



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

(Fr. Alberione)

A little after midnight, in the infirmary of the community San Paolo in Rome, the Divine Master has called to his eternal reward our brother Disciple

BROTHER ERMINIO ALDO PAOLO GROSSETTI
92 years, 73 of Pauline life, 72 of religious profession

Brother Paolo (his baptismal name was Erminio) was born in Porzano (Brescia, Italy) on 14 June 1919 and entered the Congregation, in the Motherhouse at Alba, on 15 November of long ago 1937, at the age of 18. At the end of the year of novitiate spent in Rome (1938-1939), he makes his first religious profession on 8 April 1939. He finishes his years of formation with the perpetual profession, made in Rome also, on 8 April 1944, in the midst of war.

Also for this confrere the house of Rome will be the community that will see him lend his long and tireless apostolic service in the Congregation, connected above all to the Roman printing press: here he has been committed to the photolitho and to the rotogravure for the periodicals sector (1944-1979), to the budget and acquisitions office and to the accounting office (1979-1994) and again to the budget office (starting 1994 until the closure of the printing press). Besides these tasks, brother Paolo has been adjunct General Councilor (starting 1956) and Provincial Councilor (1980-1982). Going to be remembered moreover is the collaboration lent by brother Paolo to the magazine *Madre di Dio*: starting from the end of the 70's, he has put at the disposal of the magazine his long experience as a printer and has habitually held contacts with the rectors of sanctuaries to resolve the technical problems tied to the magazines of the URM (Unione Redazionale Mariana). He was happy to work in this way for the Queen of Apostles.

As a person of serious character and as a tireless worker, he knew how to give a Pauline apostolic sense to everything that he did: “Br. Paolo has that rare gift of giving a soul to numbers: in fact he succeeds in talking of “apostolate” – the true one – though reasoning about ciphers with meticulous precision. He even confides to me that the Founder had taught him to make numbers even the object of prayer, especially when it was a matter of bills in what way to pay, he did not know,” recalls Fr. Marcucci, in charge of *Madre di Dio* for so many years.

Brother Paolo deeply loved life and the Pauline spirit, as he testifies on the occasion of the jubilee for his 60 years of religious life. He wrote in a card addressed to the Superior General Fr. Pietro Campus: “How much gratitude I owe to everybody: Superiors and Confreres, who from long ago 1937 to today have sustained me with their testimony of authentic Pauline life. I always thank the Lord for having called me to the Pauline Family and for having lived for 33 years near our venerable Primo Maestro. I humbly ask pardon from God and from all my brothers, for my many infidelities and omissions” (Easter of 1999). In the rest of the card he affirms to want to offer the remainder of his life “to implore

for new vocations”; the decrease in the number of the young men, above all of the disciples, made him suffer, as testifies another card to the Superior General Fr. Renato Perino of 1987: “I still want to have faith in the Primo Maestro who wanted the presence of *holy disciples* in union with the priests. Certainly at this moment so much faith is needed.”

We entrust this dear brother to the Divine Master, who has called him to join the wonderful Pauline Family that is found in the company of the “assembly of the firstborn enrolled in heaven and of the spirits of the just made perfect” (Heb 12,23). And we assure brother Paolo our prayers, while we ask him to intercede before the Divine Master for the Province of Italy and in particular for vocations among the brother Disciples.

Rome, 26 July 2011

Don Vincenzo Vitale

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