

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)

At 8:50 PM (local time) on Friday, 19 May 2023, he died in the infirmary of the *San Paolo* community in Rome due to a cardiac arrest

FATHER DOMENICO PAOLO CASCASI

86 years, 66 of Pauline life, 64 of profession and 61 of priesthood

Fr Domenico was born in Cessaniti (Vibo Valentia) on 9 September 1936, the second of four children, of parents Pasquale and Vittoria Limardo. He entered the community of Rome on 23 September 1956. He began his Novitiate on 7 September 1957, made his First Religious Profession on 8 September 1958, assuming the name of Paolo. He was definitively consecrated with his Perpetual Profession on 23 February 1961 and was ordained priest on 2 July 1961.

Fr Domenico began his apostolic activity as Vice-Master of the aspirants in Rome. In 1962, he moved to the Generalate with the position of National Director of the Pauline Cooperators, which he would hold until 1964, the year in which he was transferred to the Community of Vicenza, as a teacher of literature. Here he remained for many years, also fully integrated into the diocesan fabric, with deep relationships with some priests of the Diocese of Vicenza, not least the two Rectors of the Seminary who alternated over time.

In 1993, he returned to Rome with the position of National Director of the Pauline Cooperators. In 1998, he was appointed Provincial Delegate of the Jesus Priest Institute and Vice-Delegate of the Holy Family Institute, joining the *Don Stefano Lamera* Community in Rome. In 2004, he was reconfirmed Provincial Delegate of the Jesus Priest Institute and carried out this ministry until 2013, the year in which he was transferred to Catania with the role of animator of the Pauline Family in Sicily. In 2015, he was transferred to the Pauline Community of Santa Giusta to animate the Pauline Family in Sardinia. In 2016, he was nominated Superior of the Community of Vicenza. At the end of this three-year period, he was transferred to Bari, always with the task of animation of the Pauline Family. In 2022, for health reasons due to Covid-19, he was welcomed into the Rome infirmary, where he remained until the Lord's definitive call.

A person seriously involved in his apostolate, Fr Domenico brought all his theological and literary preparation there. He was available, welcoming, generous, ready for dialogue and, at the right moment, for jokes and anecdotes. He loved studying and his contributions were always impressive. He truly "nourished" the mind, faithful to what Don Alberione said: «We will please the Father for the life of the mind».

He had a very thorough knowledge of the Founder, with whom he had a true filial relationship. He often recalled a personal episode, in which he had wished Fr Alberione on his birthday, emphasizing that in the future everyone

would remember him as Founder, but the Founder had answered him with seriousness and forcefulness: «When will you understand that the founder is St Paul and the Congregation is his and I have to disappear?».

He loved prayer, especially the daily Eucharistic Visit. In his life, Fr Domenico carried out many good works for the Pauline Family, for the formation of Pauline aspirants in Vicenza, for the Pauline Cooperators, for the Jesus Priest Institute, the Holy Family Institute and the Association “Ancilla Domini”. Perhaps the most important service that he carried out, guided by the Spirit of the Lord, was that of living and communicating to all the members of the various Institutes of the Pauline Family the solidity, the actuality, the richness of the Pauline spirituality and of the charism of Blessed James Alberione.

Fr Valdir José De Castro, the then Superior General, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of his priestly Ordination wrote to him thus: «Thank you, Fr Domenico, for the persevering service you have rendered to the Congregation and for the richness of contents that you have shared to the various members of the Pauline Family, also with the many retreat courses that you have guided».

May the Lord welcome this brother of ours who sincerely loved and announced Him, while we ask him to intercede for new vocations in the whole Pauline Family.

Rome, 21 May 2023

Fr Vito Spagnolo, ssp

The funeral will be celebrated on Monday, 22 May at 9:30 AM in the Basilica Queen of the Apostles and the body will be buried in the Laurentino cemetery in Rome.

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