

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

At about 10:00 a.m. today, the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time, our merciful Father visited the infirmary of our Alba community to call to himself our sister:

DALLA VALLE IMELDA CLARA – SR. ANTONIETTA
born in Pianezze S. Lorenzo (Vicenza), Italy on 9 April 1924.

The life of Sr. Antonietta can truly be likened to a good tree that bore sound fruit because its strong roots were plunged deeply into the rich soil of faith that characterized her beautiful and profoundly Christian family.


Sr. Antonietta entered the Congregation in Rome on 10 March 1938 at the age of fourteen. During her first years of formation she learned the art of bookbinding. She spent several segments of the war period in Palermo, where she worked in particular in the book center. Her novitiate, made in Rome, concluded with her first profession on 19 March 1944. As a young professed, Sr. Antonietta carried out a very active apostolate in the book centers of Naples/Capodimonte, Trent and Treviso. Although she had only an elementary education, she was rich in the wisdom that comes from God. Her request for admittance to perpetual profession, written in 1949, contains the beautiful and very personal words: “The day has finally come to ask permission to make my final vows. I have been waiting for this moment for a long time and I have tried to prepare myself for it as well as possible. I am very happy and am trying to hasten the arrival of that big day with my thoughts about it. I hope the Blessed Mother will help me improve myself more and more and that she will make me a good person so that I will be able to give the Congregation not only help but also holiness.”

In 1952, Sr. Antonietta learned to love the cinema apostolate in the community of Livorno. Afterward, she was transferred to Catanzaro and later to Milan, where she worked for about 7 years in the religious objects sector. Her wisdom and love for the Congregation enabled her to learn the service she was then asked to carry out for about 8 years in the FSP administration office in Rome. More self-assured as a result of this experience and after obtaining a diploma in typing, in 1972 she began a long period of apostolic activity in the SSP subscription office of our Pauline periodicals—a service she carried out with her faithful partner and friend, Sr. Gabriella Bartolotta. This apostolic work would leave a profound mark on the lives of both Sisters. Sr. Antonietta was first assigned to the subscription department of the periodical *Madre di Dio* in Rome, where she worked for about 10 years, and then to the same department of the periodicals *Vita Pastorale* and *La Domenica*, both located in Alba. With precision and great apostolic zeal, she dedicated all her energy to the promotion of these magazines because she knew how beneficial they were to the people.

For both Sr. Antonietta and Sr. Gabriella, every subscriber was a friend of the Pauline Family: every reader had a face and they did what they could to get to know each one personally. Through every subscriber, especially if a priest, they felt the throb of life in the parishes and dioceses. The subscription office was truly open to the Church and the whole world. It was a key point of the Pauline apostolate—a place of vibrant connection between publisher and reader...

In 2006, Sr. Antonietta left her work with the Society of St. Paul. Soon afterward, she was no longer able to walk independently due to a case of acute rheumatism. In the last days of her life, a serious pulmonary complication hastened her meeting with her Lord and Master, whom she deeply loved and yearned to see.

We seem to interpret the desire of this dear sister by placing on her lips the touching words of today’s communion antiphon: “I will sing to the Lord for his goodness to me. I will sing the name of the Lord most high.” We joyfully join in this song of praise because the All-Powerful One truly did marvelous things in Sr. Antonietta. Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 3 March 2019