



**Father Giuseppe CORTINOVIS**  
**(1949 - 2013)**

*Died 27 March 2013, in Costa Serina, Bergamo (Italy)  
aged 63, with 40 years of Religious Profession.*

Giuseppe was born in Costa Serina (Bg) on 14 May 1949. He entered the Apostolic School of Redona in August 1960 and in the Villa S. Maria he did his elementary, middle and secondary schooling. In September 1968 he began his year of novitiate in Barzizza (Bg), which concluded with the making of Promises. He then transferred from there to Rome, where he spent his three-year degree course. Before beginning the study of philosophy and theology in the Scholasticate, he made his first vows on 15 October 1972 in Santeramo in Colle (Ba). Ordained priest on 3 December 1977, the Feast of St Francis Xavier, Father Giuseppe would have liked to begin his missionary life in India. But, having completed a specialisation in Moral Theology at the Alfonsianum in Rome, his superiors asked him to take the road to Africa.

He left for Malawi in 1981 and remained there for 31 years. He immediately settled into parish life in Mpiri, where, as well as quickly learning the local language, Chichewa, he underwent his missionary apprenticeship. From Mpiri, in 1986 he transferred to Kankao, to carry out his ministry as a parish-priest, spending his talents both in the work of evangelisation and in activities in the service of human development. In 1999 he left Kankao for the parish of Balaka; there, in addition to his priestly ministry, he co-ordinated assistance for orphaned children of parents who had died of AIDS, through adoption. In 2006, he was appointed to the care of the parish of Masuku on the border with Mozambique, but, following the unexpected death of Father Gianni Maggioni, in the first months of 2007 Father Giuseppe received an appointment to the parish of Kankao, where he remained until 2012. In addition to his purely apostolic commitments, Father Giuseppe rendered service to the Montfortian community in Malawi as a counsellor from 1988 to 1991. In addition he served two three-year terms as bursar of the Delegation, from 1998 to 2001 and from 2010 to 2012.

Father Giuseppe carried out his responsibilities with punctuality and discretion, always ready to begin again when the need arose. He did not show the zeal of the Lord like "a mighty wind", nor like "an earthquake", nor even like "a devouring fire"; but he came across like "the murmur of a gentle breeze" which was accompanied by a tenderness for the people, bringing many to rediscover, through his words and his mere presence, a meaning to life.

In October 2012, Father Giuseppe returned to Italy, in need of rest, but also with the intention of discerning how he might continue to invest his human and spiritual resources in the service of the mission. Joining the community of Redona-Villa S. Maria, he occupied himself in the Mission Procure and dedicated himself to the ministry that he willingly took part in, in his own native country, where you can enjoy the company of the old Mother Margherita. It was there that, on the evening of 27 March 2013, he died unexpectedly at the

age of 63, due to a heart attack that occurred while he was hearing confessions in his parish church. In this same church, on 30 March, Holy Saturday, when the expectation of the Lord's Passover becomes more intense, his funeral rites were celebrated. Now Father Giuseppe rests in the cemetery of Costa Serina (Bg).