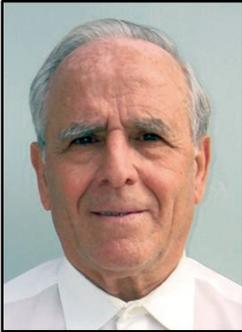


In the house of the Father

«As we have been united
in the profession of the faith,
so let us keep ourselves united
in suffrage and intercession».
(Fr Alberione)



On the night of 10 March 2017, at 2:30 (local time), in the community of Madrid – Vizconde de los Asilos, our brother Priest consigned his soul to God

FR JESÚS JOSÉ ÁLVAREZ GARCÍA

86 years, 71 of Pauline life, 65 of religious profession and 48 of priesthood

Jesús was born in Narahio, Galicia, in northern Spain, on 9 January 1931. The family from which he came was deeply religious: in the years of his Pauline formation, some of his brothers and sisters followed the priestly and religious life. Papá Angelo died young, with small children still, partly because of the suffering endured during the persecution of the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). Jesús heard early the Lord's call and entered the community of Bilbao-Deusto on 21 August 1945, at 14 years. He lived his novitiate in Zalla, where on 8 September 1951, taking the name of José, professed his first vows, confirming them in perpetuity in Madrid-Coslada on 8 September 1961. In that early stage, he lived with enthusiasm the apostolate, despite some illness that made the journey a bit tiring. Despite this, in the belief of the goodness of his call, he persevered, always accompanied by the spiritual comfort of Primo Maestro, with whom he had a continuous correspondence. Gifted with certain musical skills, during the years of formation, he exercised various apostolates: typography, photography, director of *Valentin tin-tan* (Spanish publication for children), formator of pre-adolescents and animator of the liturgical and polyphonic chants.

From 1965 to 1968, he studied theology in Rome at the St Paul International College and on 30 June 1968 was ordained a priest in the Mary Queen of Apostles Sanctuary. On his return to Spain after his priestly ordination, he was in Madrid-Coslada for the diffusion (1968-1970), in Zalla as Vocation Director and Formator (1970-1972; 1973-1977), in Oviedo in the bookstore (1972-1973), in El Pinar as a Vocation Promoter and initiator and Delegate of the aggregated Institutes (1977-1984), in Madrid-Protasio Gómez in the promotion and redaction of *Familia Cristiana*.

One turning point in his life came when, in 1988, after having expressed his readiness for the mission in faraway countries, he was called by Fr Renato Perino to contribute to the new foundation of a community in Lima, Perú. His belonging to the Argentina-Chile-Perú Province (the Circumscription, from April 2016, became Argentina-Chile-Paraguay) would last until December 2016, when, for health reasons, he preferred to return to Spain to be better cared for. In Lima, he stayed until 2002, where he served also as the local Superior (1999-2002). Here he was also involved in an apostolate truly Pauline: he spent himself, in fact,

in the local radio and television station, reaching with his preaching many people. In a special way, in those years, he also dedicated himself, in the biblical apostolate in favour of thousands of Peruvian families.

As it often happens in the religious life, the Lord did not exempt him from “community pains” and was subjected to a number of misunderstandings and criticisms from the confreres. But Fr Jesús persevered in what he felt to be his specific Pauline vocation. So he wrote 30 years ago: «We must seek dialogue that is not reduced to mere conformism, to forms and appearances, but we need a communication that goes beyond and reaches deeper into the basic values of the community: the experience of God, the fraternal communion, the mission, the authority rendered as a service, [...] knowing that the lack of dialogue generates blocks, mistrusts, pettiness, inhibitions, loneliness, individualism. [...] The space that is denied to dialogue is almost always occupied by slanders [...]». Fr Jesús, in fact, was always fairly critical toward some apostolic and community realities, but never “petty” or “heedlessly pessimistic”.

Another turning point that marked the rest of his years was the very serious car accident suffered in Lima in November 1999 along with Brother Aurelio García, a tragic event that took the life of our brother Disciple. Since then Fr Jesús was not the same as before, that is, extroverted, creative, brilliant. So it started, a slow and steady process of physical decline, which brought him from Peru to other communities of the Province, where he engaged in various services: Delegate of the Annunciationists in Cordoba (2003-2008) and Buenos Aires-Florida (2008-2011), assisting in various community services in Santiago de Chile (2011-2016), where he would stay before returning to Spain.

In his Motherland, he fought against an incurable disease, as long as the metastases did not invade his body, bringing it quickly and inexorably to the meeting with that Divine Master whom he served starting as a young man with dedication.

May he now rest in peace and let us entrust him to the Holy Trinity. May Fr Jesús intercede for all the needs of the Congregation in the world.

Rome, 11 March 2017



Fr Stefano Stimamiglio, ssp
Secretary General

The funeral have been held on 11 March 2017, at 12 noon (local time), in the chapel of the community of Madrid - Protasio Gómez.

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