

... in Jesus and Mary.

J.M.J.A.

Manila

April 24, 2010

Dear Luigi,

Only yesterday I received your greetings for my feast day and Holy Easter, because I do not always have the possibility to open my e-mail. Anyway, my heartfelt thanks for your greetings and, I'm sure, also your prayers.

For over a year now that I'm staying in bed, from where I'm writing you, because my feet can no longer support me. I move around with the wheelchair. Even my ears and my eyes are bearing the effects of my age! May the will of God, who loves us so much, be always done.

I'm glad to know about the growing children. They are the most beautiful fruit of the great love of God and are the future of humanity. Let us pray for this. I'm sorry about the health of Donatella. May the Lord sustain her always. With the advancing of age, also the physical problems increase. But the Lord, I repeat, loves us so much. I wish also to see or hear you, and I hope that this could be as soon as possible, if the Lord wants.

My best wishes and greetings to all.

I embrace you all and bless you in Jesus and Mary.

### PRAYER TO OBTAIN GRACES THROUGH FR. AVENI

God our Father, we give you thanks for the gifts you granted to your priest, Joseph Aveni, configuring him to Jesus, the Master who is gentle and humble of heart. With trusting humility he found in your merciful love the joy of his life, the zeal for the salvation of souls, and the light for his service of spiritual guidance. He loved You in his neighbor and his neighbor in You, and dedicated his life to obtain holy workers particularly to the Asian continent.

Glorify, O Father, this zealous priest, for the praise of your Name so that he may be for the Church an effective sign of your Kingdom.

Through his intercession, grant light to the young people, health to the sick who turn to him, and to us, grant the grace we long for .... (*mention your personal intention here*), so that we may also find our joy in fulfilling your Will. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(With ecclesiastical approval)

Copies of Fr. Aveni's prayer cards are available upon request.

LET US PRAY  
FOR...



Jonabel Provide  
Amelia Sese  
Sage Anthony C. Cutillas  
Niño Sue C. Cutillas  
Ivan Penas  
Rezza Mae Moleño Palmes  
Leonida V. Carino  
Aris Malabanan  
Shirley P. Sison  
Rudolfo Diamante  
Angelita Hautea Lucero  
Pilar Solosa Barandino  
Justin Richmond Indonila  
Alvin De Guzman  
Fr. Cesare Bettoni  
Jerick Marc Ollesca  
Luigi Aveni Limina  
Gisella



\* for prayer requests  
\* for copies of Fr.  
Aveni's prayer cards...

### CONTACT

Alicia B. De Guzman  
abg@foterealty.com  
+639178435833  
Silver Salazar, UPV  
slvry299@yahoo.com  
+639209043267  
+639158510489



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Friends of  
Father Joseph Aveni

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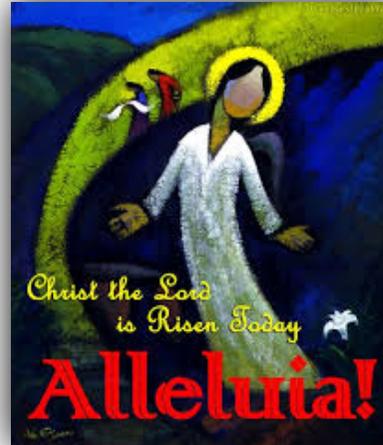
Supplementary Flyer for those who do not have access to  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/fr.aveni/>



## Greetings of a Peaceful and Holy Easter!

A few more days and we will be immersed in the Lord's Paschal Mystery, the mystery of death and resurrection, the struggle between hatred and love, the encounter between human poverty and the merciful love of God.

The Lord's Supper is the synthesis of this mystery. Jesus offers himself in the Eucharistic species of bread and wine, in anticipation of his sacrifice on the cross, and in a gesture of love



“to the end” he delivered himself up to us in a memorial of redemption and salvation. His gaze rests on his intimate companions, confused and bewildered, on the disciple who is about to betray him, and has for all of them words of hope, comfort and love.

A few more hours and Jesus will find himself at the mercy of hatred and envy of his enemies. Yet he will continue to call them friends, to look at them with tenderness, to beg for them the Father's forgiveness “for they know not what they do”.

At the beginning of Lent, Pope Francis urged us to welcome the “other” as a gift, to let ourselves be guided by the Word of God and to convert ourselves from our innate selfishness. He reminded us that this is the “favorable time to open the door to all in need and recognize in him or her the face of Christ. Each of us encounters them along the journey. Every life that we meet is a gift and deserves acceptance, respect, love”. Let us renew ourselves, as we approach the Holy Supper of the Lord, and find in the Spirit the strength to transform us day by day in Jesus whom we receive and from whose example we learn how to wash each other's feet. (*From the Easter Message of Rev. Fr. Bruno Rampazzo, Superior General*)

# A Biographical Sketch...

## Health and Sickness



Fr. Aveni was mortified in eating, taking with frugality nothing more than what is necessary to live; he was never seen drinking or eating outside of meal time; desserts were normally excluded from his modest diet. He had always been suffering from some stomach upset, yet he never complained.

In March – April of 1998 he was forced to remain in the hospital due to the worsening condition of his illness. The doctors had already dismissed any hope for his recovery. It was only a matter of

*Fr. Aveni offered his sickness for the intentions of the Holy Church.*

time before death would come. So he was discharged from the hospital back to the Seminary community for a palliative care. Yet all were praying continuously for his recovery. Fr. Aveni was also praying, offering his sickness for the intentions of the Holy Church, the glory of God, the salvation of souls, the conversion of sinners and especially for his beloved Congregation. Fortunately, he recovered. It was not yet his time. He did not know how it happened, but, as he confided to a Confrere, it was something “extraordinary”. Over the last decade, his health, which had always been delicate, progressively deteriorated due to poor blood circulation.



In April 2009 he was diagnosed with a malignant tumor which he overcame with patience and with the help of a new “gene therapy”. He endured the pain with heroic patience and serenity entrusting himself completely in the hands of the will of God, as he had always recommended to his spiritual children. During his illness, he lovingly welcomed patients, doctors and those who wanted to hear from him a word of comfort or simply receive his blessing.



With the attending medical staff at the Epeius Clinic, Alabang

He remained faithful to the rhythms of community life until the end, always wearing a smile, centered on the Lord, and concerned for his confreres and for his “beloved Congregation”,



With some visiting seminarians...

Fr. Joseph was widely acknowledged as a highly spiritual person. He spent his life in an unceasing prayer for vocations. *(To be continued...)*