



## Father Esterino Zandoná

1943 - 2022

He was born July 3, 1943, in Castelvero di Vestenanova (VR), to father Guglielmo and mother Luigia Mantovani.

On Sept. 25, 1954, he entered the Villa Visconta Seminary in Besana Brianza (MB), where he attended Middle School, moving to Marchirolo in 1957 for the start of High School.

On September 25, 1960 he entered the Novitiate at St. Julian's in Verona, and completed it on September 26, 1961 with Religious Profession at Mottinello di Rossano Veneto (VI), then resumed his studies with the Liceo Classico. On December 8, 1964, he made Solemn Profession in Verona San Giuliano. In October 1965 he began the study of Theology by attending the Zenonian Study in Verona. On November 9, 1968, he was ordained Deacon in the Borgo Trento

Hospital in Verona by Msgr. Maffeo Ducoli, auxiliary Bishop of Verona. In the same church on June 22, 1969, he is ordained Presbyter by Msgr. Giuseppe Carraro, Bishop of Verona.

In that first summer he makes substitution in the chaplaincy of the Umberto I° Hospital in Mestre (VE). On December 11, 1969, he is placed as chaplain at the Borgo Roma Polyclinic Hospital in Verona. On July 6, 1977, he is appointed chaplain at the Ospedale Maggiore in Lodi and superior of the community, which includes the residence in Codogno (CR); he is confirmed there for the following three years.

In August 1983 he was transferred as chaplain to the S. Matteo Polyclinic in Pavia, and in that community on June 16, 1992 he was also appointed superior. In April 1996 he enrolled as a commuter student at the Institute of Pastoral Health Theology (Camillianum) in Rome.

On July 7, 1998, he is transferred to S. Paolo Hospital in Milan, being part of the Vialba Hospital Community. On September 17, 2004, he is appointed 1st counselor of the community.

On July 12, 2007, he was appointed superior in the St. Pius X Nursing Home in Milan and also exercised the ministry of chaplaincy there. He will also be confirmed as superior for the next two trienniums: of 2010, also with the appointment as bursar of the religious house, and 2013.

On Feb. 1, 2016, with the handover of St. Camillus Nursing Home to Humanitas, along with the entire community is transferred to St. Camillus Nursing Home, while continuing to do ministry in the same St. Pius X, in agreement with the new management.

At the beginning of the year 2022 the first signs of the serious illness appeared, and he faced the troubled period of treatment as a struggler, with his usual serenity and confidence. Finally admitted to the St. Camillus Nursing Home in Cremona, he died on August 23, 2022, at about noon, assisted by his confreres and some family members.

P. Esterino was a convinced and enthusiastic religious of the Camillian ministry, which he exercised in the spiritual care of the sick. He did this for his entire life, and was an all-round chaplain, also having his sights set on the training of health care workers, with classes in professional ethics and bioethics, and with the promotion of ACOS associationism. His strength was his determination to pursue his goals, his stubbornness and perseverance. Where predisposition did not come, he made up for it with stubbornness, as when in school he did not miss a single lecture note. Similarly, he resigned himself to the playing of the organ and made pretentious sporting performances in sports, which he lived with the same seriousness and competitive spirit-which applies to soccer, bicycling, especially hiking in the mountains-but also with latent masochism in picking his opponents in tennis. He aroused sympathy for his optimism mixed with a certain naiveté. Attentive to friendliness, he always presented himself with the serenity and smile of his clear eyes.