-1999). After the closure of the community of Albano, he was in the community of Ariccia (1999-2007), still committed in the ministry and in accounting, and finally starting 2007 in the "Don Alberione" House in Albano, always available to carry out the priestly ministry for the numerous communities of the Pauline Family in the territory. He suddenly passed away following an asymptomatic pneumonia discovered the past week and for which it was necessary to take him to the hospital.

Fr. Egidio was a Pauline of a generous and committed life: serene of character and affable, a little reserved, unassuming in his ways, he easily related with people who in turn gave him their trust and sought him for his priestly ministry. He knew how to express fatherly understanding and willingly shared his wisdom accumulated in his long life, encouraging the persons who turned to him. He was not wanting in witty and cordial jokes which contributed to warm human rapports.

We now entrust this our confrere to the mercy of the Divine Master, so that «being conformed to his death» (Phil 3,11), he may also be so in his resurrection, together with the numerous array of the Pauline Family in heaven. In this year of the Centenary, we ask his intercession for the needs of the Congregation and of the Province of Italy, as we accompany him with our fraternal suffrage so that he may enjoy eternal rest in God.

Rome, 18 January 2014

Fr. Vincenzo Vitale

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