

Father Bruno Scapin

1929 - 2025

He was born on 25 September 1929 in Cittadella (PD) to father Angelo and mother Santa Milani. He entered the seminary on 1 September 1941 at Besana Brianza (MB). On 7 July 1943 he passed to the seminary at Mottinello di Rossano Veneto (VI) for the Gymnasium. He entered the novitiate on 14 July 1946 in Verona, in the house of San Giuliano, where he made Temporary Profession on 8 September 1947. He made his Solemn Profession on 1 October 1950 at Mottinello, where he was attending Theology. He was ordained Deacon on 8 December 1953 in Padua, by the local Bishop Monsignor Girolamo Bortignon, who also ordained him Presbyter on 17 June 1954 in the formation house in Mottinello. In that first summer as a novice priest he took over the hospital chaplaincies in Arezzo from 16 July and Forlì from 27 August.



On 28 September 1954 he was first assigned to Cremona, to the S. Camillo nursing home. On 13 February 1955 he moved to Bologna, following the Maternity ward. On 15 May 1956 he moved to the Civil Hospital of Padua. On 26 March 1957 he is transferred to the Alberoni Health Centre in Venice, to work in the bursar's office. On 28 June 1963 he moved to Cremona, chaplain at the Civil Hospital; in July 1965 he was appointed superior of that hospital community. On 25 June 1971 he was appointed superior in the house in Bologna, confirmed for the following three years. In the summer of 1977 he was appointed Provincial Councillor and Superior in the Alberoni House in Venice. On 16 June 1980 he was appointed superior in the Rovigo Chaplaincy, and in September also bursar. The transfer was also due to the need to attend the University of Medicine in Bologna, where he obtained a degree in medicine-surgery on 21 June 1983. The following 10 October he moved to Bologna for his internship. On 17 October 1986, he was transferred to the S. Pio X nursing home in Milan, where he had the opportunity to put his medical profession to good use and where he remained until and beyond his retirement. He is particularly interested in blood samples. Among his interests, acupuncture, which he practised somewhat quietly, also took shape at some point. On 17 October 2007 he was appointed councillor of the St. Pius X Community, and on 28 September 2010 he was appointed 1st councillor. The alienation of the St. Pius X nursing home in early 2016 saw him transmigrate with the Community to the city's other Camillian nursing home, St. Camillus.

When one is old, with over ninety years on one's shoulders, leaving the place and the people who have become one's life is very difficult, even for a consecrated person. A hoped-for transfer to the RSA in Capriate S. Gervasio came to nothing in the spring of 2022, but on 25 January 2024 a transfer to the RSA in Besana Brianza (MB) was successful, by which time Father Bruno was in a rather compromised state of health. But he still has a chance to make himself appreciated in the environment. Those close to him still continue to visit him and attend to his needs. He died, as 95-year-old Dean of the Religious Province, at 16:30 on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

An intelligent person, not of many words, sly, with his large build and grave voice, Father Bruno had a mixture of bonhomie and irony, wisdom and practical spirit stamped on his face. In the Eighties he was part of that small group of Camillians who were not satisfied with already having a specific ministerial profile, such as the priesthood and the nursing profession, and started to study medicine, perhaps, who knows, with some young university student who - as happened to Camillo de Lellis - presented you with a mocking "Tarde venisti". Was it the need to find a greater integration between care of the spirit and care of the body? It was also the Founder's nagging.