



***Happy are those who have died in the Lord;  
let them rest from their labors for their good deeds go with them.  
(Rev. 14:13)***

July 19, 2006

Dear Brothers in Christ:

Fr. Nicholas Maestrini, former superior of the PIME Missionaries United States Region, entered into eternal rest on Saturday, July 15. The 98-year-old priest had been living at the PIME retirement house in Lecco, Italy.

Fr. Maestrini was born in Cagli, province of Pesaro, Italy. He was ordained in September 1930 by Blessed Cardinal Alfredo Schuster and was sent to the mission of Hong Kong. Fr. Maestrini worked there for 20 years, serving as pastor and founder of the Catholic Center. He also initiated the archdiocesan paper, the *Sunday Examiner*.

In 1950, he began his work in Detroit. Cardinal Edward Mooney had invited the PIME Missionaries to Detroit three years earlier. Fr. Maestrini opened the PIME Mission Promotion Center. Their local work included the publication of *Catholic Life* magazine, which he wanted to model after the well-known national magazine, *LIFE*. It is now known as *PIME World*. Fr. Maestrini also helped establish PIME's Knights of Charity program, which honored Detroit-area citizens whose work exemplified the organization's efforts to improve the world, both locally and globally.

Fr. Maestrini also founded numerous vocation activities and high school seminaries in Oakland, New Jersey; and Newark, Ohio. Hundreds of young men from the Detroit area were educated at these institutions from the 1950s through 1990. He also opened Maryglade College Seminary in Memphis, Michigan (the present Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center), and a residence for students of theology in New Jersey. Fr. Maestrini authored numerous books, including "Forever Love" and "China: Lost Mission."

In 1973, he left his position in Detroit and took up residency in Florida, where he opened a home for retired missionaries and continued to promote the missions.

In January 2005, due to failing health, he moved from Florida to the PIME retirement center in Lecco, Italy. His funeral was held in the chapel of the retirement home and he was buried in the PIME Cemetery in Villa Grugana, Italy. Fr. Maestrini left numerous nieces and nephews in Italy.

Condolences may be sent to the PIME Missionaries Headquarters, c/o Fr. Kenneth Mazur, regional superior, 17330 Quincy, Detroit, MI 48221. A memorial Mass will be held at the headquarters on Tuesday, August 15, at 11:30 a.m.

In the Lord,

Very Reverend Kenneth Mazur, PIME  
Regional Superior  
17330 Quincy  
Detroit, MI 48221