

Father Francesco Orsini

Camillian priest

Of the Roman Province

Born August 26, 1934, in Rome

Returned to the Father's House on September 26, 2022 in Rome (Italian Hospital Group clinic - Villa Sacra Famiglia)

This is **eternal life**:

That they may know you, the one true God And the one you sent Christ Jesus (Jn. 17:3) the rest is all marginal

Fr. Francesco Orsini was born in Rome on August 26, 1934, entered the Order in 1945 and began his novitiate in 1950. His *simple profession* will be Oct. 7, 1951, and *solemn profession* in 1955. Minor Orders in '55, the Diaconate on Dec. 1, 1957, and became a *Camillian priest* on July 6, 1958, at age 24.

The first pastoral mission entrusted to him by his superiors will be at the Villa Immacolata Nursing Home in San Martino Al Cimino (VT) from September 1958, however, already in November of the same year he will move to the San Camillo Hospital in Rome. 3 years later, in May 1961 he will be chaplain at the Sanatorium "Forlanini" and 3 months later (August 1961) he will go to community in Sassari, at the San Camillo Village. He will return to St. Camillus Hospital in November 1962, where he will be appointed house bursar. In August '64 he was transferred by his superiors back to Sassari as bursar, and in 1970 he returned to Rome (St. Camillus Hospital). From '80 to '86 he will be bursar of this hospital community and in 1986 he will be transferred to St. John's Hospital in Rome. On Nov. 8, 1992 he will go as bursar back to St. Camillus Hospital and in June 1998 he will move to St. James Hospital, to be appointed bursar 4 months later. In 1999 he will go to Spallanzani Hospital, and from 2004 his last destination will be St. Camillus Hospital, until his departure on the morning of Sept. 26, 2022 just 25 days after the departure to heaven of his beloved brother, Fr. Alberto. The last two months, Fr. Francis spent them in the Villa Sacra Famiglia clinic (Italian Hospital Group). Although he was accompanied in this last period by a number of confreres with their frequent visits, chaplain Fr. Charles Kinda, his nieces and nephews, and the St. Camillus staff, Fr. Francis, Checco to his friends, was deeply affected by his brother's death.

Fr. Checco's two main gifts were: first, the skill in *mathematics* that he was able to put to good use as bursar of various communities, especially in that of Sassari during a period that was particularly stormy; second, was the *artistic spirit* that he expressed in acting, with cheerful and even comic characters, and with music, as a student as a singer (white voice), then baritone, and finally playing the clarinet and saxophone. His blood family, residing in Rome, very close-knit, welcoming and sympathetic to all the Camillian religious who visited, transmitted this character trait to him.

His limitation was that he was not gifted in the *humanities*, allergic to reading and facing dialectical challenges. Of Fr. Checco we are left with his wise reserve, a man of few words, however, when he spoke, his word that came out of the silence, resonated with his listeners. This did not mean that Fr. Francis was *introverted or shy*, as he knew how to express himself in public. Remaining of

him are the light music concerts on CD, where he played saxophone professionally in duet with Fr. Colafranceschi on piano.

Faithful to the tasks entrusted to him by his superiors, he naturally moved from one community to another, many times in community with his brother Fr. Alberto, with whom he shared work and vacations and between whom there was a perfect understanding, of blood and charisma. Fr. Francis lived his life especially in the Roman hospitals as a chaplain, capable in the animation of the staff, visiting the sick daily and giving them his "mother's" affection, which did not need many words to be understood.

P. Checco precedes us in sharing the divine Life that Christ promises to those blessed by His Father who spend their lives serving those most in need.

The funeral will be held at Villa Sacra Famiglia Church on Thursday, September 29, at 10:30 a.m. His remains will rest at the Verano Cemetery in Rome.