



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

(Fr. Alberione)

At 1:30 p.m. (local time) yesterday, 23 September, in the community of Kochi, our brother Priest has returned to the Father.

FR. CHACKO DOMINIC VELLAIPARAMBIL

75 years, 57 of Pauline life, 51 of religious profession, 46 of priesthood

Fr Dominic was born on 10 September 1939, at Kuravilangad (Palai Diocese). He entered the community of Allahabad on 27 June 1957. There he finished his novitiate (1962-63) and made his First Religious Profession on 16 July 1963.

After completing his philosophical studies at Allahabad, Fr Dominic left for Rome for his theological studies at the Pauline International College. He made his perpetual Profession on 8 September 1967 in Rome and was ordained priest by Mons. Ettore Cunial on 30 June 1968.

After ordination he returned to India and joined the community of Allahabad where he pursued and finished, with flying colours, graduate and post-graduate studies in English literature. Besides studies, he was in-charge of the Press, Master of Aspirants, Editor of *The Sunday Liturgy* and Provider of the community. In 1976 he was transferred to Mumbai where he was Manager of the Press, Master of Juniors and the Editor of *Petrus*. From 1982-86 he was also the Vicar of the Province. During this time he initiated *The Pauline Cooperators* in India.

After participating at the *5th General Chapter*, Fr. Dominic was transferred to Chennai as Parish Priest of St Luke's church (Anna Nagar). In a short time he distinguished himself as a model parish priest highly appreciated for his pastoral zeal and care. In 1994, Fr Dominic began longer periods in other Circumscriptions: first in Ibadan (Nigeria) as Director of the Bookcenter just opened (1994-1996), and then in Congo where he remained until 2006. He lived in the community of Kinshasa (1996-1998), where he worked in the press, and then in Lubumbashi, where he was Superior for two terms (1998-2004) aside from being Master of novices and Director of the Bookcenter. From 2001-2003 he also served as Regional Councillor.

In 2007 because of ill-health he returned to India and joined the community of Mumbai. In spite of his poor health he willingly accepted various responsibilities: Master of Postulants, Technical Director and Editor of *Petrus*. In 2009 he was transferred to Pune as the Superior of the community. In 2011 the Superior General requested him to be the Novice Master in Congo and with his characteristic generosity Fr. Dominic accepted it transferring to Lubumbashi. In 2012 he was again elected as a Regional Councillor.

In the beginning of 2013 he was diagnosed with cancer of the prostate and returned to India for surgery. After partial recovery he was transferred to the community of Bangalore. Here, although his health was declining, yet due to his nature as exceptionally hard working, he offered himself to whatever service in the community. He also made himself available as chaplain in a convent, a task which he brought forward until June 2014. Following a strong decline in health and to receive a more adequate treatment, he was transferred to Kochi. Here he was *in* and *out* of the hospital yet at that point, according to the doctors, the treatment were already useless. One afternoon thus, the Lord called Fr. Dominic definitely, while he was in the community.

He was a very jovial person and known for his jokes and loud laughter. He had a treasury of jokes suited for various occasions. He was happy to be with, had a weakness for music and had a technical mind. When a machine in the press stopped, he knew how to put it back in action at a short time. But above all he was a true Pauline. In 1981 he conducted a charism course, the first of its kind in the Province, for the senior members. He had a particular attention towards the poor and the needy and the many who benefited from his goodness could testify to this.

We now entrust this our confrere, who « fought the good fight, finished his course, and kept his faith» (2Tm 4,7), to the mercy of the Divine Master, that He may make him live in eternal beatitude, together with the numerous array of the Paulines in heaven. We ask him, in this year of the Centenary, to intercede for the needs of the Congregation and in particular for those of the Province of India - Nigeria - Great Britain – Ireland. We accompany Fr. Dominic with our fraternal suffrage that he may enjoy eternal rest in God.

The funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday, 24 September at 10 am at St Pauls Chapel, Kochi, followed by the funeral services on Thursday, 25th September at St Mary's Church, Kuravilangadu at 2 pm..

Rome, 23 September 2014

Fr. Vincenzo Vitale

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