

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)

This afternoon, at 5.50 in the Community “Divina Provvidenza” in Alba, our brother disciple has returned to the house of the Father.

**BR. ALDO PIER DANIELE TOPPAN**  
*86 years, 66 of Pauline life, 63 of profession*

His sudden death is due to cardiac arrest. In 2010 he had left the community of Cinisello Balsamo (Milan) for that of Alba precisely to be better followed in his health that evermore had already become weak.

Br. Daniele has announced the Gospel in the bookstore for more than sixty years, with precision, care and even with tenacity. He has embraced the Pauline life leaving his native town, Meolo (Venice), when he was twenty, being born on 9 June 1929. He enters the Congregation in Sacile (Pordenone) on 15 December 1949 and the following year on 19 March 1951, he starts his novitiate in Rome at “Villa San Giuseppe” (via Portuense). He makes his first profession on 19 March 1952. As part of the San Paolo community of Rome, he remains there until 1959, when he begins his pilgrimage in various Italian communities: we find him in Catania (1959-1963), in Cinisello Balsamo (1963-1981), in Roma (1981-1987), again in Cinisello Balsamo (1987-2010) and presently in Alba.

He too belongs to that array of Pauline bookstore responsables who committed themselves effectively to bring to the houses and parishes the gospel and “the good press.” He did it with love and dedication, with his simple character, but also with fidelity because, as testified by a confrere, «nothing could take him away from that daily commitment and for no reason he shirked from giving the best of himself in that service». He knew how to weave relations with those who came to the bookstore. Also simple was his style of living in the community. Before reaching Alba, when by then he was not anymore committed in the bookstore, together with other confreres of Cinisello Balsamo, he committed himself to realize new mini-media, giving witness that we are all apostles, in always various forms, with the same passion and charismatic motivation. Even in this apostolate he has expressed his love for the beauty of things and his artistic taste.

It has not been easy for him to leave this last community to come to Alba. He brought with him the nostalgia of the confreres who have always received him and helped him, together with that of his kin who often have been near to him.

Even Br. Daniele leaves us at the start of this year 2016, an explicit invitation to not forget that all of us have as our last dwelling place Heaven. And it is exactly from Heaven, from this end, that we want to look at our Pauline apostolic living and operating today, certain that every day it is given to us to discover that life is a gift, a long journey on the style of the Apostle Paul, rich with relations, sharings and contagious evangelical hope.

We entrust to the Lord Br. Daniele, certain that the Gospel announced by him all his life, is now his true reward. And we thank the Father for having given us this our brother as our companion, he too like us disciples of Him who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

*Rome, 23 January 2016*

*Fr. Domenico Soliman*

*His funeral will take place on Tuesday 26 January at 10 a.m. in the Temple of Saint Paul in Alba. His body will then be buried in the city cemetery.*

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