

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

Today, the memorial of the birth of the Pauline Family, God the Father visited the infirmary of our Divine Providence community, Rome to call to himself our sister:

DOTTORE ROSINA – Sr. CONCETTINA
born in Coppito (L'Aquila), Italy on 4 September 1925.

Sr. Concettina entered the Congregation in Rome on 2 October 1939 at the age of 14. During her time of initial formation, she carried out the Pauline apostolate in Bologna. In 1943 she returned to Rome to make her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 19 March 1934. She spent her Juniorate in Rome but in 1949, shortly before her perpetual profession, she was inserted in the Albano community so as to receive the care she needed for a serious illness. In 1950, completely cured, she was transferred to Alba where she worked in the technical apostolate for about 20 years, becoming an expert in the art of typography.


In 1972 Sr. Concettina returned to Rome, first as a member of the Via Castro Pretorio community and after that the Divine Providence community (Via Antonino Pio), where she worked for the next 10 years in the St. Paul Film Agency, especially its "Film Guide" service—a project launched by the Vicariate of Rome but that was then carried out gratuitously by the FSP Film Agency of this city. This apostolic initiative, a pioneer of its time, offered the public free information via telephone concerning what films were being shown in various theaters and viewing halls, what their moral ratings were and how they could be used for pastoral needs. The initiative received very positive feedback, such as the following testimony: "The Film Guide is deeply appreciated. It is addressed to priests, nuns, parents, teachers, students of all levels, soldiers, children, individual and group spectators, theater managers and film professionals. The questions asked are varied: from simple requests about the moral classification issued by the Entertainment Agency, to judgments concerning the morality of the film in question, to film criticism and aesthetics. There are also those who want information such as the genre of the film, its origin, the cast, where it was being shown, etc. Not infrequently it happens that, inspired by the film, callers ask for clarification on religious, moral, social and current topics."

After this apostolic experience, Sr. Concettina carried out office work for the Society of St. Paul for about 25 years in the Secretariat for the Diffusion of non-Pauline editions, and for almost a decade in the Pauline Cooperators National Office, located in the SSP Generalate, Rome. But in 2011, after being diagnosed as suffering from Parkinson's disease, she was transferred to the infirmary of our Divine Providence community, Rome, to receive the care she needed.

Slowly but inexorably, the malady reduced her to a state of total dependency but she never lost her love of beauty and appreciation of elegance. In fact, even as an invalid, she always noted and complimented visitors who were well dressed.

The sisters and caregivers who assisted Sr. Concettina for many years say that her goodness was revealed by her continual gratitude for every service she received and by her lack of special needs. Even when she was no longer able to speak, she was grateful for the affection that surrounded her and returned it with a smile. Sr. Concettina's death leaves a big hole in the Antonino Pio infirmary, but all those who knew and loved her are consoled by the certitude that she is now enjoying the inestimable treasure promised to everyone who leaves everything to follow in the footsteps of the Lamb of God.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 20 August 2018

Memorial of St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church