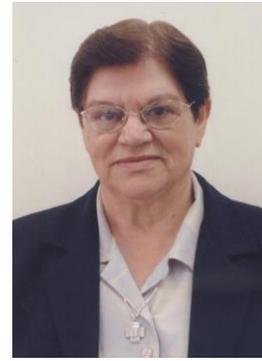


ISTITUTO PIA SOCIETÀ
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Dearest Sisters,

At 4:40 p.m. today (local time), one of our sisters, who had been hospitalized for several days at St. Rita Hospital, São Paulo, Brazil, was called to contemplate the face of God forever:

CANALI SR. ASSUNTA
born in Tapejara (RS), Brazil on 11 March 1930.

Sr. Assunta lived the Pauline vocation in continual, joyful self-donation. She entered the Congregation in Porto Alegre on 11 August 1948 at the age of eighteen. After a period of initial formation and work in the technical apostolate, she made her novitiate in the Divine Master community, São Paulo, concluding it with her first profession on 19 March 1951. Afterward, she carried out capillary and collective diffusion for about 20 years in the dioceses of Belo Horizonte and Rio de Janeiro. Certain that all her footsteps would be written in heaven, she was happy to disseminate the Word of God to families, schools, institutes and offices, without paying heed to the weariness and hard work involved in the propaganda apostolate.

In 1972, she was asked to carry out the service of cook in the Divine Master community, São Paulo and afterward performed the same service in the Salvador and Cidade Regina communities. The sisters quickly learned to appreciate her cooking talents and generosity. In fact, Sr. Assunta was an excellent cook who sought to make meals festive moments of joy and communion.

Following this, she carried out the service of local bursar in São Paulo and also worked in the infirmary there. In 1984, she was appointed superior of the Salvador community. When her term of office ended, she was assigned to the communities of São Paulo, Porto Alegre, Recife, Canoas, Brasília and Rio de Janeiro successively. In these houses, she carried out above all domestic duties, spreading everywhere her joy, spirit of faith and love for the Pauline vocation.

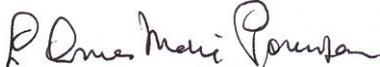
Sr. Assunta fulfilled all her responsibilities without drawing attention to herself. A tactful, quiet, simple and humble person, she preferred to remain behind the scenes, willingly performing any task requested of her. Her entire personality radiated kindness, welcome and loving and selfless availability to others. The sisters with whom she lived say that she was as good as the homemade bread and special desserts she prepared with great relish for everyone to enjoy. They say they felt privileged to have her among them because she invested so much love for each person in all the services she carried out. Everywhere she went, she sowed peace, serenity and a spirit of communion.

In 1976, Sr. Assunta wrote to Sr. Ignazia Balla, at that time Superior General: "I am celebrating my 25th anniversary of profession and I am very grateful to God for his mercy and for the many graces he has poured out on me. I am stationed in Salvador Bahia right now and I am happy to be here. Each day, I am always more convinced of my vocation." On her Golden Jubilee of profession, Sr. Assunta expressed her satisfaction for the vocation days the sisters had held in her parish. She was deeply aware of the need for this apostolate and said she was praying continually to the Lord of the Harvest for this intention.

Sr. Assunta spent the last stage of her life at the reception desk in São Paulo and then, during the last months of her life, in the Cidade Regina community, where in her younger years she had been zealously involved in the upkeep of our House of Prayer through her domestic services.

The words from the Book of Revelation proposed by Evening Prayer I of the Fifth Sunday of Easter are of great comfort to us today because the Lord reassures us that he will dwell forever with human beings and will "wipe every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain because the old order has passed away" (Rv. 21:3-4). Today Sr. Assunta, adorned like a bride for her Bridgroom, has joyfully experienced the fulfillment of her profound yearning for holiness, new life and love.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 18 May 2019