

Fr. VELOCINO ZORTEA



Father Velocino Zortea was born in Capinzal, SC, on 8 July 1930, the son of Efigênia Comaquio Zortea and Antonio Zortea. He was baptised in the Parish of St. Paul the Apostle in Capinzal on 21 December 1930 and received the sacrament of confirmation on 21 December 1937.

He entered the St. Camillus Seminary of Iomerê, SC, on 13 February 1944. Three years later, in 1947, he was moved to Villa Pompei where he completed his secondary schooling. On 2 February he entered the novitiate of the Camillians at Villa Pompéia, San Paolo, SP, and took his first religious vows on 4 February 1951. From 1951 to 1952 he studied philosophy at the Camillian studentate.

In 1953 he was moved to Italy (Mottinello) where he studied theology at the Theological Institute of the Province of Lombardy and Veneto. He made his perpetual profession in Mottinello on 11 February 1954. On 31 March 1956 he was ordained a deacon and on 17 June 1956 he was ordained a priest.

Fr. Velocino engaged in numerous activities in the Camillian Province of Brazil. From 1956 to 1960 he was a teacher at the Camillian Pius XII Institute; from 1960 to 1965 he was a teacher at the St. Pius X Institute, teaching French and English; and from 1965 to 1969 he was the parish priest of the Parish of St. Theresa in Jacana. In 1970 he coordinated the reform of the Seminary of St. Pius X, and then went to the St. Camillus *Recanto*.

Fr. Zortea was the director of the St. Camillus *Recanto* from 1970 to 1998. From 1972 to 1998 he was also the director of various hospitals of the *Sociedade Beneficente São Camilo* in the South-East, North and North-East of Brazil. He was Provincial Superior for two mandates, between 1998 and 2004. From 2006 to 2010 he was Superior of the Major Seminary of St. Camillus in Ipiranga.

In 2010 he was moved to the community of *Nossa Senhora do Rosário de Vila Pompéia* and took responsibility for the St. Camillus *Recanto* in Jacana, holding that post until 2012 when he had a stroke.

In April 2015 he moved to the St. Pius X community and lived in the house with the students of philosophy until April 2017 when he moved to the St. Camillus *Recanto* because he needed medical care.

On 13 October 2017 he died in his bedroom because of a heart attack.

We can say that Fr. Zortea was a great worker: he worked hard on the development of the Camillian Province of Brazil and left behind him a great legacy for future generations, in particular as regards the management and running of hospitals.