



ISTITUTO PIA SOCIETÀ  
FIGLIE DI S. PAOLO  
CASA GENERALIZIA  
Via S. Giovanni Eudes, 25  
00163 Roma  
Tel. 06.661 3039 - Fax 06.661 57 208



Dearest Sisters,

A little after 7:00 p.m. today, one of the members of our Divine Providence community, Rome, Italy, serenely ended her earthly journey:

**FRANCO EMILIA – SR. ELISABETTA**  
**born in Fragagnano (Taranto), Italy on 1 July 1925.**

A few weeks ago, Sr. Elisabetta joyfully participated in the community celebration of her 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of religious profession: a long Pauline life spent proclaiming the beauty of God through art.

She entered the Congregation in the Taranto on 7 May 1939 at the age of 14 and began to learn the art of paperback binding and typography work in the community of Rome. Following this, she had the chance to experience the joys of the “propaganda” apostolate in Bologna. Her novitiate, made in Rome, concluded with her first profession on 19 March 1943, at the height of World War II. She spent her Juniorate in the technical apostolate in Rome and after her perpetual profession in 1948 she was assigned to the St. Paul Film Agency of Udine.

From 1951-1965, Sr. Elisabetta was once again assigned to the typography of Rome. Later, after a few years as manager of our Grottaferrata book center, she was chosen, along with several other sisters, to study graphic arts—a result of the farsightedness of the Founder and M. Thecla, who understood the importance of “clothing” the Word of God in a beautiful way. She spent five years of study at the Art Institute of Urbino, from which she received a license in lithographic design in 1977. From that time on, Sr. Elisabetta dedicated herself to the graphic arts, especially the work of design and painting, which allowed her to express, through the Pauline mission, her innate artistic gifts.


We all remember her lovely pictures, which focused primarily on the natural world, especially flowers. These paintings, many of which adorn the walls of our communities, reveal her gentle character and poetic view of the world. She drew her inspiration from the contemplation of nature and then reproduced it with her refined and unmistakable personal touch, using delicate colors. Up until a few months ago, it was possible to run into Sr. Elisabetta in the hallways of the Divine Providence community, Rome, as she quietly went to her office in the graphic arts department, a smile on her face. Once there, she spent her time making greeting cards depicting flowers, leaves and other features of the natural world.

About fifteen days ago, Sr. Elisabetta’s physical condition began to deteriorate as a result of a fall. Her situation was not particularly serious, but the members of her community were worried about her. In the last hours of her life, her heart, already very fragile, began to progressively fail, but that same afternoon she was still able to eat a popsicle with great relish!

Today, her Lord and Master looked upon her fragility and invited her to get up and accompany him to the “other shore.” Leading her to the house of the Father, he opened to her the gates of heaven.

We want to thank this dear sister for having disseminated so liberally among us her goodness, charity, discretion, refined taste and great love of beauty. We entrust to her our International Formation Encounter, which will begin in a few days here in Rome. May many young women, contemplating Sr. Elisabetta’s long experience of the Pauline life, find in her inspiration for a vocational journey marked by fidelity, beauty and love.

Affectionately,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan  
Superior General

Rome, 5 July 2018