

# 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)



About 11.00 pm, on Friday, 16 December 2017, in the community of “Divina Provvidenza” due to respiratory complications, returned to the Father's House, our confrere

**BROTHER DOMINIC HILARY VALLE**  
**93 year old, 77 years of Pauline life, 74 years of Religious Profession**

“My dear brother, Hilary... the selection has fallen on you. You have some very good qualities and it is always good that you open wider your horizon for some greater good in the congregation. Therefore I would kindly request you to consider it as an order that in the name of Primo Maestro I want to ask you to prepare your passport.... You are still young and you have the possibility of learning a language which will put you in touch with the rest world and above all to enter into the English speaking world where the good that you can accomplish is very great and much promising”. This text is a part of the letter that Fr Luigi Zanoni wrote to Br Hilary on 31 July 1959 for the new mission that he would be accomplishing beyond the English channels during the coming years.

The reply of Br Hilary was very significant: “From my part I have no difficulty whatsoever to accept what you have communicated to me in the name of Primo Maestro with regard to the house of London as my destination; I trust in the help of the Divine Master”. Finally Br Hilary spent 47 years between Great Britain and Ireland, years totally spent in the binding department of the apostolate. He would return to Alba only in 2006 on account of his health.

Dominic was born on 24 December 1923 at Fusea, Tolmezzo, (Province of Udine), a small town immersed in the Alps mountains not far from Austria. He was the first among five children. His parents, Antonio and Orsola Maria Vuerli, persons of deep faith, accompanied young Dominic to the diocesan Seminary of Udine, where he remained until the third year of high school. In 1940, he left this experience and with the help of Fr Antonio Zanella, the parish priest, he joined the Society of St Paul at Alba on 30 October of the same year.

In Alba with regard to his apostolate he concentrated himself side by side in the binding, paper mill, book centre and in the dispatching section. He left for his novitiate in Rome in 1942 and on 2 May 1943 he made his first profession. From March 1948 he was in the community of Sacile (Province of Pordenone) and after two months, on 2 May 1948, he made his perpetual profession. In the following year 1949, he was transferred to the community of Cosenza where he served at the book centre. Again, after 12 months he left and this time to Bari where in the meantime a new community (January 1950) was opened and he took up binding as his apostolate. It was here in Bari that he received the letter from Fr

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Zanoni, to leave for London after nine years in Puglia where he would remain till 1990 and then to be transferred to Ballykeeran (1990–2006). His last community would be Alba, the same community which had welcomed him 77 years ago.

Br Hilary was a very simple and cordial, also very warm and humours, and had the ability to entertain his confreres with some jokes, because he knew how to be jovial. He was not very talkative, but his commitment and dedication in the apostolate present him as someone very concrete and always committed for the good.

In the many years of his mission he has certainly widened his “horizon”. From a small mountainous town to the great metropolis, he lived with the same faith received as a gift from his parents and the evangelizing zeal of Blessed James Alberione.

Now let us entrust to the Lord through the intercession of this dear brother of ours the two communities of London and Maynooth so that the Divine Master may sustain even today that reality which has changed a lot in the passing of time to announce the Gospel with passion and creativity. Let us accompany Br Hilary, who was called to eternal life almost on the eve of his 94th Birthday, with our suffrages let us entrust him to the Lord in this time of our preparation for the Birth of Christ so that he may be able to accept the merciful love of God and rejoice together with our Blessed James Alberione and many Paulines in heaven, in a particular way Br Andrea Borello.

Let us greet him with a very special word usually used in his native place, Friuli Venezia Giulia, which is a very friendly greeting to remain in God: “*Mandi, fratel Ilario, Mandi*”.

Rome, 17 December 2017

Fr Domenico Soliman, ssp

*The funeral will take place on Monday, 18 December 2017, at 10.30 am in the Tempio San Paolo, at Alba.*

The Circumscription superiors may kindly inform their communities for the prescribed suffrages for the deceased (Cost. 65 – 65.1).