

# 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 2:50 AM (local time) on Thursday, 25 May 2023, he passed away in Youngstown (Ohio, USA)

## **BROTHER WILLIAM ALOYSIUS MILELLA**

**94 years, 76 of Pauline life, 74 of profession**



William was born in Brooklyn (New York) on 21 June 1928, the third of four children (three brothers and a sister), to parents William and Thomasina Quattrocchi. He entered the community of Staten Island on 30 June 1946. He began his Novitiate on 1 September 1947 in Canfield, made his First Religious Profession on 8 September 1948, assuming the name of Aloysius, and was definitively consecrated with his Perpetual Profession on 21 September of 1953.

Brother Aloysius began his apostolic activity as Director of the “Catholic Home Messenger” (the American version of *Famiglia Cristiana*), continuing a few years later with the activity of Vocation Promoter. Already in 1969, having been elected General Councilor, he was called to Rome. In 1986, having returned to the United States in the community of Canfield, he was appointed Director of the bookshop. In 1988, having moved to the community of Staten Island, he assumed the position of Master of Novices and Superior of the community for two terms. In 1997, he returned to Canfield to carry out the task of Superior of the community, together with other activities: formation, bookshop, and the magazine “Pastoral Life”. In 2003, we saw him engaged as Delegate of the Provincial Superior for the community of Dearborn and in 2005, Personal Delegate of the Superior General for the Province of the United States. In the following years, he was Director of Marketing and then several times Delegate for the Staten Island community.

Three times elected General Councilor and having participated in countless General Chapters – the last of which was in 2004 – Brother Aloysius was certainly the best known American Pauline in the Congregation, so much so that he was defined by many as the “Flag” of the United States. He was the one who more than any other gave an orientation to the apostolic choices of the Pauline Province of the United States, up until fairly in recent times.

One of the characteristics of Brother Aloysius was his boundless energy and enthusiasm. He always seemed to have a new project in mind and also the strength to realize it. He was a born leader and it is no surprise that he has been on the General Council for so many years. In the United States, he has taken an active part in editorial assignments, both book and audiovisual. However, he did not limit himself to strictly Pauline projects. He also got involved in helping build a Perpetual Adoration Chapel on our Staten Island property. This ministry, run by an outside group, has offered Eucharistic adoration around the clock for over 25 years.

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He particularly loved the 1970s, one of the most fruitful in the United States Province, and in the dialogues about the changes of various kinds that needed to be made over time, his comment was often: “In the 70s, it was done this way!”.

Unfortunately, in recent years, Alzheimer’s, which he fell ill with, has totally conditioned his life, as well as that of the community of Canfield, where he lived. When the situation became unsustainable, he had to choose a suitable structure that could welcome him and look after him until the end.

Fr Valdir José De Castro, former Superior General, on the 70th anniversary of Brother Aloysius’ religious profession, wrote to him thus: «Thank you, because in the many years of Pauline life you were able to dedicate your best energies to the apostolate. The Lord will fill your heart with his peace, a reward for all those who have lived with him and witnessed his presence. A “thank you” for what you have done for the good of the whole Congregation, also as General Councilor».

May the Lord welcome this brother of ours and reward him abundantly, while we ask him to intercede with the Lord for numerous and holy vocations of Brother Disciples in our Congregation.

Rome, 26 May 2023

Fr Vito Spagnolo, ssp

*Funeral services will be held Wednesday, 31 May at 11 AM in the Canfield (OH) Community Chapel. The body will be buried in the internal cemetery of our house, together with the other confreres buried there.*

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