

SOCIETÀ SAN PAOLO
Il Segretario generale



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

(Fr. Alberione)

At 8:00 in the morning of May 7th, local time, in the hospital of Seoul, our brother Disciple of the Divine Master has returned to the Father.

BR. SONGKYUN LIM FRANCESCO

50 years, 21 of Pauline Life, 18 of profession

Born on April 2nd, 1965 in An-sung (Korea) and raised in An-yang, Keyoungki-do, Br. Francesco entered the Songjung-dong community in Seoul on February 20th, 1994.

Completing his Novitiate in Seoul, he pronounced his first vows on February 2nd, 1997 and did his apostolate at Nonhyeon-dong Pauline Book store in Seoul.

During his medical treatment, there were many people who came to the hospital to visit him. They still remembered his smile and strong belief in the Pauline ideals. At that time, he was assigned in the sales management of the bookstore.

He studied business management at Sogang University run by the Jesuits in Seoul where he earned his master degree on August 22nd, 2000. After completing MBA, he worked in the marketing department as the associate director until February 11th, 2001. Then he was appointed director of the section which was operating the book club. He then made his final vows on September 8th, 2003, the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Besides his passionate activities in the apostolic field, he devoted himself to spiritual development in personal and community level. He was also part of formation as assistant director of the Juniors and accompanied them from 2003 to 2004, and director of aspirant in 2005. In this period, he also studied spirituality at Sogang University and earned the master degree on February 2nd, 2005.

Furthermore, he took very important roles in various areas: he was a member of the administration department (2003.12-2004.08); marketing department (2004.09-2006.11); in charge of the financial department of the Region (2006.12-2007.01); took care and faithfully served the Cooperators (2007.02 to 2008.08); and his role in preparing the 50th anniversary of the Congregation in Korea was fundamental (2008.08-2009.03). Returning to apostolic field, he became the general director of marketing department and managed an integrated distribution department. After taking the role as a director, he moved to Busan and worked in the Pauline Book store (2009.03-2012.09). When he was back to Seoul, he was again assigned as general director of the marketing department.

It was in his assignment as bursar of Songjung-dong community that his hematological cancer emerged and steadily progressed. The first chemotherapy was successful. In fact, the persons working in the hospital, including his doctor, confessed that it was a miracle after he was diagnosed with a stage four cancer which is known to be very hard to cure. The Pauline Family in Korea prayed together and joyfully partook of the “miraculous” result. His recuperation was significant for all the members. Everybody was deeply grateful of the

Mercy of God.

However, the cancer recurred; the disease has now spread to his other vital organs. When he re-entered the hospital for treatment and rehabilitation, there was so much hope for everyone. Despite all interventions possible, nonetheless, the disease has taken its own course. During all this time our Brother stayed calm and was in peace.

We now entrust our Br. Francesco to the merciful goodness of the Father and to the kind countenance of the Divine Master who awaits and rewards his faithful servants who have worked in his vineyard. We ask him to intercede for the needs of the whole Congregation, in particular for those of the Region of Korea.

Rome, 7 May 2015

Fr. Vincenzo Vitale

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