

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 about 8 AM on Wednesday, 7 April 2021, our Disciple of the Divine Master died at the Villa Tiberia clinic (S. Eugenio Hospital) in Rome due to the effects of bilateral interstitial pneumonia from Covid-19.

BROTHER LUIGI VINCENZO MENDITTO **77 years, 55 of Pauline life and 51 of religious profession**

Hospitalized for a few days due to respiratory complications, his health conditions gradually worsened until the telephone call by the health personnel who were treating him that his heart had stopped beating.

Luigi was born in Aversa (Caserta, Italy) on 6 February 1944 from Papa Antonio and Mama Immacolata. A week later, he received the sacrament of Baptism in his parish dedicated to St. John the Baptist. He was confirmed in the cathedral of Naples on 20 June 1959.

He entered the Congregation in Rome at the age of 21, after two years spent in a Salesian seminary. On 20 August 1965, he crossed the gate of the current Roman Compound to be included in the “adult vocations” community. Here, he was immediately engaged in the shipping department. In a few years, he managed to make up for the school years lost in his youth, managing to obtain the eighth grade diploma. He later completed his religious formation by attending the “Ut unum sint” correspondence theology course. The formators were very happy with his approach to religious life and grasped his fervour and simplicity in piety, his great and tenacious application in the apostolate, the spirit of sacrifice and obedience, love for common life and, above all, a great sociability and ability to always integrate into the various groups in which he was gradually inserted.

He began his novitiate in Ostia (Rome) in September 1967 and ended it on 8 September 1969 with the making of his first profession. On this occasion, he took the religious name of Vincenzo. His apostolic commitment in those two years was, above all, in bookbinding. The years of Juniorate in Rome followed, where, in addition to studying, he was engaged in paperback binding. Finally, on 8 September 1972, he professed religious vows in perpetuity.

Soon after he was transferred to Alba, where he carried out the apostolate in the paperback department, eventually becoming responsible for it. In 1979, he was transferred back to Rome to manage the paper warehouse, a position he held until 1983, when, with a spirit of obedience, he agreed to be transferred to the nearby community of Albano Laziale, an apostolic reality engaged in an intense and fruitful musical apostolate. Here for 14 years, he was responsible for the duplication and packaging department of audio cassettes.

In 1997, the Superiors called him again to Alba to carry out service in the local bookbinding room. He would remain in the Mother House for almost two years, before being sent again to the community of Rome-San Paolo, which he would never leave until the end of his days. In the last 20 years, he was involved in many community services, also providing his precious contribution in the management of the mountain house of Pietracamela, a summer residence in the Abruzzo Region, where many Paulines go in the summer to spend a few days of vacation.

The expression on the face that will remain in everyone's memory will always be that of cheerful and captivating smile with which Brother Luigi was able to bond with everyone. An aspect that certainly struck and that was the result of a simple and at the same time modest character, not pretentious, always available and able to adapt to every interlocutor he met, very valuable gifts in common life.

In recent years, Brother Luigi suffered from severe heart failure and was constantly followed by his Brothers and by the staff of the Rome infirmary. Even in recent weeks, when he was hospitalized, contacts with the hospital's medical staff were constant.

Now that he has been called to the eternal reward, we bid farewell to him, waiting to meet him again in the presence of the Holy Trinity, with the promise which our Father Saint Paul speaks of those faithful disciples of the Lord: «*One who sows for the spirit will reap eternal life from the spirit*» (Gal 6:8).

Rome, 8 April 2021



Stefano Stimamiglio, ssp
Secretary General

The funeral will be celebrated as soon as possible. After the cremation, the ashes will be placed in the family tomb in the cemetery of Aversa, his birthplace.

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