



ISTITUTO PIA SOCIETÀ
FIGLIE DI S. PAOLO
CASA GENERALIZIA
Via S. Giovanni Eudes, 25
00163 Roma
Tel. 06.661 3039 - Fax 06.661 57 208



Dearest Sisters,

At 10:30 last night, the Good Shepherd visited the infirmary of our Divine Providence community in Alba, Italy, to call to his dwelling of joy and light our sister:

ANCILOTTO IMELDA – SR. MARIA ANGELICA
born in Stigliano (Venice), Italy on 17 November 1926.

The eighth child of a big Venetian family, Sr. Angelica entered the Congregation in Rome on 17 November 1937 at the age of eleven. In keeping with the custom of the time, she was immediately assigned to the typography, where she helped to print parish bulletins and books on religion and formation, urged on by the Founder's words: "Consider the typography as your 'classroom,' the printing press as your 'pulpit' and the paper, ink and composing frames as instruments given to you by God to carry out your activity." Sr. Angelica made her first profession in Rome on 30 June 1946. Immediately afterward, she was sent to Salerno to work in the newly-opened St. Paul Film Agency. However, a short time later she fell ill and was transferred to our Albano clinic, where she remained for two years. From 1957 on, she carried out the apostolate in various cities in Italy. She worked in the book centers of Salerno, Bologna, Ferrara, Asti and Verona, and in the catechetical offices of the Turin and Massa dioceses. She served as local superior in the communities of Massa, Lodi, Bologna and Verona, where she was deeply loved by the sisters for her attention to their needs and her discretion concerning the things confided to her. While she was superior in Massa, Maestra Thecla sent her a note which she cherished. Dated 6 June 1963, the message reads: "I am better now but I still don't know when I'll be able to visit you. But you know that I am with you in spirit! Can't you feel me? I am praying abundantly for all of you. Deo gratias that the apostolate is going well. The more books you diffuse, the greater good will be done to souls. As for you—are you well? Try not to overextend yourself. Give your problems to the Lord. He will provide and he takes care of things better than we do!"

Sr. Angelica will be remembered above all for the 30 years she spent in our publishing center in Milan, contributing to this important apostolic sector through her service as its administrator and secretary of production. Keenly aware that writing is *the essence of the Pauline apostolate*, she was profoundly convinced that she was "offering everyone the charity of the truth" through her hidden labors behind a desk.

She was assigned to this apostolic work in 1981 and thanks to her excellent organizational abilities was soon skillfully handling contracts, authors' rights, archive material, etc., always in harmony with the director of the publishing house and the other sisters in the editorial department, all of whom deeply appreciated her precision, professional competence, discretion and wholehearted dedication to the apostolate.

Sr. Angelica was a very upright person. She felt a deep sense of belonging to the Congregation and to her community, and carried out her apostolic activities very intelligently. Reserved and discreet by nature, she was at the same time open-hearted and kind to everyone, including our lay collaborators and the members of the Pauline Family, all of whom esteemed her greatly. In her administration activities, she harmonized broad vision with wisdom, and prudence with generosity, always remaining open to the needs of the apostolate. She maintained strong and affectionate bonds with her natural family, while cultivating profound friendships with her sisters in the Congregation.

In these last years, Sr. Angelica accepted with faith and fortitude the gradual loss of her sight and hearing. Last November she broke her leg, worsening her already fragile physical state. Lovingly cared for in Milan, she was transferred to our Alba infirmary in December 2013 but her condition, aggravated most recently by a loss of memory, continued to decline. In her final days she found it hard to speak, even though her lips continually moved as she silently prayed the rosary. Two days ago, she fell into a deep sleep and awoke last night to find herself in the arms of God the Father.

May Sr. Angelica obtain for us from the Lord a great esteem and an always more profound understanding of our *teaching* vocation, which situates us in the heart of the Church and calls us to pay homage to Jesus Truth in a special way.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
superior General

Rome, 8 March 2014