SOCIETÀ SAN PAOLO casa generalizia



"As we have been united in the profession of faith, so let us keep ourselves united in suffrage and intercession.."

(Fr. Alberione)

At 6 a.m. (local time) today, 18 August 2010, in the infirmary of the community of Alba, our brother Priest has returned to the Father.

FR. LUIGI GABRIELE TODARO 77 years, 63 of Pauline life, 51 of priesthood

For some time in need of care due to a tumor in the stomach, he was followed with attention by the personnel of the infirmary because some signs indicated a state of suffering that caused concern; for this morning an ulterior visit for control was scheduled, but the good God who rewards his faithful ones who have worked in his vineyard has called him to enjoy the eternal reward.

Luigi was born in San Donato di Ninea (Cosenza, Italy) on 13 February 1933 of Vincenzo and Angelica Mezzalupo and had entered the Pauline community of Alba on 10 August 1947. At the end of the novitiate in Abano Laziale, he made his first religious profession on 8 September 1951, taking the name of Gabriele. He consecrated himself definitivelyy to the Lord five years later in Rome at the end of his philosophical and theological studies. On 5 July 1959 he was ordained a priest by Mons. Luigi Traglia.

Soon after his ordination he was destined to the formation of the Immacolatini of the community of Rome, as vice-formator. His transfer of residence to the community of Modena did not coincide with a change of office and in fact obedience asked him to commit himself in vocation promotion and in the formation of young men in Emilia-Romagna for almost twenty years. Notwithstanding that he had asked the Vicar General Fr. Luigi Zanoni, in 1967 and in 1968, to be exonerated from this work and to be able to attend some course of updating, only this last request was granted and he continued with admirable commitment in promoting vocations.

In 1980 he joined the community of Alba. For some years he was busy in the redaction of the weekly "Gazzetta D'Alba" and from 1988 he focused on the management and informatics aspect of the valuable library of the community. In these last years he has always given his contribution, making himself available to the penitents who asked to accede to the sacrament of penance in the Temple of Saint Paul.

Fr. Gabriele has consecrated to the Congregation all his energies and has always taken care of his formation: as soon as he received the task of librarian in Alba, he committed himself and obtained the diploma of library science at the Vatican Library. His doctoral thesis in Theology, obtained in 1984 at the Pontifical Lateran University, has afterward been made into a book with the title: "Mary, Queen of the Apostles, in the doctrine and piety of Fr. James Alberione." May the love of Fr. Gabriele for the Pauline charism and his spirituality be a stimulus for all of us.

While we offer our condolences to his family and in particular to his brother Fr. Francesco of the community of Florence, we entrust to the intercession of Fr. Gabriele the needs of the Congregation in the promotion and formation of young men who we approach, while we invoke for him the reward he has merited.

Rome, 18 August 2010

Bro. Lorenzo Vezzani

His funeral will be held on Friday, 20 August 2010, at 3 p.m. in the Temple of Saint Paul in Alba. – His body will be buried in the Chapel of the Pauline Family in the cemetery of the city.