

SOCIETÀ SAN PAOLO
casa generalizia



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

(Fr. Alberione)

In the first hours of today, Tuesday 26 February 2013, in the infirmary of the community of Alba, our brother Disciple of the Divine Master has returned to the Father.

BR. CHIARINO ALBINO RIGAMONTI
81 years, 69 of Pauline life, 63 of religious profession

His health, compromised for some time by a tumor, has rapidly deteriorated during these last months until its epilogue at 4.30 a.m. (local time).

Born in Arcellasco di Erba (Como, Italy) on 14 February 1932, Chiarino landed as a little more than a 11 year-old in the Society of Saint Paul on 13 August 1943, after having profitably completed his elementary schooling. He came from a good and laborious family, cheered up by five children (one of whom adopted), carrying with him the baggage of a human and Christian education received. He entered the house of Alba, but the raging of the war brought him back to the town of his birth until June 1946, when he reached the house of Rome.

In the Roman seminary he received his first Pauline formation; and in the City he lived the year of novitiate, which he finished with his first religious profession on 19 March 1949, feast of saint Joseph, assuming in that circumstance the new name of Albino. The years of temporary profession passed by alternately between Alba and Rome, where he consecrated himself definitively to the divine Master on 8 September 1954. His apostolic activities of these years centered mainly in the lithotypographic sector: offset and rotogravure; in them Br. Albino had manner to manifest his vivacious enterprise and his great dedication to the apostolate.

The year 1955 marks his departure for the United States, where he will pass about fifteen years. The houses of Derby (1955-1963; 1965-1966), Canfield (1963-1965) and Staten Island (1966-1970) benefitted of his laboriousness in the lithotypographic apostolate and, at the same time, of his community presence: with what spirit he lived it is said in these few words of 1966: “I seem to live again in this house my days in Alba with all the beautiful company of confreres and the cheerfulness of souls truly dedicated to the Lord.” And talking “of company” he was truly: a brother among brothers; with his subtle humor and courteous optimism he communicated beneficial influences in fraternal life.

In 1970 he was recalled to Italy, and destined to the Periodicals community in Milan. He was given the responsibility of the photographic department, where he had the occasion to put to good use the skills acquired in the sector at the school of photography in Rochester, in the United States. Then followed in 1994, his apostolic activity in the bookstore in Milan and in diffusion until his transfer to the Periodicals community in Alba in 2006, when his health became precarious and slowly consumed by a tumor.

As a candid person, accustomed to concreteness and generous in obedience, Br. Albino has lived his religious life in an intense manner and with good-natured joy: “I admit that I’m not a saint... but I still give importance to the salvation of my soul...”, we find written; “I shall therefore do what is possible to me to be faithful to the promise made to the Lord, using all the means possible.” Let us take these words as the last message that he leaves to us as he takes his leave from us.

May this dear Disciple now enjoy the embrace of the divine Master! May he intercede for the needs of the Church and of the Congregation, as we accompany him with the fraternal prayer of Christian suffrage.

Rome, 26 February 2013

Fr. Giuliano Saredi

His funeral will take place tomorrow, Wednesday 27 February at 3 p.m., in the Temple of Saint Paul in Alba. His burial will follow, in the Chapel of the Pauline Family in the city cemetery.

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