



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

This afternoon the guardian angels visited the infirmary wing of our Divine Providence community, Alba, Italy to lead to heaven our sister:

GRECO PIRILLO SR. VINCENZA
born in S. Stefano Quisquina (Agrigento), Italy on 11 February 1925.

Sr. Vincenza's death was unexpected. She ate her midday meal in the refectory with the other sisters and then went to her room to rest. The community nurse had just stopped by to see her because Sr. Vincenza said she was feeling a slight discomfort, which was already passing, but at that very moment her call to eternity arrived. She went to God the Father swiftly, in the same way she had lived her entire Pauline life.

"Vincenzina," as she was known to everyone, entered the Congregation in Agrigento on 18 February 1946. After several months of apostolic experience, she was sent to Rome for a period of formation, followed by her novitiate, which was held partly in Rome and partly in Grottaferrata. She made her first profession on 19 March 1949, after which she left for the branch houses to carry out the diffusion apostolate.

On the day of her perpetual profession (19 March 1954), the Founder addressed the group with words that today are still very moving. "You will remember this day on your deathbed," he said, "when you are preparing to pass to eternity, where you will make your final and eternal profession. At that moment, the priest will not only say, 'Receive the hundredfold and enter into eternal life,' but in some way he will introduce you into this new life. You will remember that in life you received the hundredfold of grace and you will bless the Lord for this. You will make your final profession not only for all your life but for all eternity.... And when Jesus says to you: 'Come, spouse of Christ,' you will generously respond: 'Here I am,' just as you generously said 'Here I am' in response to the divine vocation you received."

Sr. Vincenzina prepared for her *eternal profession* through a life of service, generosity and love. As a young professed she carried out the propaganda apostolate for more than 10 years in the communities of Ascoli Piceno, Bologna, Taranto, Potenza and Caltanissetta. Her frank, sociable and joyous character helped her establish apostolic relationships with all kinds of people. Because she was also an expert driver, she carried out the service of errand-runner in the Divine Providence community of Rome, as well as in Milan and in the Generalate community. In this last community, she also worked for about 5 years in the Pauline Mission Center, expanding her heart to embrace our many FSP communities throughout the world, happy to respond to the needs of the sisters by sending them shipments of the books and religious objects they needed for the apostolate in many countries.

In 1981, she was reassigned to the Italian Province, where she worked in the shipping department of the St. Paul Film Agencies of Udine, Naples/Capodimonte and Naples/Duomo. Afterward, she continued to carry out various services in the large Capodimonte community and then in Milan, enlivening the sisters with her humorous outlook on situations and her ability to de-dramatize situations.

In 1996, Sr. Vincenzina was transferred to the St. Joseph community, Alba, but she could often be found in the other communities in the compound, where she willingly lent a hand in the laundry room and also in the technical apostolate.

A little over a year ago, she was moved to the infirmary wing of the Alba community because of heart problems. However, she was still self-sufficient and tried as much as possible not to be a disturbance to anyone, continuing to make the community a gift of her vibrant spirit up to the end of her life.

And today the moment arrived for Sr. Vincenzina to make her eternal profession. It is beautiful and consoling to think that her guardian angel was watching over her during her long pilgrimage here on earth and that today he led her to the place in heaven prepared for her from all eternity by God the Father.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 2 October 2018

Memorial of the Guardian Angels