



*"As we are united in the profession of faith,
thus we remain united in suffrage and in
intercession".*

(Fr. Alberione)

News has arrived to us from Santiago de Chile that today, Wednesday 9 January 2008, has concluded the earthly life of our brother Priest

FR. ANTONIO ALESSANDRO TACCONI

83 years old, 72 years of Pauline life, 58 years of priesthood

He passed away serenely at 6:25 (local time) in the house of La Florida in Santiago, surrounded by the confreres of the community. His health, already fragile, was made more problematic in the last years after a cerebral haemorrhage accompanied by a gradual physical deterioration.

When in 23 September 1935 Antonio, then eleven, passed the entrance of the Society of St Paul in Alba, he could magnify having already seen...Argentina. In this nation, in Villa Constitución (Province of Santa Fe), in fact, he was born on 18 April 1924, after his big family of provincial origin had just emigrated from the Marche (in Italy) due to necessity of work and sustenance. Each time he himself loved to recount being returned in Italy, a *Macerata*, "small as it is" (and extending his hands drawing a distance of a bit more than twenty/thirty centimetres).

The Mother House was the first seat of his Pauline formation: from college studies to that of Philosophy and Licentiate; from technical preparation to that of the Pauline-Apostolate. Here he undertook also the year of novitiate, which concluded with religious profession on 8 September 1941. *"You will be all for God, in the Society of St Paul – wrote his father Nazareno and mother Maria during the occasion -. Your ideal will be sanctity, in procuring the glory of God and the good of souls. More than this you cannot select.* Theological studies in Rome followed, where he made his perpetual profession to God on 15 September 1946 and was ordained priest by Msgr. Giovanni Urbani in the Church of the Holy XXII Apostles on 10 July 1949.

That same year marked for Fr Antonio the start of the Pauline mission which, for the desire of Primo Maestro, entirely revolved between Argentina and Chile after a five year stay in Portugal, in Lisbon, as professor and animator of the aspirants (1949-1955). In the next fifty years (1955-2006), Argentina and Chile benefited from his presence, from his dedication and work in diverse fields: from the service of authority (was, among others, Provincial Superior from 1982 to 1990), to editorial direction; from typography to teaching; from bursar to secretarial activities; from direction of the Pauline Cooperators to those of the Pauline Institutes of Consecrated Life, the Annunciationists in particular; to the service of animation of the Pauline Family. From this intense apostolic activity he has retired from 1997-1998 for a biblical renewal course in Rome from the Pontifical Gregorian Institute. Illness took hold of him in 2006.

Testimonies from the Province of Argentina-Chile-Perù: "Fr. Antonio was a point of reference for many brothers and sisters, both as a person and for his vast Pauline experience; sought after and appreciated by the Pauline Family for Masses, retreats, spiritual exercises and confessions. He was in the first place an honest person; orderly in all things to the point of being scrupulous; a good friend and a man of peace, prudent in his judgements and respect of persons; his smile transmitted serenity and peace. He was a Pauline, who knew how to give prayer first priority in all his life; certainly he brought to fulfilment the education of faith received and lived in the family. He was distinguished for his esteem towards superiors, not only in words, furthermore in obedience and availability".

The words of St Paul to the Philippians: *"Rejoice in the Lord, always; again I say to you rejoice. May your generosity be known to all"*, ran tireless in his homilies. Now it is he himself who "rejoices in the Lord", he who, in intimacy with the Divine Master, has been made his disciple to take to himself the "wisdom of the heart", which renders precious the days and works before God and the world. He lives in God and intercedes for all. We accompany him with our fraternal suffrage.

Rome, 9 January 2008

Fr. Giuliano Saredi

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