

In the Father's House

«As we have been united
in the profession of the faith,
so let us keep ourselves united
in suffrage and intercession».
(Fr. Alberione)



At 21:00 (local time) of 31 August 2017, our brother priest of the São Paulo – Vila Mariana Community (Brazil), passed into eternal life

FATHER JOSÉ ANSELMO DIAS GOULART
89 years, 77 of Pauline life, 70 of religious profession
and 62 of priesthood

«É doce a amargura de partir, para nunca mais voltar. É amargura, porque me separa de tanta gente amiga. Mas é doce, porque é o encontro final com Você» («Sweet is the bitterness of leaving, never to return. It is bitter because it separates me from so many friends. But it is sweet, because it is the final meeting with You»). This sentence written by Father José Dias Goulart, with whom we want to honour his memory, gives a very special colour to the many lives of our brother who left us after many years of Pauline life.

Father José was born on 29 February 1928 in Presidente Prudente, a city of the State of São Paulo founded by his father Francisco. His parents, Francisco and Izabel, had nineteen children, ten males and nine females. José is the fourteenth in the order of birth. Baptized on 22 April 1928 in the parish of St. Sebastian of his native city, nine years later – on 29 August 1937 – he received in the same church the sacrament of Confirmation. At the age of twelve, when he finished elementary school, he entered the Congregation. It was on 7 February 1940, when little José walked through the door of the Vila Mariana community (São Paulo), then in Rua Maggiore Maragliano. After five years have passed, on the day of Saint Paul's solemnity (30 June 1945), after attending the preparatory year and the three years of college, he received the habit. On 24 January of the following year, under the guidance of Fr. Ireneo Gramaglia, he began the novitiate year, which ended with the first profession on 25 January 1947, the feast of the Conversion of the Apostle. It was exactly three years after when, on 25 January 1950, José professed his perpetual vows. A year later, he moved to Rome to complete his theological studies. Here, in addition to working in the linotype, he also had the opportunity to take part in the film *Ecce homo - The Son of Man*, released in 1954 with the theme written by Father Alberione and directed by Virgilio Sabel.

His formation ended on 5 December 1954, when he was ordained a priest at the Sanctuary of Mary Queen of Apostles in Rome by the imposition of the hands of Bishop Ettore Cunial, together with Fathers João Crisóstomo, Tomás Clímaco and Bernardo Bosio, now all deceased. Two months later Father José returned to Brazil, precisely in São Paulo, to dedicate himself to the press apostolate, taking over the direction of the weekly *A Imprensa*. In 1958 he resided at *Cidade Paulina* where, in addition to carrying out the editorial apostolate, he was a teacher of the young in formation and made some television programs. During this time, on weekends, he also offered pastoral service in Mogi das Cruzes, near São Paulo.

In 1961, and until 1968, he lived in the community of Caxias do Sul, where he was a teacher and director of the local bookstore. After a year of stay in São

Paulo, in 1970, he moved to the community of Rio de Janeiro. Here he produced some programs for *Radio Vera Cruz* (1970-1971) and was local Superior, as well as bookstore Director (1977-1979). These were intense years as he was also the Vice President of the Brazilian Caritas and Press Officer of the Brazilian Bishops' Conference (CNBB). In continuity with his last mandate, in 1979 he moved to the Brazilian capital, where until mid-1983 he held this assignment at the new headquarters of the CNBB, as well as giving lectures of the biblical initiation at the Catholic University. Subsequently, after a short break in São Paulo, he returned to Caxias do Sul as the local Superior and Parish Priest of São Ciro, as well as Provincial Councillor and member of the Diocesan Vocation Committee. Back in São Paulo in 1987, he spent himself in revising texts, in translations and in lending his vibrant voice for some radio programs. Over the years he has other important assignments: responsible for the journalists at *Rádio América*, director of the Pauline Radio Network, parish priest at Saint Ignatius of Loyola, coordinator of the pastoral ministry in Paraíso (Region Sé) and Portuguese professor at FAPCOM. In 1990, finally, he was in the United States as coadjutor of St. Anthony's parish of Cambridge.

A collection of experiences accumulated over the years that give us the image of an extremely eclectic and modest man, as his preference was, repeatedly testified to the confreres, for the typographical work: his "holy" pride reminds us for his composition of the first full edition of the Bible in Portuguese (1943).

Father José was humble, poor, free and always of good company in the community. Good humour never came even less in his illness, the result of his intimacy with God in the Eucharist and in the Liturgy of the Hours. Let us now pray to the Master for Father José that he may enjoy the eternal prize. Near the Trinity, he can intercede for the needs of the entire Pauline Family.

Rome, 1st September 2017



Fr. Stefano Stimamiglio, ssp
Secretary General

The funeral have taken place in the morning of this Friday, 1st September 2017, local time, at the Parish Church of St. Ignatius of Loyola of São Paulo. After the ceremonies, his mortal remains have been buried in the Most Holy Sacrament Cemetery (São Paulo).

The circumscription Superiors should inform their communities about the prescribed suffrages (Cost. 65 and 65.1).