

Fr. Ettore Nicolodi

1926-2018



Fr. Ettore Nicolodi was born on 1.04.1926 in Cembra (TN), to his father Cornelio and his mother Augusta Tabarelli. His father had a leading position at the local porphyry quarry and Ettore was the first of eleven children. After a year at the seminary of the archbishopric of Trento, because of difficulties concerning the payment of the fees he entered the Camillian seminary of Villa Visconta in Besana Brianza (MI) on 1.10.1939. Nazi Germany had just invaded Poland and ahead of Italy lay the harsh years of the Second World War. In the autumn of 1942 he went to the seminary of Mottinello in Rossano Veneto (VI) to attend various levels of secondary school. On 07.09.1944 he entered the novitiate in Verona at the house of S. Giuliano where on 8.12.1945 he made his first religious profession. In 1947 he continued his studies at the seminary of Mottinello where on 24.04.1949 he made his perpetual profession. On 8.03.1952 he was ordained a deacon by Msgr. Gerolamo Bortignon, the Bishop of Padua, and he was ordained a priest by the same prelate on 22.06.1952.

After temporary summer posts at Cremona and Predappio, in the autumn of 1952 he became vice-master of novices at Verona S. Giuliano. On 22.08.1953 he left for Brazil. For two years he exercised ministry at the S. Luiz de Jaçana Sanatorium and taught Latin and geography to the seminarians of the seminary of Jaçana. In the same seminary he then taught moral theology and was appointed financial administrator of the house. In January 1961 he moved to the house of Iomerè (S. Caterina) where he taught Latin to the seminarians and helped with ministry in the chapels of the parish. During that period he planned and carried out a radical transformation of the seminary. In 1964 he returned to San Paolo, going to Villa Pompeia, and for two years he was the director of the printers and helped the financial administrator of the Province. In 1966 he was entrusted with the project of the construction of the novitiate in Pinhais (Curitiba). In 1969 he became chaplain at the *Santa Casa di Sao Paulo* and attended the course in hospital administration at the University of Hygiene and Public Health. In 1970 he became chaplain at the Hospital of the Public Servant of San Paolo and continued to attend the same course at the same university, subsequently being awarded a diploma in hospital administration.

In April 1971 he returned to Italy and for some months was a chaplain at the hospital of Pavia. On 26.07.1971 he went to Cremona, to the St. Camillus Nursing Home. He became its financial administrator and in 1972 began the rebuilding of the home to adapt it to new legal requirements.

On 12.11.1977 he returned to Brazil. He went to Macapà where he administered the St. Camillus and St. Louis Hospital. With Dr. Candia he signed the transfer of ownership of the hospital to the '*Società Beneficiente S. Camillo*' of San Paolo. In January 1979 he once again took over the chaplaincy of the Hospital of the Public Servant of San Paolo. On 11.11. 1979 he left as a second pioneer of SINOP, a new vocational front, and dedicated himself to the building of a seminary and helped in the apostolate. With regret he left SINOP on 25.06.1982 to go to Rio de Janeiro (Curicica). On 10.07.1983 he returned to Italy and on 1.11.1983 he arrived in Capriate as the financial administrator. On 15.10.1986 he was moved to the house of Mottinello where again he was the financial administrator. In June 1987, in response to the repeated invitations of the religious of Brazil, who had also lost their Provincial Superior in a road accident, he went back to that country and was the chaplain at the *Santa Casa di Santos*; in July 1991 he once again took responsibility for the chaplaincy of the Hospital of the Public Servant in San Paolo.

On 2.09.1995 he returned for the last time to Italy: 'full of nostalgia he left the Province to which he had dedicated the best years of his activity and religious with whom he had always been in harmony and friendship'. On 21.10.1995 he became the financial administrator of the generalate house in Rome. On 14.08.2001 he went back to the Province of Lombardy and Veneto and retired to the house of Predappio. A series of maladies forced him to move to the house in Capriate on 13.03.2013. On 24.02.2015 he broke his femur in a fall and after an operation he was admitted to the O. Cerruti RSA. During the last months of his life the health of Fr. Ettore was on a knife edge. Indeed, on 13 December of this year he was given the sacrament of anointing of the sick. Now and then, during ever rarer moments of lucidity, he even smiled. He died at 12.15 on 21.12.17, the winter solstice, to meet his *Morning Star*, Christ the Lord.

A simple person, with a look that was at the same time tender and melancholic, Fr. Ettore gave the best of his ministry in administrative activities which were very much appreciated by his confreres of Brazil, whom he sincerely loved and who loved him. Although in economic management a certain precision and severity could emerge 'because needed', in his close relationships with his confreres and even more with his brethren he demonstrated all of his tenderness as an 'older brother'. From heaven he is now interceding for all of them.