



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

At 8:30 a.m. today, Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, our good and merciful Shepherd visited the Verduno Hospital, Alba, Italy, to call to the joy of the saints our sister:

ROTOLO CROCE – SR. SALVINA MARIA
born in Aragona (Agrigento), Italy, on 8 February 1940.

Sr. Salvina belonged to the large group of Aragonese young women who enriched our Congregation in the 1950's with their apostolic passion and capacity for sacrifice and self-offering. Her childhood was difficult due to her father's illness, which made it necessary for her to take on various family responsibilities. But the grace of a vocation to the Pauline religious life gave her the strength and courage she needed to leave for Rome on 24 May 1958 to begin her formation as an aspirant. Given her maturity, she was quickly admitted to the postulancy and sent to Naples Capodimonte for a period of apostolic experience prior to making her novitiate in Rome. On 30 June 1961, she made her first vows in the Queen of Apostles Sanctuary. That year, the Founder was strongly insisting on the pastoral aspect of the Pauline mission: "You must have an apostolic heart, a pastoral heart," he urged, "one that leads to pastoral activity. Channel your energy into propaganda, into diffusion, because we have treasures, but if we do not make them available to others..." (FSP61, p. 345).

With this yearning in her heart, Sr. Salvina spent her Juniorate in the community of Benevento, where she spread the Gospel to families and communities. After her perpetual profession, made on the Feast of St. Paul in 1966, she was sent to Genoa to continue the outreach apostolate that would characterize her entire life. Savona, Vercelli, Messina, Turin, Florence, Ancona, Rome and Bari were the communities and FSP book agencies that witnessed her zeal, her human and spiritual wealth, and her great desire to reach as many people as possible with meaningful publications on human and Christian formation.

Sr. Salvina had a vast knowledge of secular bookstores, offering them the FSP catalogue and new publications, and establishing cordial apostolic relations with their managers. In order to meet as many book vendors as possible, she had no problem traveling hundreds of kilometers through the various regions of Italy. She was a gentle, serene presence in community life, revealing to her sisters in many small, concrete ways the love of the Lord that filled her heart.

In 1984 Sr. Salvina was made superior of our Reggio Emilia community. During this time, she was moved by the heartfelt appeal of the Superior General for volunteers for the mission *ad gentes*. She wrote: "Now that my mother has passed away, I dream of being sent to the missions, where there is greater need of a helping hand. The Superior General's Christmas letter made me cry, reflect and pray. It increased my yearning to offer my life and my service for the sake of our most needy communities." However, this dream was never realized due to her health issues.

In 1997, after many years as an FSP book agent, Sr. Salvina had the chance to participate in a period of updating in Rome, at the end of which she resumed her apostolic work in the Savona and Turin book centers. Afterward, she spent over 16 years in our beautiful and well-stocked book center in Palermo. Her attention to customers, her humanity and her gentleness in carrying out the Pauline apostolate were known to all. Every person she met felt her warm welcome and attentiveness to their needs.

In the last few years of her life, Sr. Salvina's health continued to deteriorate due to myasthenia, a progressive neuromuscular disease that weakened her skeletal muscles. Transferred to our Alba community last September, she underwent various therapies, hoping that her condition would improve. But a few weeks ago she contracted broncho-pneumonia, followed by a severe form of hepatitis. She had to be hospitalized and spent the following days in a near-comatose state. And today Jesus Master called her to contemplate the infinite treasures of grace flowing from his sacred heart.

Affectionately,

sr Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 24 June 2022

Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.