



Fr. Amos Aldeghi (1933-2021)

He was born on March 31, 1933, at San Giorgio in Rovagnate to Giuseppe, his father, and Albina Fumagalli, his mother. He entered the Camillian Seminary of Villa Visconta at Besana Brianza on October 9, 1944, when the last tragic year of World War II was underway. He entered the Novitiate on July 14, 1949 in the House of San Giuliano at Verona, where he made his temporary profession on July 15, 1950 and solemn profession on April 18, 1954. In the meantime, having completed his high school at "Stimate" at Verona, he began a course in Theology at the Seminary of Mottinello in Rossano Veneto. He was ordained a Deacon on December 21, 1957 by Monsignor Girolamo Bortignon, who also ordained him a Priest at the Cathedral of Cittadella on June 22, 1958.

The priestly ministry of Father Amos began on July 31, 1958, in the seminary of Besana as an assistant and a teacher of the seminarians, at the same time, attending a course at "Santa Maria delle Grazie", Pastoral Care Institute for the Religious, in Milan. It was at this time that Pope John XXIII, who was to bring fresh air into the Church, ascended to the papal throne.

After a brief stay in the Apostolic School for Brothers at Castellanza, he was transferred to the San Camillo Nursing Home in Milan on November 16, 1962, with the task of "minister of the house", but on June 20, 1963 he resumed his service in Formation, as assistant and teacher of the middle school in the Seminary of Marchirolo. In the summer of 1966 he was also appointed as the bursar of the house.

The world of children seemed particularly close to the talents, sensitivity and creativity of Father Amos, a man with a simple and good heart. He was identified as the most suitable animator of the children camped at the marine colony at Milano Marittima in Cervia, where he reached on November 8, 1969.

On September 20, 1977, he was transferred to St. Camillus parish at Padova for the youth ministry, and to teach at the Falconetto Middle School. But, his service at Padua was short-lived, because of his difficulty in fitting in with the dynamics and needs of the place, and also because he felt a strong nostalgia for his Adriatic coast. He returned there on June 29, 1978 to take over its management, at a time when the practice of sending children to holiday camps was fading. In October 1983, Fr. Amos also received the appointment of community bursar, which was confirmed for the following three years. On September 15, 1990, he also began his chaplaincy service at Cervia Hospital. He dutifully carried out his ministry until his transfer on October 21, 1998 to Besana Brianza, where he was appointed "master of the house", i.e., the in-charge of the daily affairs of the religious community and of a structure that had been transformed from a seminary into a home for the aged. In September 2010, he was appointed first councilor of the Community.

He was particularly entrusted with the religious assistance to the care home "Oasi Domenicana" in the town of Brianza. There, Father Amos rendered his Camillian service for over twenty years, until, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic in the spring of 2020, it became necessary for him to be admitted to the Nursing Home of Cremona. He was discharged in mid-May to convalesce in the Community of Capriate San Gervasio, which became his last home, and in which he was formally included on January 15, 2021. After another hospitalization at Cremona for investigations, during which he was given a pacemaker, he returned to Capriate where he died unexpectedly in the evening of March 20, 2021.

Fr. Amos, a volcano of imagination, was a great organizer of recreational moments, in which he did not hesitate to play the histrionic. He combined extravagance with seriousness and authority in the teaching of history and mathematics, as well as in the liturgy and manual skills. He had a devotional and sincere religiosity, a fidelity to Radio Maria to which he did not spare criticism for a certain moral rigorism, a fidelity to the practices of piety, a love for his Camillian habit that he wore as a second nature. He never missed wearing red cross on his chest. The wear and tear of the years on his body diminished his hearing and deprived him of some of the likings of the table, but never his love for the Institute, his interest in his confreres, his long and frequent prayer in the chapel.