

February 21, 2007

Death Notice No. 6 (To all Unit Administrations):



The Province of Madrid, recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **ANTONINO PARDO SANTAMARÍA**, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on February 15, 2007 in Madrid, Spain in the 82nd year of his age and the 65th year of his religious profession.

Antonino Pardo was born on May 3, 1925 in Villanueva Río Ubierna (Burgos), Spain. His father, Gregorio, had three sons by his first wife, Herminia: Victoriano, Julián and Constantino. Having become widowed, Gregorio married Elvira, with whom he had seven children: Eusebio, María, Rosario, Melchora, Antonino, Claudio and Basilio. Of the ten siblings, four were to become members of the Society of Mary:

Victoriano, Eusebio, Claudio and Antonino. Another two brothers, Constantino and Basilio, were also Marianist religious for a period of time.

On October 8, 1937, he entered the postulate at Escoriaza. He made his First Profession on September 12, 1942 at Elorrio.

He spent the next ten years in various communities: Segovia (1942-1943), Carabanchel (1943-1945), Tánger (1945-1949) and San Sebastián (1949-1952). On April 12, 1950, the Centennial Anniversary year of the death of Fr. William Joseph Chaminade, Antonino made his Perpetual Profession, along with fifty other religious, at the Basilica of Our Lady of the Pillar in Zaragoza.

During his stay in Madrid (1952-1959) he obtained the title of *Magisterio* and later the *diplomaturo* in French at the School of Languages (1960).

After his stay at Castelgandolfo (Italy) for the *Second Notivitate* (1959-1960), he spent time in the communities of Tetuán (1960-1962), Ciudad Real (1962-1963), Cauderan (1963-1964), Cádiz Extamuros (1964-1966), Ciudad Real (1966-1967), Madrid Castelló (1967-1980), Cádiz Extramuros (1980-1996) and Siquem (from 1996 until his death).

Antonino's life was culminated by spending the last eleven years in the health-center community at Siquem. He spent the last five of these years confined to bed, unconscious. In the "*grande silence*" of these last years of his life, the brothers and caregivers remained ever-present to him in their daily care, by making the sign of the Cross on his forehead, and through many kindnesses beyond words.

Antonino leaves us a wonderful example of a simple, humble and pious religious, who committed his whole life to the education of children. We are thankful to God for his life and Marianist religious vocation.

May he continue to intercede with the Father on behalf of our beloved Society of Mary!