

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

Yesterday evening at around 7 p.m. (local time), in the Tecla Merlo community of Albano, the Risen Christ called our sister

NICOLIS MARIA sr MARIA LUCIS
born in Fumane (Verona) on 5 December 1924

She came from a beautiful and affluent family from Veneto, where she breathed an atmosphere of deep faith and openness to culture. At the age of twenty-three, on 13 June 1947, she entered the Congregation in Alba, bringing with her as a dowry a character open to every novelty and ecclesial modality.

She soon dedicated herself to propaganda in the communities of Turin and Massa, and after her novitiate in Rome, she made her first profession together with a large group of sisters, on 19 March 1950, which had been proclaimed a Holy Year.

These were the years in which the film apostolate was developing in Italy, and the film halls were being set up in small parishes, families and schools. In every book center there was a corner where films could be rented at reduced rates for colleges, parishes, schools and families. It was necessary to learn by heart a whole new language, as well as the titles of the films, the names of the directors, Italian and foreign actors, and to familiarize oneself with the insights needed to approach the world of cinema, in view of speaking about it competently. As a young professed sister, Sr M. Lucis breathed this atmosphere and learned to make the most of the resources needed to ensure a dignified, precise service that responded to the requirements of a sound management.

She made a valuable contribution to the film agencies, especially in terms of bookkeeping, by completing, with order and precision, the "statini", that is, the forms on which the general conditions of the film were noted before its rental and upon its return.


Her juniorate was spent in the film agencies of Cagliari, Naples, Bologna and Rome. After spending a year in Albano [Regina Apostolorum Hospital] as a TB patient, she resumed her film apostolate in the agencies of Rome, Salerno, Mestre, Cremona and Brescia. She wished to be better prepared for the mission and gladly took part in the film-making courses offered by the congregation.

In the year 2000, she was assigned to Trent where she resided for fourteen years, enriched by many pastoral experiences. Sr M. Lucis, gifted with a very outgoing nature, easily became involved in parish and diocesan life. She had an extensive knowledge of the clergy and religious, and was fond of remembering Fr Maurizio, a Stigmatine priest who had accompanied her and to whom she was infinitely grateful. She was proud to say that Fr Maurizio had been elected superior general of his congregation; she prayed incessantly for his intentions.

In 2014, at the time of the closure of the community of Trent, she was admitted to the Tecla Merlo community in Albano. The fracture of her femur made these last years of her life more difficult. She slowly had to abandon herself into the hands of her sisters. It cost her the loss of her self-sufficiency, but she welcomed this passage of the Lord with serenity and in peace, without ever complaining. There were many intentions that she carried in her heart, linked especially to the priests she had known over the years and who had become part of her own life.

Since last autumn, she had been completely bedridden, struggling to eat and speak. The Lord came gently, inviting *her to cross to the other shore*, the shore of peace and joy, the shore of salvation.

Affectionately.


sr Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 16 April 2021