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**Death Notice No. 12 (To all Unit Administrations):**



The Region of Argentina, recommends to our fraternal prayers our dear brother, **LUIS ÁNGEL MADINABEITIA ELORZA**, priest of the Marianist Community of Virgen Misionera, General Roca, who died in the service of the Blessed Virgin Mary on July 11, 2009 in General Roca, Argentina in the 83<sup>rd</sup> year of his age and the 66<sup>th</sup> year of his religious profession.

On Saturday, July 11 of Year of the Priest 2009, the feast of St. Benedict, at 2:45 a.m., in the city of General Roca (Rio Negro, Argentina), the Lord of life and of death, of time and of eternity, called to himself his faithful servant Luis Ángel that he might share forever “in the banquet of his Lord,” seating him at the table with the elect.

The fundamental traits of the person and life of Luis were perseverance on the road taken in the following of Christ, where he was drawn irresistibly by him and by Mary’s tenderness; fidelity to the end to his given word and to promises made, great and small. And he lived all that in his own way, in which were balanced seriousness, a deep interior joy, generous kindness and peace. We who enjoyed his friendship and who were able to glimpse the secrets of his soul, found there a balanced, solid and luminous integration of faith and reason, of profound humanness and of transparent fidelity to the Spirit. That night, at 2:45 a.m., Luis undoubtedly accepted joyfully the call of Jesus.

The 82 ½ years of his life allowed Luis to travel a great distance: Mendiola-Tomasena (Guizpúcoa, Spain), where he was born into a family of twelve children (7 of them priests/religious; 4 of those Marianists); Escoriaza, where he did his postulate; Elorrio (Viscaya), novitiate; Segovia and Carabanchel, scholasticate; Vitoria and Madrid (Castelló), his first years of apostolic life as a Marianist educator; Fribourg (Switzerland), philosophy, theology and priestly ordination; Santiago de Chile (1956-1959) and Japan (1960-1968), where he was sent by an obedience graciously accepted; and from 1969 until today, a gift of self without pause or weariness to the Kingdom of God in Argentina. Junín, Catriel (RN), 9 de Julio and General Roca (RN), continue to bear the mark of the cordial, humble and hard-working (from the spiritual to the physical) presence of this good laborer of the Kingdom.

Truth passionately sought after, freedom maintained with a strong, quiet gentleness, and love manifested concretely in prayer and action were the great values which enriched the life of Luis and made him so admirable and enviable (deserving of a much more complete biography). Let us bless the Lord for the incalculable gift of his humble and holy life. May he rest in peace.