



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 6:00 p.m. yesterday, the Lord visited A.C. Camargo Hospital, Sao Paulo, Brazil, to call to himself our sister:

**CENTENARO AMABILE MARIA – SR. ISABEL**  
**born in Vista Alegre, Brazil on 8 December 1939.**

Sr. Isabel had been a patient in the hospital's intensive care wing since June, due to a serious decline in her physical condition. In fact, it was only recently that it was discovered she had brain cancer. The disease brought with it many sufferings, first affecting her eyesight, then her breathing and then her entire face. Sr. Isabel accepted her situation from the hands of the Lord, who in a certain sense had forewarned her of his impending "visit" by means of a benign tumor that had been surgically removed several years previously.

Our sister entered the Congregation in the community of Porto Alegre, Brazil, on 18 Jan. 1956. After a prolonged period of time in that formation community, she was sent to Sao Paulo to make her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1962. Immediately afterward, she very enthusiastically began to carry out the book center apostolate and also worked intermittently in the technical apostolate. In fact, these two facets of the Pauline mission were to remain, throughout her life, the "places" of her joyous and loving self-offering to the Divine Master on a daily basis.

Sr. Isabel expressed her notable gifts as a communicator in the communities of Maringa, Sao Paulo, Sao Luis, Fortaleza, Salvador, Belem, Porto Alegre and Canoas. A person who loved people, she truly considered the book center to be the "pulpit" from which she proclaimed to everyone God's illuminating, comforting and saving Word. She channeled all her energy into the different services she carried out there, in the certitude that God was able to reveal and draw everyone to himself through a book, a DVD or a CD. As a directress and guide, she was very attentive to our lay collaborators, careful to ensure that they were well formed for the demanding mission they were called to share with the Daughters of St. Paul.

Sr. Isabel served as superior of the Niteroi community for two terms (1978-1983) and then that of Fortaleza (1984-1989). Our sisters remember above all her upright character, reflected in her words and deeds, as well as her faith and spirit of prayer, which supported her in difficult times, especially during the sudden manifestation of her illness and its aggressive development. Sr. Isabel deeply loved her vocation and the Pauline charism and so participated willingly and very intensively in the International Meeting on the Charism held in Rome in 2005, during which she joyously welcomed the opportunity to visit the places associated with our Pauline beginnings.

Sr. Isabel was a true Daughter of St. Paul, overflowing with love for Jesus Master and for the communications apostolate. Her good and pure heart made it impossible for her to hurt others and enabled her to be a presence of union, positivity and faith in the communities in which she lived. In 1975, she wrote to the Superior General: "I feel a dynamism within me calling me to be attentive and open to the appeals of the Lord." During her brief time as an invalid, her sensitive heart made her very grateful for even the smallest service carried out for her.

Purified by her sufferings, Sr. Isabel welcomed the visit of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, who led her to the holy mountain of God yesterday. The words of the day's Liturgy are especially meaningful in the light of our sister's experience and can well be placed on her lips: "I am afflicted and in pain; let your saving help, O God, protect me. I will praise the name of God in song, and I will glorify him with thanksgiving."

Affectionately,

*Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan*  
Vicar General

Rome, 17 July 2013