

ISTITUTO PIA SOCIETÀ
FIGLIE DI S. PAOLO
CASA GENERALIZIA
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Dearest Sisters,

At 10:45 p.m. yesterday, the Divine Master visited our James Alberione community, Albano, Italy to call one of our sisters to participate in his eternal Easter:

DONNIACUO CARMELA – SR. MARIA DOMIZIA
born in San Eustachio (Avellino), Italy on 20 November 1939.

Sr. Domizia entered the Congregation in the community of Rome on 11 June 1957. After a period of initial formation, she carried out the itinerant apostolate in Novara. She made her novitiate in Rome, concluding it with her first profession on 30 June 1962. As a young professed, she dedicated herself to capillary and collective diffusion in the communities of Naples/Capodimonte and Reggio Calabria. After her perpetual profession, made in Rome in 1967, she continued to carry out the propaganda apostolate, this time in the diocese of Caltanissetta.

In her letter requesting admittance to final vows, Sr. Domizia expressed her desire to be *a fragrant perfume of Christ*—a yearning that became her program of life. And she truly was a fragrant perfume of Christ by means of her simplicity, joy, spirit of availability, the ease with which she interacted with others and her love for the many different aspects of the Pauline mission.

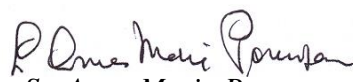
Sr. Domizia had the chance to experience the beauty and efficacy of the book center apostolate in the communities of Benevento and Como. She then spent almost 20 years as an FSP book center agent, traveling to various Italian regions (Marche, Emilia, Puglia) so as to visit the many secular book shops in those areas that stocked our editions and offer their managers our latest releases. An expert driver, she made light of the fatigue involved in visiting the multitude of towns and cities that otherwise would not have had access to our publications. Sr. Domizia was thrilled by the many apostolic possibilities available to the sisters who served as agents for our Pauline editions and she communicated this enthusiasm and missionary spirit to the communities of Ancona, Bologna and Bari, from which she carried out this service. Afterward, she spent several years in our Paolo Uccello community (Milan), where she honed her apostolic skills by taking courses at the city's Commercial Technical Institute.

In 1995, Sr. Domizia underwent surgery for a brain aneurysm. From that point on, her physical condition began to slowly decline even though she continued to be a much-appreciated presence in our Castro Pretorio book center, Rome, up until 2013. While in this community, she also carried out the "itinerant" apostolate of visiting the other FSP communities in and around Rome so as to cut the hair of our sisters. It was a service she performed with great love and a spirit of cheerful availability that put all the sisters at their ease. In fact, in 1969 she had written: "I am convinced that it is love for God and for our neighbor that makes us happy—not where we live or what we do. When this twofold love is present, then everything is beautiful and nothing is a burden."

About six years ago, Sr. Domizia was diagnosed as suffering from a serious form of Alzheimer's disease, which made it necessary to transfer her to our James Alberione community, Albano. From there she continued to radiate goodness and kindness to everyone, even when her deteriorating physical condition confined her to a wheelchair.

In the past few days, it was clear that Sr. Domizia's end was drawing near, even though she remained conscious up to almost the very last. And yesterday night she accepted the Lord's pressing invitation to celebrate Easter with him in heaven. The words of Pope Francis serve as both best wishes and a promise to our sister: "Christ is alive!" he exclaimed, "and everything he touches becomes young, new and filled with life." This is how we like to think of our dear sister, who has crossed the threshold of the kingdom of God to receive the reward promised to every apostle.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 17 April 2019