

## Brother Antonio Livi

1937–2017

Antonio Livi was born on 13 June 1937 in Ajaccio, in Corsica, to Tuscan parents. His father died leaving him an orphan and his mother with her two children returned to Pistoia where she worked as a sacristan.

On 26 October 1950, in Imperia, he became an aspirant brother. On 13 June 1954 he began his canonical postulancy in Imperia. On 12 September 1954 he was moved with the novitiate to Borghetto (IM), to the Stella Maris House. On 6 January 1955 he put on the habit and began his novitiate. On 8 January 1956 he made his temporary religious profession. On 6 November 1956 he was transferred to Villa Lellia in Turin for domestic services and assistance at the sanatorium for adolescents. On 4 February 1959 he made his perpetual profession at Villa Lellia in front of the Provincial Superior, Luigi Cabria.



On 10 October 1970, because of the temporary closure of Villa Lellia, he was transferred to Forte dei Marmi (LU). During this period of time he went to the School for Professional Nurses at the Pius X Nursing Home of Milan where he also obtained a diploma as a ward nurse. He was thus given the job of ward nurse for the physiotherapy section. On 27 June he was appointed Provincial Councillor and took on responsibility for missions.

On 9 May 1989 he was transferred to St. Camillus Hospital in Genoa which was beginning its nursing home and he worked there as a head nurse. On 24 July 1995 he was appointed the financial administrator of the community of Genoa and he remained such until recently. After retiring he continued his activities in the nursing home, cooperating in the field of animation.

For about a year there was a progressive decline at a cognitive level, but this did not divert him from his commitments until he had a fall at the beginning of September that forced him to be admitted to hospital. From there he was moved to the St. Camillus Nursing Home of Cremona where, however, his state of health got rapidly worse. He died on the morning of 2 October 2017, at 5.00, cared for by his fellow religious.

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The personality of Brother Antonio was characterised by a kindly spirit, kindness, generosity, altruism, cordiality, a spirit of welcoming, and pleasantness. He sincerely loved every Camillian religious; he was never moody. He was faithful in his practices of piety. He was precise, as well as quite wilful and resolved in his positions.

Suffering – both moral and physical – characterised his existence. In the depths of his heart he always carried the pain of the premature death of his father and the consequent difficulties for his mother in managing the family during and after the war in a state of poverty. The death of his brother Giovanni – who had been a Camillian religious – was a severe trial for Antonio. Lastly, there was his kidney problems which led to the discomfort of dialysis but also to the joy of a transplant: he received the organ from a young woman. He was scrupulous in having periodic tests at the St. Martin Hospital of Genoa where he had received the transplant and had been well followed by its doctors.

His experience of suffering made him sensitive to the suffering of his brothers and sisters. His dedication to the sick was total; he lived for them, facing up to every personal renunciation or sacrifice. This was a real burden which he bore setting an example. He became demanding when the interests of sick people – whom he loved unsparingly – were involved. To achieve

better service for the sick, he 'demanded' an abundance of personnel and means, even when it was difficult for the Superior to meet his requests.

He took the opportunity to accompany young men – who wanted to draw near to the charism of St. Camillus – in providing care and assistance, and he bore excellent witness.

The whole of the personnel of the RAS 'St. Camillus' Hospital in Genoa remember him with affection, as do the patients whom he followed with Camillian love, providing a complete service with dignity.

**The funeral will take place in the chapel of the St. Camillus Nursing Home of Cremona, on Wednesday 4 October, at 10.00. The coffin will then be taken to the local cemetery of Serravalle Pistoiese (PT) where it will be placed in the grave of his family.**