

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 10:20 AM (local time) on 4 December 2020, our brother Disciple of the Divine Master died in the community of the Mother House in Alba (Italy Province)

BROTHER VINCENZO MARIO FRANCO MOSCATELLO
81 years, 70 of Pauline life and 61 of religious profession

An intense figure is that of Brother Mario. A private person, who had never liked to show off but whose remarkable skills in the field of the apostolate and music made him a protagonist for many years both in the life of the Italian Province and in the ecclesial and civil life of Alba.

He was born in Pavia on 30 July 1939. A short time before, his father Vincenzo, a railway worker, and his mother Caterina, both originally from Reggio Calabria, moved to the North for work. A family of sound principles and very religious. The eldest son Francesco, born in 1915, died of Spanish flu at a very young age. Another 9 brothers and sisters follow, of which Mario is the last in order of birth. Another brother, also Francesco, embarked on a military ship of the Italian Navy, died during the Second World War

Mario entered the House in Alba at 11 years. It was 30 September 1950 when, invited by Brother Pietro Negri (also a native of Pavia and who died in Alba 3 years ago), he crossed the threshold of the Mother House. An invitation to respond to the call that, despite his tender age, he already felt present in his heart. A month earlier, the slightly older sister Olga, currently resident in the FSP Provincial House in Rome, entered the Daughters of St. Paul. Mario, from an early age, was very devout and regularly attended the oratory, serving Mass in the parish. A calm and peaceful child but determined in his following the Pauline vocation, as an episode from his early years in Alba shows. Before going to Pavia for an appendectomy surgery, at the expressed request of Primo Maestro if he intended to return after his convalescence, he replied with full conviction that his life is now right there, at the Mother House, and that he intended to become a Disciple of the Divine Master.

Strengthened by this intimate conviction, on 8 September 1959, he made his first religious profession in Ostia, taking the name of Franco, which he confirmed in perpetuity exactly 5 years later in Rome. 20 years followed in the Eternal City, where he worked in the local typography, in particular in the fields of graphic layout and "retouching". Endowed with a true spirit of "Pauline studiousness", to improve his skills in the field of graphics, in 1970 he obtained the diploma of Master of Art at the Art

Institute of Urbino. From 1983 onwards, we saw him uninterruptedly in Alba, where he continued his apostolic activity in the graphics sector.

Brother Mario, highly esteemed by his Superiors, has always been happy with the Pauline vocation. Along with a life dedicated to the apostolate, he also invested time and energy in music and singing. He spent a lot of time on this extraordinary art, which is so precious even in our environments. But he owes this passion, as often happens, to his family of origin, which transmits the first rudiments to him at home, where it is not uncommon for records of classical and opera music to be played on the tape recorder. Proof of this “family vocation” is his brother Antonio, who became clarinet teacher and played for many years in the Pavia orchestra. Mario found extraordinary masters in Alba to initiate him into this art: first, at the community, Father Giovanni Candido Ferrero; then he specialized with Maestro Tarabra, with whom he studied, above all, choir conducting, becoming his trusted collaborator and substitute in many concerts and performances. In the Diocese, he also held the role of Director of the local school of sacred music for a couple of years (2014-2016). Finally, he was for many years the choir director of the parish of *Gesù Divino Maestro* in Alba, especially during the very popular 9 AM Mass on Sunday morning, always appreciated for his desire to involve all people in singing. The various pastors who have followed have always appreciated it very much.

Brother Mario loved the work of graphics, which he conceived, in full Pauline spirit, as a true and proper ecclesial service. For many years, he has offered his collaboration to various magazines, including *Se Vuoi* (vocational magazine of the Apostoline Sisters), *La Vita in Cristo e nella Chiesa* (liturgical periodical of the Pious Disciples of the Italian Province) and *Il Cooperatore Paolino*.

For about ten days, he was hospitalized in the infirmary, immobilized due to an advanced liver cirrhosis, which caused a final hepatic coma crisis that gently led to his death.

We now entrust to Brother Mario, who loved the Pauline vocation very much and who offered many sufferings for the Italian Province, the intercession for the future of our Congregation.

Rome, 5 December 2020



Father Stefano Stimamiglio, ssp
Secretary General

Brother Mario's funeral will take place privately on Monday, 7 December, at 9 AM in the Tempio San Paolo of Alba. The body will then be interred in the city cemetery.

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