

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 11:45 (local time) of 8 October 2018, our Disciple of the Divine Mater has reached eternal life while at the St. Elizabeth Hospital of Youngstown (Ohio, United States)

BROTHER PETER STEPHEN SCALISE ***81 years, 63 of Pauline life, 60 of religious profession***

Peter was born in Brooklyn, the famous and populous district of New York, destination of an intense Italian immigration between the end of the 19th century and the first decades of the 20th century. His own family, made up of his father Peter and mother Marie, as well as a younger sister, was originally from southern Italy.

On 5 September 1955, at almost 19, Peter entered the Congregation crossing the threshold of the community of Staten Island (New York). A year later, he began the two-year novitiate in Canfield, having as his companions four other young future Paulines. The Master was Father Giovanni Crisostomo Carolla, who died in a dramatic car accident in Boardman on 17 September 1958, only nine days after the conclusion of the novitiate and the first profession ceremony (8 September 1958). On this occasion, Peter would assume the religious name of Stephen. During his formative years he devoted himself to propaganda with great enthusiasm, “doing very well”, as the Juniorate Master, Don Luigi Paolo Stanislao Crovella, noted with satisfaction and showed good attitudes to the common life, a gift that would help him in his intense apostolic future. Finally, on 8 September 1963, it would be Blessed James Alberione in person, on the occasion of his visit to the American communities, to receive the perpetual vows of Brother Peter in the Chapel of the Society of Saint Paul in Canfield.

Immediately, the young professed was assigned to the administration and shipping office of the “Alba Publishing House” in Canfield. He remained there until 1968, when obedience calls him to the “Queen of Apostles Seminary” in Derby, near New York, as a Teacher and Vocational Animator. He would remain in that community only a couple of years, because in 1970 he was appointed Director of the Canfield Audiocassette Department, then decidedly in the vanguard, so much so that in the following years he would know a further great expansion also in the video sector coming to count in the catalog over 500 titles. He followed for a few years the role of coordinator of the three bookstores connected to the “Alba Publishing House”. In 1980, he was elected circumscription Councilor by the Provincial Chapter.

In 1988, at the age of 52, he asked Father Renato Perino, Superior General, to be transferred to Australia to be able to broaden his apostolic experience and get to know another culture. He would remain only in the Homebush community for three years, because in 1991 he returned to the United States, still in Canfield. Here he would hold the role of Bursar until 2000 and would be active as a cinematographer for several years, accompanying video footages, full of so much experience accumulated over the years, the Masses broadcast from the chapel of our community with hundreds of thousands of faithful connected.

In recent years, he has dedicated himself in particular to taking care of the sacristy of the chapel of the community of Canfield with passion, making sure that the liturgical environment is always very well looked after to encourage the prayer of the many people who go there every day to find some moments of intimacy with the Divine Master. Finally, it was his constant support to generously help the sick confreres of that community, accompanying them to the doctors and visiting them when they were hospitalized in some hospitals.

After sixty years of faithful service as Disciple of the Divine Master, the heart of Brother Peter, already severely tried by various operations, has not held up to the last heart attack. Hospitalized for a week in the intensive care unit at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Youngstown, he surrendered his soul to God, lovingly assisted by the confreres of the Canfield community, where he lived most of his life.

Witness and protagonist of the roaring years of the United States Province, now brother Peter enjoys the deserved rest in the Father's House. We ask him to intercede with the Divine Master so that the Circumscriptions of our Congregation may have more and more the missionary ardor of entering, with a renewed apostolic sense, in the new times of the digital age.

Rome, 9 October 2018



Father Stefano Stimamiglio, ssp
Secretary General

Brother Peter's funeral will take place on Saturday 13 October 2018 at 10 AM in the Canfield community chapel. After the funeral, his body will be buried in the Canfield cemetery.

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