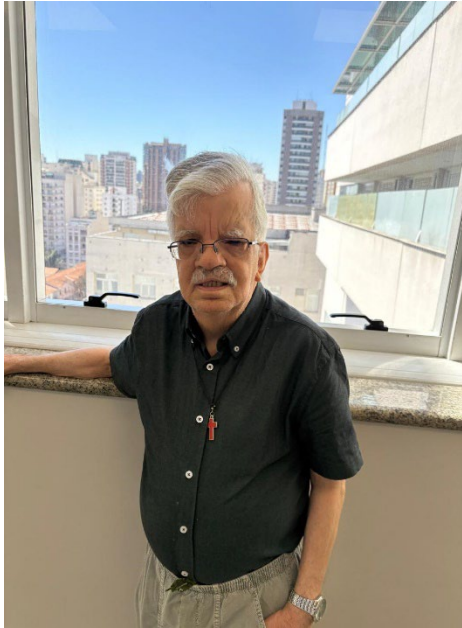


Obituary – Fr José Patrício de Souza, M.I.



Fr José Patrício de Souza, son of Joy Patrício de Souza and Maria Aparecida de Souza, was born on 5 February 1946 in Muzambinho, Minas Gerais. He was baptised and confirmed in his hometown, and entered the Seminary in Monte Santo de Minas, Minas Gerais, on 29 January 1984. On 1 January 1985, he entered the novitiate at Granja Viana, São Paulo; he made his first religious profession on 1 January 1986 and his perpetual profession on 8 January 1989 in Três Pontas, Minas Gerais. He undertook his academic studies in São Paulo: he studied philosophy at the FAI and theology at the Pius XI Institute. On 24 November 1991, he was ordained a deacon in São Paulo and on 17 July 1992 he was ordained a priest in Três Pontas.

Shortly after his ordination to the priesthood, Fr Patrício served as parish vicar at the Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary of Pompeii in São Paulo (1992 to 1993) and also at the Parish of St Camillus in Brasília, Federal District (1993 to 1994). Returning to São Paulo, he served as chaplain at Dom Silvério Hospital, now known as São Camilo Santana Hospital (1993 to 1994); in Monte Santo de Minas – MG, he served as parish priest at the Parish of São Francisco de Paula (1994 to 1998) and in Macapá – AM, he served as chaplain at São Luiz Hospital (1998 to 1999).

From 2000 to 2007, Fr Patrício took a break from religious life, working in the Diocese of Campanha, in Minas Gerais. On his return to the Province, Fr Patrício served as chaplain at São José Hospital in Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro (2007 to 2010) and, whilst still in that city, he was parish vicar at the São Camilo Shrine (2007–2017) and chaplain to the Oblate Sisters of the Most Holy Redeemer (2013–2017). On 10 November 2017, Fr Patrício was transferred from the São Camilo Community in Rio de Janeiro to the São Pio X Community in order to receive more intensive medical care.

On 5 July 2024, he was transferred to the religious wing at São Camilo Pompeia Hospital. After a long period of care, during which his health had gradually deteriorated, Fr José Patrício de Souza passed away on 11 October 2026 at São Camilo Pompeia Hospital in São Paulo. His wake took place on 12 October at the Parish of Our Lady of the Rosary in Pompeia, São Paulo, followed by a funeral Mass in the presence of his fellow priests and the faithful. Following the Mass, his body was transferred to Três Pontas, in accordance with the wish he had expressed during his lifetime, and he was buried at the Três Pontas Municipal Cemetery at 5.30 pm on the same day.

Throughout his ministerial life, Fr Patrício devoted himself above all to hospital chaplaincy and parish work. We give thanks to God for our brother's fruitful ministry. It is significant that his burial takes place on the feast day of Brazil's patron saint, Our Lady of Aparecida, to whom we entrust our brother's soul.

We give thanks to God for the life and witness of Fr Patrício and ask for the grace that his example of self-giving may inspire us to see in every brother the face of Christ himself. May Fr José Patrício, having served Christ above all in the sick, hear from the Lord that most beautiful call: 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world' (Mt 25:34).