

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 around 6:00 AM on 11 February 2020, the liturgical memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lourdes, the Disciple of the Divine Master died in the “Divine Providence” community of Alba

BROTHER IVONE PAOLO PUTTI **90 years, 79 of Pauline life, 72 of religious profession**

Only a person of deep faith, endowed with a Pauline spirit and in love with the apostolate like Brother Paolo could face such a long and demanding missionary life: Australia, Congo, Nigeria, Ireland, England, the stages of his long years outside Italy. And in the midst of other positions of responsibility in Italy, before and during the years of his missionary life. In all this, the constant support of the Primo Maestro, with whom he had a cordial and constant correspondence, material that will enrich the historical archive of the Society Saint Paul. In any case, his sociable, cheerful and loving nature of his company helped him a lot to face such an adventurous life and certainly not without difficulties.

Ivone was born to Papa Giovanni and Mama Orsola on 11 June 1929 in Campagnola di Brugine, a town in the province of Padua. After meeting the local vocationist, Father Lino Francesco Ruzzante ssp, on 10 October 1940, at just 11 years old and in the middle of the war, he entered the community of Sacile (Pordenone). These are years in which young people, between one bombing and another, are very busy in the printing press. On 18 March 1946, he entered the novitiate in Rome – Villa San Giuseppe, where, on the occasion of the solemnity of St. Joseph a year later, on 19 March 1947, he made his first profession assuming the religious name of Paolo. The formators briefly outlined a positive profile: a young man with good piety and apostolic zeal, “fond of the House” and with a sense of responsibility in the apostolate. After years of the first formation in Sacile, in 1952, after the perpetual profession (March 19) made in Rome, he arrived at the community of Vicenza, where he resided until 1961 occupied in the local printing press, also as the head.

In that year, his missionary experience began. In view of his move to Australia, he went to Slough, in the suburbs of London, for a few months to learn English. In November 1962, he left for Sydney, where he joined the Homebush community, always engaged in the printing press. In September 1969, he moved to the San Paolo Film in Rome, entering the technical sector. These are intense years, in which the apostolate of cinema has undergone considerable growth in terms of diffusion and to which he too made a great contribution.

The hour of the mission was triggered again in 1991: the Superiors destined him to Kinshasa, Congo, where he took care of the maintenance of the printing press. During his stay in the African country, he also contributed to the opening of the Ibadan house in Nigeria, going there personally for three months at the end of 1991.

In 1993, he left Congo and, after a brief stay in the Tor San Lorenzo house (Rome), he was sent to Ballykeeran (Ireland). Here he was busy only for a few months in the printing press and in the Athlone bookstore, before being destined for Slough and then in the new home on Battersea Bridge Road (London), where he would remain until the summer of 2013, carrying out his apostolate in the bookstore of Westminster.

In that year, due to physical problems that occurred, he returned to Italy, destined for Alba – Mother House, where he was able to still render his bookbinding service, before moving, in 2015, to the “Divine Providence” community, which serves as the infirmary. In the last few days, already experiencing a general weakening, his situation has become complicated due to intestinal flu, up to the onset of death from respiratory failure.

Let us now entrust to this long-living apostle the circumscriptions in which he carried out his apostolate, so that the Lord may never make wanting the apostles willing to sacrifice to announce to the people the good news of the Kingdom.

Rome, 11 February 2020



Father Stefano Stimamiglio, ssp
Secretary General

Brother Paul's funeral will take place on 12 February 2020 at 10:00 AM (local time) in the San Paolo Church in Alba. His remains will soon be transferred to the family chapel in the Campagnola di Brugine cemetery (Padua).

Circumscription Superiors inform their communities of the prescribed suffrages (Const. 65 and 65.1).