

## 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 about noon (local time) on Thursday 17 September 2020, our brother priest died at the *Clínica de la Moncloa* in Madrid (Spain) as a result of Covid-19

**FATHER HORACIO AGUSTÍN SOLÍS IGLESIAS**  
**79 years, 64 of Pauline life, 58 of profession, 51 of priesthood**

Horacio was born on 18 November 1940 in the small village of Valdepolo, about forty kilometres from the city of León, in northern Spain. He was baptized, as was customary at that time, four days after his birth and then confirmed at a very tender age, just three years old, on the occasion of one of the rare visits of the local bishop in that rural area. His family, simple and animated by a deep faith in God, lived with simplicity, well rooted in the earth according to the natural rhythms of the seasons. His peasant parents, Faustino and Anastasia, gave birth to a large family of six children, four boys and two girls, one of whom died at a very young age.

On 5 October 1955, when he was only 14, Horacio entered our community of Zalla, a Spanish town located in the autonomous community of the Basque Country, in northern Spain. Here he put on the religious habit (7 May 1961) and attended high school. In September 1961, he entered the novitiate in Coslada (Madrid), where a year later, on 8 September 1962, he made his first religious profession, taking the religious name of Agustín. Back in Zalla, he attended and finished philosophy and was assistant to the aspirants. In 1965, he was transferred to Rome, where he studied at the International Theological College until 1969 and was engaged in bookbinding. On 8 September 1967 in the Eternal City, he made his perpetual profession and, again in Rome, on 30 June 1969, he was ordained a priest by the imposition of the hands of Mons. Ettore Cunial.

Once back in Spain, he spent two years as a formator of aspirants in the community of Madrid-S. Fernando. From 1972 to 1977, he moved first to Madrid-El Pinar to carry out the apostolate in the bookshop in the Spanish capital and then to Seville, where he contributed to the growth of the local bookshop for 4 years (1977-1981). From 1981 to 1991 we saw him again in Zalla, his first community in the Basque Country, first engaged in the nearby bookshop in Bilbao and, then, since 1984 as local Superior and Delegate for the Pauline Cooperators.

Father Horacio has always wisely associated his Pauline apostolate with parish pastoral experiences. From 1991 to 1992, we find him in Madrid, engaged in the promotional and marketing sector of the *Ediciones Paulinas*. After another two years in the community of Las Rozas (Madrid), he

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returned to Seville until 2008, where he was in turn bookseller, local Superior, vocation animator and head of the local radio station *Onda San Pablo*. Father Horacio believed a lot in the radio apostolate, dedicating many hours of work to it and living, as often happens to the Pauline apostle, even a not small disappointment when the Andalusian authorities did not grant the license to continue broadcasting, forcing him to close himself the radio frequency.

In 2009, as a prolonged moment of personal synthesis of many and intense years of apostolate, he attended the Course of the Charism in Rome. On his return, until 2012, he was still sent to his beloved Seville, where he lived his commitment in the bookstore, with the local group of Pauline Cooperators, and in the parish ministry. Finally, in 2013, he was transferred to the Madrid community of Vizconde de los Asilos, where, already ill, he still helped his brothers in the infirmary and helped the Pauline Family in the ministry.

Father Horacio had an open, communicative and joyful character. He used to practice a certain irony in informal interviews, but he was always ready to cooperate for any need of the community. His legacy in the field of education is linked to two books: *Encuentro, yo, tú, nosotros* (AFA Publishing) and *La persona, fiesta sin fin*, published by our editions.

At the end of his days, his personal Christification before the definitive meeting with the Master went through two heavy crosses: leukemia, which removed him from active life, and, in the last days, infection with Covid-19, which has united him in fate to so many men and women who all over the world are dying and suffering from this terrible pandemic. The brothers from Spain assure us that Father Horacio ended his days with admirable serenity and peace. His funeral will be held as soon as possible.

Today we thank the Lord for all the good done by this brother of ours in so many years of Pauline life and for his witness of faith among us. To his prayer and intercession, we now entrust all the present and future needs of the beloved Province of Spain.

Rome, 18 September 2020



Father Stefano Stimamiglio, ssp  
Secretary General

**The Superiors of Circumscriptions are to inform their communities for the suffrages prescribed (Const. 65 and 65.1).**