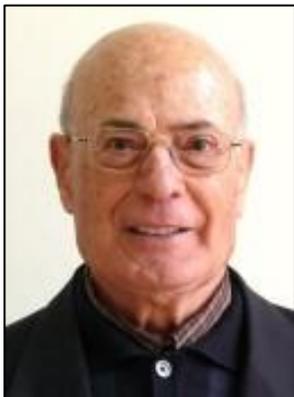


# In the Father's House

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



At 8:10 AM (local time), Sunday, 21 May 2023, he died in the Rome infirmary due to cardiac arrest

## **FATHER VINCENZO CARMINE VICCIONE**

**96 years, 85 of Pauline life, 77 of profession, 68 of priesthood**

Vincenzo was born in Ciorlano (CE) on 30 September 1926, the ninth of thirteen children (six brothers and seven sisters), from his parents Giovanni and Angela Viti. He entered the community of Rome on 9 December 1937. He began his Novitiate on 18 September 1944, made his First Religious Profession on 19 September 1945, assuming the name Carmine. He was consecrated definitively with his Perpetual Profession on 8 September 1950 and received the priestly ordination on 5 December 1954.

He began his ministry in Catania as Master of Aspirants and Vocation Promoter, which he carried out until 1967, when he moved to France to study the French language for a year in view of his mission in Congo. In Lubumbashi, in 1969, he was appointed Superior and accompanied the Aspirants as Master. From 1973 to 1975, he returned briefly to France for some theological studies of Pastoral Catechetics. He returned to Congo, in Kinshasa, where he became responsible of the Pauline Editions.

In 1988, he was transferred to France, to Arpajon, with apostolic commitment in the Médiaspaul Editorial. In 1991, he was elected Regional Councilor. He continued his editorial commitment until 2011, when he was entrusted with various services to be carried out in the community, including hospitality. In 2020, he was transferred to the community of Rome, then to the infirmary, from where the Lord called him to himself.

Fr Vincenzo was a welcoming and attentive confrere, an example of a convinced Pauline and priest. He had a singular ability to weave relationships and constantly take care of them in every environment in which he was called to work.

During his period of service in Kinshasa, he dedicated himself to *Editions Saint Paul Afrique* with great commitment. It was the period in which the Mobutu dictatorship had suppressed the freedom of the press and the publication of our magazines (*Afrique Chrétienne* and *L'Antilope*) was also interrupted. Therefore, it was a question of starting again with popular editions oriented towards the formation of the people, without offending the sensitivity of the political authorities.

Fr Vincenzo, with constancy and accuracy, has created a network of relationships with missionary and lay collaborators, forming them in the art of editing, which proved to be a great help in the creation of agile, inexpensive booklets, with simple and clear content, with particular attention to young people. He also inaugurated some highly appreciated series of comics with a

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biblical character and African wisdom, with large circulations and numerous reprints, which reached the whole Congolese territory.

Fr Vincenzo also dedicated himself to catechism lessons at the Italian school, preparing various groups of children for first communion and confirmation, also involving parents in a journey of faith. He was much appreciated in the women's religious communities for his style of accompaniment in ongoing formation. Even in the community, Fr Vincenzo was a point of equilibrium and wisdom, always attentive to everyone's sensitivities.

In his other long stay abroad, in France, Fr Vincenzo worked for many years in the editorial team of Médiapaul France as a reader, reviewer and proof-reader, with great responsibility and precision. In the diocese of Évreux, where our community of Arpajon was located, he was part of the pastoral team in the area and carried out a ministry that was much appreciated by the people. Even when he stopped collaborating with the diocese, he received people who came for confession or spiritual advice.

May the Lord welcome this brother of ours and reward him with an eternal reward, while we ask for his intercession so that the Pauline apostolate may grow and bear abundant fruits both in the Congo Region and in the Canada-France Region.

Rome, 21 May 2023

Fr Vito Spagnolo, ssp

*The funeral will be celebrated on Tuesday, 23 May, at 9:00 AM, in the Undercrypt of the Basilica of the Queen of the Apostles and the body will be cremated, as per his explicit will.*

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