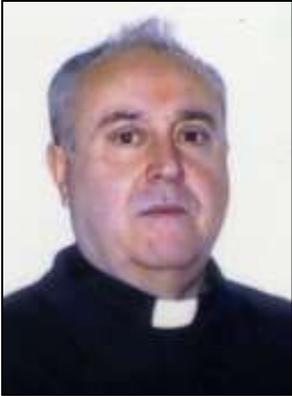


In the Father's House

«As we have been united
in the profession of the faith,
so let us keep ourselves united
in suffrage and intercession».
(Fr Alberione)



In the night between 2 Thursday and 3 Friday of February 2023, our confrere died in Rome, due to a heart attack

FATHER VITO ANTONIO VENTRICELLI

80 years, 54 of Pauline life, 48 of profession and 42 of priesthood

Father Vito was born in Altamura (Bari) on 4 February 1942, the second of eight children (three brothers and five sisters), from his parents Michele and Calia Pasqua. He entered the community of Albano Laziale on 26 August 1968. He began his Novitiate on 7 September 1973, made his First Religious Profession on 8 September 1974, and was definitively consecrated with his Perpetual Profession on 8 April 1979. He received the Presbyterate on 21 September 1980.

He began his apostolate in the vocational field, first in Rome (1979-1981) and then in Bari, where he remained for six years. In 1988, he was appointed Vicar in the Good Shepherd Parish in Rome, where he remained for 12 years, also fulfilling the role of Superior of the community. In 2000, he was appointed Delegate of the Superior General for the Casa Don Alberione Community in Albano, a position he will carry on until 2006. In 2007, he returned to Rome as parish Collaborator of the Queen of the Apostles Shrine. From 2011 to 2016, he returned to carry out his ministry in the Good Shepherd Parish as Parish Vicar, and later again as parish Collaborator of the Queen of the Apostles Shrine, until the Lord called him to Himself.

Father Vito passed among us in a silent way, almost on tiptoe. He was in fact of very few words, sometimes he communicated only with a look, a smile, but always making his message of esteem and friendship reach anyone who met him. A kind, patient person, ready to listen, understand and encourage.

He lived for many years in the Good Shepherd Parish. A confrere who collaborated with him for a long time defined him as an “upright, just, truthful person...”. He was appreciated by all the parishioners, especially for his daily visits to the sick in their homes and for his dedication to preparing engaged couples for marriage. In addition to giving his availability for everything that was asked of him in the community and in the parish, he often made himself available to lend a hand in preparing meals.

In the last years of service as parish Collaborator of the Queen of the Apostles Shrine, despite his precarious health – above all due to heart problems – Father Vito carried out his ministry with dedication and commitment. In addition to the strictly priestly ministry – Eucharistic celebration, Confession, Communion for the sick – he performed many other services, such as the delicate and sometimes complicated one of preparing marriage papers, and still that of welcoming, with great affability, parents who asked for the

baptism for their children. In all of this, he manifested a great love for the people, the Parish, the Society of Saint Paul and the Church, to the honour and praise of God. For this reason, many remember him with deep esteem and gratitude.

May the Lord welcome our dear brother and admit him in the light of his face. We ask him to intercede for numerous and holy vocations in our Congregation and in the Pauline Family.

Rome, 3 February 2023

Father Vito Spagnolo, ssp

The funeral will be celebrated at 3:00 PM on Saturday, 4 February, in the Queen of the Apostles Shrine. After the funeral, the body will be transported and then buried in the cemetery of Altamura (Bari).

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