

**Prayer to the Mercy of God
accompanied by fr. Dionisio Filippi**

Blessed are you Lord, for Your infinite love
for the little ones and the last ones of the earth.

I address my prayer to you
and I entrust my torment and my pain for
children, who are deprived from the right to be born
because of abortion;
for the defenseless and innocent victims
of brutal human violence;
for women and men who suffer infertility;
for parents, committed everyday life
in the difficult educational task;
for those who live in their families the tragedy of the disease,
of mourning, of separation and addiction;
and for those who love life, so that nothing arrive to bend
their Christian faith or extinguish in them the grace of God.

Lord,
I thank you for all the love with which you fill my life.
Help me
to always trust in your merciful love,
You who are true Peace and true Well.

Amen

Thiene (Vicenza) January 11, 2009

With ecclesiastical approval (in Italian)
+ Flavio Roberto Carraro, Bishop



Friar Dionisio Filippi

Minor Friar

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Friar Dionisio Filippi was born in Valli del Pasubio (Vicenza) - ITALY on the 12 of May 1882. He made his entrance to the convent of the Minor Friars of Chiampo (Vicenza) at the age of 16 as a lay friar and in 1907, in S. Francesco del Deserto (Venice), he made his solemn religious profession. The obedience to the Franciscan Rule convinced fr. Dionisio to make a choice that brought him close to the poorest among the poor for many years, becoming as one of them, living in a solidarity that was an evangelical witness of spiritual brotherhood. His daily mission was distinguished by a spirit of sincere humility, that was incarnated not only in the renouncement to external goods, but also to himself, following the example of Saint Francis of Assisi. He arrived to Treviso in 1923 as the first lay friar and he started the construction of the convent and of the church dedicated to Our Lady of Mary Help of Christians. On the 7th of April 1944 bombs destroyed totally the convent and the church. Fr. Dionisio was then sent by the Provincial Minister to open again the old convent of Cittadella (Padua). It was thus possible to give hospitality to many friars and students whose convents were damaged by the war. He also gave hospitality to the orphans who had to abandon the orphanage of Pula along with their teachers. Fr. Dionisio was a cook, a sacristan and, most of all, a mendicant. In every place where he lived, in

the countryside or the villages where he passed by, he was admired for his exemplary life. Continuous prayer, Eucharistic adoration, devotion for the souls of Purgatory, were all offered to God for those he encountered every day and asked his intercession. Mothers entrusted him their children, pregnant women asked him to pray for the unborn child and for a safe delivery. He was a faithful friend to all, close to everybody: poor and rich, believers and none. The spiritual gifts and renunciations he made, the ideals he embraced, the generous deeds he performed, made him unforgettable for the charity and goodness that permeated them. He died in Cittadella on April 16, 1970 with an undisputed reputation of "sanctity" because he had really known how to love people and with his life he had witnessed the mercy of God. All those who had the privilege of meeting him knew that fr. Dionisio, also from heaven, would accompany them, with his prayer, along the paths of their life. The remains of fr. Dionisio rest in the small cemetery of San Pancrazio, near the Minor Friars' convent in Barbarano Vicentino (Vicenza).

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For communications, requests and prayer's card, please contact:

AMICI DI FRA DIONISIO

Telephone: 0445/330414 Mobile: 349/8265045

e-mail: info@fradionisio.org – www.fradionisio.org

To inform us about graces received by his intercession:

vicepostcs14@hotmail.com