

January 20, 2010 - Chile – Award for Fr. Martellozzo



(ANS – Puerto Natales) – On January 9 Fr. Fernando Martellozzo Zúlian was honored by Maria Isabel Sanchez, provincial governor of Ultima Esperanza, “for his untiring and important work of evangelization on behalf of the people in Puerto Natales.”

The mark of recognition for the Salesian priest was presented in the context of the “Closer Government” activities organized by the provincial government. Fr. Carlos Ampuero, director of the community in Puerto Natales in the far south of Chile, explains that the prize is a mark of thanks to Fr. Martellozzo for his work in the area, especially in the hospital, the prison, and the Hogar de Cristo house, and for his support for the Comunidad Cristiana de Jesus Nazareno.

Fr. Martellozzo was born in Italy on February 1, 1932, the third of twelve children. One of his sisters is a religious working at present in Turkey.

He arrived in Chile an enthusiastic missionary 45 years ago. He has been a Salesian for 60 years and last December he celebrated 10 years as a priest.

For the last six years Fr. Martellozzo has been working in Puerto Natales, where the province of Ultima Esperanza has come to know his missionary zeal. The hospital and the prison have benefited from his giving of himself as a merciful pastor; the Hogar de Cristo house in Puerto Natales was also the object of his pastoral care. He has also made an important contribution to the development of popular devotion to Saint Sebastian, to Christ of the Camino, and Our Lady of Puerto Natales.

He has organized many projects local and international on behalf of the Comunidad Cristiana de Jesus Nazareno.