SOCIETY OF ST PAUL The General Secretary



"As we are united in the profession of faith so also we unite ourselves in suffrage and intercession".

(Fr. Alberione)

At 4:30 pm (local time), at Aurelia Hospital in Rome, our brother Disciple of the Divine Master has returned to the Father:

BR. MATTHEW PIERTERESIO FILIPPETTO

70 years old, 57 years of Pauline life, 50 years of religious profession

Br. Matthew was born on 2 November 1942 in Istrana (Treviso, Italy) and entered the Society of St Paul on 1 September 1955, in the community of Rome. After the first years of formation and novitiate in Ostia (1960-1962), he made his first profession on 8 September 1962. Completing his formation in Rome, he made his perpetual profession on 8 September 1967.

After this stage, Br Matthew was transferred in the community of Alba "Periodici San Paolo", where he served at the technical offset department until 1984. His formators observed his dream of working at the offset: «his eyes incarnate the ideal Pauline disciple dedicated to the technical apostolate». From there he was assigned in the San Paolo community in Rome where he remained until his death. There he worked for ten years (1984-1994) in the offset and afterwards in the binding department until its closure.

It can be said that the life of Br. Matthew had been a life spent in the Pauline apostolate. It was lived with dedication, «with sincere and generous submission», as his Superiors observed: «for the apostolate he is easily willing to compromise the order of the day».

After the time of dedication to the apostolate, the period of illness and suffering come to Br. Matthew. For several years he suffered from hip problem, where he even had undergone operation. Protheses had been grafted, thanks to which he still enjoyed a fair amount of mobility. Around the middle of July he suffered from severe pneumonia which later degenerated into septicemia, and heart problems. He was admitted to the San Eugenio Hospital at first and then at the Aurelia Hospital where he died.

A simple and modest person, Br. Matthew lived with dignity and Christian spirit even in times of his illness. At time surly, he nonetheless exhibited the light of a sudden smile and made his fraternal closeness with a joke, an observation, or maybe a recall. He loved and assiduously cared for the garden.

We now entrust our dear brother to the Divine Master, that he may exult in the heavenly liturgy together with a great number of the Pauline Family in heaven. We now ask his intercession for the needs of the Congregation and in particular of the Italian Province. We accompany him with our fraternal suffrage that he may enjoy eternal rest with God.

Rome, 28 July 2013

Fr. Vincenzo Vitale

The Superiors of Circumscriptions are to inform their communities of the prescribed suffrages. (Cost. 65 e 65.1)

Funeral will be held on Wednesday, 31 July, 8:30 am at the sottocripta of the Sanctuary of the Queen of Apostles (Rome). His remains will then proceed to Ospedaletto d'Istrana (Treviso), where a Mass of suffrage will be celebrated on the same day at 4:30 pm before the burial at the local cemetery.