

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,

We received the news that a short time after midnight last night, our divine Spouse visited St. John of God Hospital in Manila, Philippines, to call to intimacy with himself our sister, who died as a result of cardiac arrest:

**ENRIQUEZ LUZ – SR. M. PIERINA**  
**born in Bauan (Batangas), Philippines on 16 January 1926.**

Sr. M. Pierina was truly a light for the peoples of the Philippines, Africa and Europe, where she dedicated her youthful energies to irradiating everywhere her great love for the Gospel.

She entered the Congregation in the community of Lipa on 30 May 1946. She had met the Daughters of St. Paul on their visit to Batangas and was deeply impressed by their missionary zeal, joy, simplicity, humility and spirit of prayer and sacrifice. She felt the Lord calling her to share their life but in order to answer that call she had to run away from home because her father was against her choice.

In Lipa, the Motherhouse of our Filipino circumscription, she underwent her initial formation and novitiate, concluding it with her first profession on 19 March 1950. As a young professed, she carried out the apostolate of capillary diffusion. In 1954 she was stationed for a brief time in Mumbai, India and from there went to Rome to prepare for her perpetual profession and for life in the missions.

On 20 May 1955, she left Rome in the company of Sr. Rosaria Visco, Sr. Mary Connell and Sr. Natalia Bonifacio. The group was headed for London to open our first FSP community in Great Britain. Sr. M. Pierina was filled with enthusiasm to be in the great city of London, where she visited homes and offices to disseminate the Gospel and the first books printed by the Society of St. Paul. She recalled: "We were so full of energy and joy that there wasn't a single street in London that we overlooked!" In 1957, she returned to the Philippines, where she continued to carry out the diffusion apostolate in Pasay City, after which she served for three years as superior of the Cagayan de Oro community.

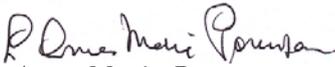
But the missions continued to beckon and in 1964 she was transferred to the small FSP community of Lagos, Nigeria, which was taking its first steps. Two years later she was sent to Kampala, Uganda, another new foundation undergoing the struggles and sacrifices of the beginnings. In 1971, Sr. M. Pierina went to Rome to obtain a visa for Tanzania, but since this document was not forthcoming she returned to the Philippines, where she dedicated herself to work in the Lipa and Pasay book centers. Drawn by her kindness and deep spirituality, the people responded generously to her requests for help to meet the needs of the community and apostolate.

Sr. M. Pierina loved music: she had learned to play the organ and was always ready to accompany various celebrations, especially novenas and times of Marian prayer at the well-frequented Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, run by the Redemptorist Fathers. Her life was truly a hymn of praise to God: when she celebrated her Golden Jubilee in 2000, she clearly expressed her desire to live in the spirit of the "Magnificat," in thanksgiving to the Lord for the gift of her Pauline vocation.

Sr. M. Pierina spent the last stage of her life in the infirmary of the Pasay community, where she continued to spread serenity and peace around her. In these last weeks, her physical condition steadily declined and two days ago she was hospitalized due to chronic anemia and an imbalance of electrolytes.

Sr. M. Pierina hoped that other young women would experience the same happiness she felt in following the Lord. May her generous self-donation kindle in the hearts of many young people the desire to "leave everything and follow Jesus," allowing their lives—like that of every apostle—to be pervaded by wonder and to receive undreamed of fecundity and vitality.

Affectionately,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan  
Superior General

Rome, 15 July 2014