



Society of Mary - Compañía de María - Société de Marie
Via Latina 22, 00179 Roma



February 4, 2022

Biography of Death Notice N. 04

The Region of Eastern Africa recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **Carmine Thomas ANNUNZIATA**, of the Marianist community at Lavington, Nairobi, Kenya, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on January 15, 2022, in Nairobi, Kenya at the age of 90 with 72 years of religious profession.

Brother Carmine Frank Annunziata was born on June 2, 1931, in New York in the United States of America. He was raised with his two brothers, Francis Annunziata and Eugene Annunziata, at St John's Home in Rockaway, New York, by the Marianists. It was in this place that he developed the interest to join the Society of Mary.

From St. John's Home, he went to the Novitiate in Dayton, Ohio, and upon completing the novitiate program, he made his first vows on September 8th, 1950. He then was enrolled as a student at the University of Dayton, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Religious Studies and Career Guidance. After his studies, he moved to Cathedral Latin High School in Cleveland, Ohio, where he taught history and religion. Later, Brother Carmine went to St James High School in Chester, Pennsylvania, where he taught religion. Among his students there was Brother Stephen Glodek.

In 1965, the Marianists were invited to Zambia to teach Catholic schools. On July 27th, Brother Carmine arrived in Lusaka at the Matero area, where he began with the supervision of the construction of the School. He was later (in January 1967) joined by Brothers Jim Fitzgibbons, Brian Lane, Frank Mullan, Raymond Goring, and Fr. James Imhof. The School was officially opened on March 27th, 1968, by the President of Zambia, Mr. Kenneth Kaunda. Years later, Fr. Tony Jansen arrived and began teaching religious education. His younger Brother Frank Annunziata came onto the scene to teach physics. In that same year Bro. Skip Matthews joined the community but was involved with hospital work.

After many years of service at Matero Boys in Zambia, Brother Carmine moved to Nairobi at the Scholasticate community in 2014. He ministered at Our Lady of Nazareth Primary School, where he introduced a reading program. Brother Carmine helped young brothers in the scholastic community by reading and correcting their essays. In 2016, Brother Carmine began working at Kangemi Resource Centre, where he began an Art gallery.

Brother Carmine was a man of his words; he often said, *"if you want a great cup of coffee, put it yourself."* He empowered and motivated many students to take responsibility for their education and uniquely touched many lives; he was caring, kind, funny, witty, and humble, a genuinely inspirational Leader.

Brother Carmine always wanted his students to excel and reach their full potential. When the students locked eyes with him, he empathized and understood their need and, of course, one of his favorite sayings was *'When it rains in Maboys, it rains all over Zambia!'* He was a leader, a doer, a person of enormous energy and integrity, a philosopher, a builder, etc., but his warmth, humanity, generosity, humor, and personality put people at ease immediately.

"Bro. Carmine was an icon of Marianist dedication and energy. We were together for my first years of community life, and I benefited from his joyful spirit. He even brought his joy and energetic spirit to the ping pong table, where he was a formidable foe. I treasure our last conversation just days before Carmine died." says Brother John Lemker.

In 2019 Brother Carmine was diagnosed with a brain tumor and has received

treatment since then. He died peacefully in his room on January 15th, 2022, at Brother Vincent House. May the angels accompany him to his final resting place.