

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 4:00 p.m. yesterday, July 9, our brother died in the community of Timothy Giaccardo in Rome because of complications due to diabetes,

BROTHER TARCISIO BERNARDINO CARON

93 years of age, 80 of Pauline life and 75 of religious profession

“I've told you that talking about one's father is something one does willingly but also with some hesitation. If I were to accompany Blessed James Alberione, it would be easier for me to talk about him as a founder and theologian or as a charismatic character. I prefer to present him as “father”, a man of great faith, much prayer and a great personality not so common, rich in sensitivity to the needs of the Church and the world: always stretching forward”. These words of Brother Bernardino, spoken to the novices of the Pauline Family during the centenary year of its foundation, tells us the secret of his existence because it was the profound relationship with Fr James Alberione that guided his entire Pauline life.

Tarcisio was born on May 22, 1927, in San Pietro Viminario, a small village not far from Padua. His is a simple family where father Silvio and mother Lucia Baldon raised five children. He was baptized in the parish church four days after his birth.

He came to know St. Paul thanks to a meeting with Father Lino Ruzzante, a Pauline priest who was in charge of vocation promotion. Tarcisio, this is his baptismal name, entered the community in Sacile (Pordenone) on December 19, 1939, a few months before Italy became involved in the Second World War. A few days before him, the young Paolo Saorin, also a Pauline and a native of the same region, joined in Sacile, his childhood friend. Two years later his sister Sr. M. Costantina joined the same community to begin the new Pauline journey with the Disciples of the Divine Master.

On July 10, 1943, Tarcisio began his novitiate in Rome, and on July 16, of the following year he made his First Religious Profession receiving directly from Father Alberione the name Bernardino; on June 29, 1949, he made his perpetual profession.

Immediately after First Profession, the Founder entrusted him with the task of Assistant to the candidates, a service that he rendered for twelve years. During this time Father Alberione asked him to become a hairdresser: “You see, we are in wartime, we are poor; it is no longer possible to call the hairdresser; this is money; go and buy a pair of scissors, a machine, and a comb, and then... you start”. And so, Brother Bernardino became a hairdresser to the whole community and for twenty-seven years of father Alberione.

After his commitment to formation, we find Brother Bernardino as head of binding department, and from 1956 to 1962 he was Provincial Councillor, and again from 1978 to 1982.

In 1962 the Founder entrusted him with a new apostolate, that of vocation promotion. Brother Bernardino dedicated his time, energy, and passion to it. And so, he was busy preparing for the vocation promotion at the Fair of Rome, not far from the community, on the occasion of the beginning of the first session

of the Second Vatican Council. In the same year, in consultation with Fr Alberione, he organized the retreat for the young people in Ariccia, and the Primo Maestro animated it. He then began a long period of work with the preadolescent, a vocational activity that would lead him to move throughout Italy. "Sometimes Father Alberione himself pointed out to me which Regions to choose, in particular, those Regions that, had given more religious saints to the Church".

In 1990 he was entrusted with the summer house in Pietracamela, converting it into a comfortable place for summer camps for young people, parishes, and other church groups. In this way, Brother Bernardino continued his apostolate as a vocation facilitator, came into contact with many ecclesiastical realities, and got to know some bishops and became their friend.

With time Brother Bernardino had to struggle with more precarious health problems and in 2018 was transferred to the community of Timothy Giaccardo in Rome, from where he ascended to Heaven yesterday. A few days ago, the Superior General, Father Valdir José De Castro, on a canonical visit to the community, gave him the sacrament of the anointing of the sick.

For many years he has witnessed his relationship with Blessed James Alberione to the new generations of the Pauline Family and to the participants in the Pauline Charism Course. He showed the joy of having met the Primo Maestro, a relationship that began in 1940 when he came to Sacile: "The visit was very short but very impressed by his modest and good attitude, as a father. Many occasions he visited him for advice, for a blessing, to recite the Rosary or for a simple greeting... He always felt well appreciated and esteemed by Father Alberione and he nourished himself of this relationship in his daily life, in his apostolate, especially as a Disciple of the Divine Master. He often remembered the words of the Founder addressed to his brother Disciples: "Dear Disciples, among all my dear wishes, yours are very dear to me. There is much more affection between you and me than is evident to you. How much I have prayed for you these many nights! In which the magazine showed me your dedication and your hard work... Always united with you, dead or alive. You will have in fidelity an eternal hallelujah."

This good and helpful brother of ours tried to do good to everyone, living serenely even during the last period of illness.

May the Divine Master welcome him and may he enjoy the gift of the Father's mercy. In paradise may he be welcomed by Blessed Alberione and the Pauline Family who live eternal joy.

Rome, July 10, 2020,

Father Domenico Soliman, ssp

The funeral mass will be celebrated tomorrow, Saturday, July 11, at 9:00 a.m. in the sub-crypt of the Queen of the Apostles Shrine. The body of Brother Bernardino will be laid to rest at the Laurentino Cemetery in Rome.

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