

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 5:00 this morning, the Father “made all things new” for one of our sisters by calling her to life in heaven:

CAVALLIN GIANNINA – SR. M. ROSANNA
born in Montebelluna (Treviso), Italy on 16 July 1920.

After several days of steady decline and a day of agony, Sr. M. Rosanna fell asleep gently in the Lord in the Thecla Merlo community of Albano, assisted by her sisters, Sr. Flaviana and Sr. Teodora, who had followed her into the Congregation a few years after her own entrance. Sr. Rosanna had been a member of the Thecla Merlo community since 1996, where she lent a hand at the reception desk and switchboard. But as the years passed and her health became more fragile, she was able to dedicate less and less time to this service.

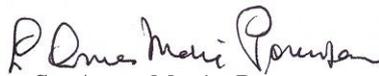
Sr. M. Rosanna has left us the precious memory of her great interior beauty, manifested exteriorly in her kindness, goodness, generosity and spirit of serviceability. She deeply loved her Pauline vocation and each sister whom the Lord placed at her side. Wherever she went, she left the sweet perfume of her virtues and spirit of continuous self-offering.

She entered the Congregation in Rome on 2 July 1938. After a period in the shipping department, followed by a period as a “propagandist” in Matera, she returned to Rome to make her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 15 August 1942, at the height of World War II. Afterward, Sr. Rosanna spent more than 15 years carrying out capillary and collective dissemination of the Word of God in the Salerno. During that period, she wrote to Maestra Thecla from Capri: “The propaganda apostolate is not easy but I carry it out very willingly. I am content—in fact, I’m immersed in a joy I’ve never before experienced. I feel like I’m the happiest person on the face of the earth.... I ask the Lord to give me the grace and strength I need to correspond always more fully to this great vocation.... I would be very happy if you would keep this poor sister in mind when choosing people for the missions...”

In 1959, Sr. Rosanna was appointed superior of the Salerno community and when her term of office concluded she was asked to carry out the same service in Palermo. In 1967, a new stage of her life began, marked by her transfer to the St. Paul Film headquarters in Rome, where she was placed in charge of the film editing department. Her new mission required her to dedicate herself day after day to a completely new form of Pauline ministry, in which it was necessary for her to learn the techniques of the cinema apostolate. This called for great apostolic energy and the courage to continually learn new skills, but Sr. Rosanna’s great faith came to her aid, reinforcing her conviction that she was a communicator of Gospel in whatever situation she found herself, including this unexplored apostolate. Along with learning new technical skills, she sought to establish bonds of communion, harmony and respect with the other FSPs assigned to this sector.

At the end of this period of service, Sr. Rosanna spent the next 15 years working with equal love and dedication at the reception desk and switchboard of the large Via Antonino Pio community, Rome. She yearned to deepen her relationship with the Divine Master and said she immediately noticed whenever her attention wandered from him in prayer. She said she felt the need to live in a spirit of continual conversion, according to the recommendation of the Founder, and in this regard she wrote: “I need to change my life so that God can bring to completion his plan for me.” And on this 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Sr. Rosanna was called to experience God’s fidelity, joining her praise of him to that of his Son, Jesus in an eternal “Amen.”

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar General

Rome, 22 February 2009