

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

At 2:30 a.m., in the silence of the night, our good Father visited the James Alberione community, Albano, Italy to call to himself our sister:

GRIGOLI ROSA – Sr. M. EGIDIA
born in Sant’Anna d’Alfaedo (Verona), Italy on 27 November 1930.

Yearning to attain holiness through poverty and self-donation, Sr. M. Egidia entered the Congregation in the community of Alba on 20 January 1954. After a period of formation in which she learned the art of how to make books, she was transferred to Rovigo to carry out capillary and collective diffusion. She made her novitiate in Rome, concluding it with her first profession on 30 June 1957. In her letter requesting admission to profession, she said that her sole desire was “to belong completely to Jesus forever....to be docile and obedient, in the hands of Maestra Thecla, ready to go wherever I am sent, but with a special preference for Africa.”

Sr. M. Egidia was a simple, quiet, responsible and dependable sister, who was always ready to meet any need. She had a deep love for the vow of poverty. In fact, the sisters who lived with her over the years say that she was completely detached from material goods and happy with essentials. As a young professed, she was assigned first to the St. Paul Film Agency, Rome and then to the Cagliari book center. She later worked in one of the diocesan offices of Rovigo, in the *Ut Unum Sint* Center (Rome), and in the Venice book center.

In 1967, Sr. M. Egidia served as local superior of our Potenza community for one term of office. Afterward, she was inserted in the Divine Providence community (Via Antonino Pio), Rome, where she lived for the next 20 years, working in the *Ut Unum Sint* sector, in the shipping department and then carrying out the service of cook. Taking into account her balanced character and love for the sisters, she was appointed a councilor of the large Divine Providence community and was also placed in charge of one of its subgroups for several mandates.

Transferred to Cicogna, she spent the next 10 years carrying out the service of cook with great love and attention to the sisters who came to make their spiritual exercises in that house.

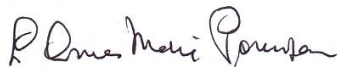
From 2001 up until just a few weeks ago, Sr. Egidia was a member of the Thecla Merlo community, Albano, where she assisted our sick and elderly sisters with great love and availability, lending a hand wherever needed, in particular in the sewing room.

After undergoing intestinal surgery in 2014, her health began to decline. A recent fall made it necessary to transfer her to the James Alberione community, Albano, so that she could receive the care she needed. She accepted this transfer serenely, with her usual readiness to do the will of God. An acute attack of brain fever three days ago was the proximate cause of her death.

The words Sr. Egidia wrote to the Superior General when she celebrated her Golden Jubilee of profession take on special significance today. In her letter, she said: “I want to sing a fervent *Magnificat* for the good God’s fidelity to me, and I also want to thank the Congregation that welcomed me and accompanied me with great love. By the grace of God, I have never wavered in my choice of the Pauline vocation, which I have always lived with profound gratitude. At first I yearned to be a missionary, but then I learned to live the Pauline mission in every situation, seeing in it the will of God. This has given me great peace of heart. I don’t have anything else to say except that I praise and thank God for his fidelity and mercy toward me.”

Let us entrust our dear sister to the loving embrace of our heavenly Father, asking him to allow her to savor his immense goodness and to give her the reward of a life dedicated to him with loving and operative generosity. On our part, we thank Sr. Egidia for pouring out among us the perfume of the humility and simplicity of God through her often heroic fidelity to him in the circumstances of daily life.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 14 July 2017