

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 2:30 PM (local time) on 20 December 2018, our brother Disciple of the Divine Master died in the infirmary of the community of Madrid – Vizconde de los Asilos

BROTHER AURELIO MARIANO MARTÍN VARILLAS

87 years, 67 of Pauline life, 64 of religious profession

Aurelio was born on 26 June 1931 in Casafranca (Salamanca, Spain), a modest village in the Region of Castilla-León, which has always been the land of saints with the nearby province of Ávila. The son of Papa Juan Manuel and Mama Veronica, simple and laborious agricultural workers, the family also consists of three children, two boys and one girl. Aurelio, the second son, was baptized two weeks after his birth and confirmed at the age of 15 in the parish church dedicated to Saints Fabian and Sebastian. At the age of 20, he joined the Society of St Paul, crossing the threshold of the Zalla community: it was 1 March 1951, and immediately became involved in the local printing press as manager. He had the religious clothing only three months later, on June 30, 1951, and entered the novitiate in September 1953, also in Zalla. The following year, on 8 September 1954, he emitted the first Profession, which he confirmed in perpetuity exactly five years later.

Brother Aurelio, an austere person and always available to many services, offered himself throughout his life in the apostolate: long periods in typography (exemplary Lino typist and excellent teacher for the many young people who came into the house in those times), but also with prolonged time intervals dedicated to door-to-door propaganda. Traveling throughout Spain and always with a suitcase full of books: this is how, together with many other confreres, he lived the beginning of our presence in Spain. Those were difficult times, in which the contribution of the Disciples of the Divine Master is essential so that the Pauline charism puts deep roots in the Iberian Peninsula.

Subsequently he was assigned in the bookstores: for two periods in Oviedo (from 1976 to 1978 and from 1992 to 1999) and, in the middle (from 1978 to 1992), in Madrid. In this particular form of Pauline mission, Brother Aurelio has always distinguished himself for his exquisite attention to the many faithful who turned to him to buy a book or to seek an orientation among the many titles present.

In 1999, obedience calls him to the community of Madrid – Las Rozas, seat, at that time, of the infirmary of the Province. Here he spent 13 years,

always showing special attention in accompanying and assisting the sick confreres, especially Fr. Estanislao Conde, who died in 2008. When that community was closed in 2012 and the infirmary moved to the house of Vizconde de los Asilos, he faithfully followed the destiny of the sick confreres, continuing for a few years in his precious and delicate ministry of accompaniment of those most in need, service that has continued as long as his physical strength was granted him.

In the community of Madrid – Vizconde de los Asilos – Brother Aurelio spent the last years of his life, with the discomforts of old age that gradually undermined his health, especially diabetes and inadequate blood circulation. Discomfort that, recently worsened, has produced serious kidney problems, which led, after a fatal cardio-respiratory failure, to his death.

Brother Aurelio was one of the disciples of the “Paulines of the first hours” in Spain. A serious, coherent man, dedicated body and soul to the cause of the Gospel, which he always announced with deep passion, both with modern means and techniques, which he made available both in recent years, helping the confreres to carry the cross of illness. Some companions and friends remember him as a tireless sacristan for many long years, friendly with his friends, simple, humble, talkative, a lover of long walks in the company of the brothers of the community. And above all, a man of prayer, always faithful to go to the chapel after lunch to thank the Divine Master for the gift of life and the Pauline vocation.

The Gospel on the day of his death (Lk 1:26-38) reminds us that Mary’s “yes” is destined to become flesh in the life of every apostle. As it was in that of Brother Aurelio.

Rome, 21 December 2018



Father Stefano Stimamiglio, ssp
Secretary General

The funeral of Brother Aurelio will take place today, Friday 21 December 2018, at 6 PM in the chapel of the community of Protasio Gómez in Madrid. His ashes will later be buried in the chapel of the Society of St Paul at the cemetery of the municipality of Las Rozas (Madrid).

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