



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

(Fr. Alberione)

At 8:10 p.m. on the evening of January 24<sup>th</sup>, the vigil of the Conversion of St Paul, in the hospital of Canfield, our brother priest has returned to the Father.

**FR. WILLIAM IGNATIUS STANISZEWSKI**

***77 years, 62 of Pauline life, 56 of profession and 50 of profession***

Born and raised in Lackawanna, New York, he entered the Queen of Apostles minor seminary in Derby, New York as a high school sophomore on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1952. He was promptly immersed in the media ministry and spirituality of the Society of St Paul, joining the seminary students and faculty in creating thousands of pamphlets and booklets helping people cope with their every day lives in faith.

Completing his novitiate in Canfield and pronouncing first vows on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 1959, he undertook philosophy studies while serving as the circulation manager of the Province's family monthly, *Catholic Home Messenger*. At the time, he was also part of the Society's pioneering efforts at producing radio dramas teaching moral truths. His philosophy studies completed, he was sent to Rome for studies in theology.

In Rome, he was assigned to the graphics sector of the apostolate. He would also earn an S.T.L. degree in theology at St Anselmo's University and be ordained to the priesthood in Rome on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1964.

Returning to the States in 1965, he taught at the high school and college levels of Queen of Apostles Seminary. Later he was appointed rector of the Seminary and superior of the local community (1973-1979). As such he played a vital role in the formation of future Pauline priests and religious. When the seminary was phased out, he was a key figure in founding St Paul's High School of Communication Arts. During this period he completed studies in Communications and Sociology at the University of Buffalo, and then earned an M.S. in Education from the Jesuit's Canisius College.

In 1978 he returned to Rome for further studies at St Anselmo's while doing an advanced course in the charism of the Society of St Paul. On his return to Canfield, he became the editor of the award-winning magazine for priests, *Pastoral Life* (1980-1984). In 1984 he was appointed Provincial Superior of the SSP in the United States. After two terms as provincial, he transferred to the Audio-Visual department in Canfield (1992-1994). Shortly thereafter he was made the Superior of the Staten Island Community (1994-2000) and publisher of Alba House Books (1994-2005).

It was during his assignment as Superior of the Canfield Community, 2004-2010, that his Parkinson's disease emerged and steadily progressed. Throughout, his example of heroic virtue and courage impressed his fellow religious and the laity who knew him. On December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014, he entered the hospital for treatment and follow-up rehabilitation. From here he would eventually succumb to his long-suffered illness. He died from an advanced and debilitating form of Parkinson's Disease.

His participation in General Chapters and other international meetings were a significant contribution to the global Pauline reality. He considered himself extraordinarily blessed to have lived to celebrate his 50<sup>th</sup> jubilee of Pauline ordination in June of last year.

We now entrust Fr. Ignatius to the merciful goodness of the Father and to the kind countenance of the Master who awaits and rewards his faithful servants who have worked in his vineyard. We ask him, during the celebration of the X General Chapter, to intercede for the needs of the whole Congregation, in particular for those of the Province of the United States.

*Rome, 26 January 2015*

*Fr. Vincenzo Vitale*

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