

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

We received the news that at 7:45 this morning, local time, the Divine Master turned his gaze on the Thecla Merlo (infirmary) wing of our community in Pasay City, Philippines to call to himself our sister:

**FABILLON ANGELINA – SR. MARIA REDENTA**  
**born in Dumalag (Capiz), Philippines, on 20 August 1930.**

Sr. M. Redenta had been suffering for a number of years with diabetes, hypertension and rheumatoid arthritis. In the last period of her life, she was hospitalized for an ulcer and pneumonia. But the immediate cause of her death was a heart attack.

Sr. M. Redenta entered the Congregation in the Regina Apostolorum community of Pasay City on 28 April 1956, at the age of 26—at that time was considered a “mature vocation.” In his letter presenting her to the Institute, her pastor extolled her docility, humility, spirit of prayer and intense involvement in parish activities (for example, she was the president of the parish youth group and a member of the Apostleship of Prayer).

Because of her maturity on both the human and Christian levels, she was immediately admitted to the postulancy, marked at that time by religious vestition. On 8 September 1956, she joyfully donned the habit of the Daughters of St. Paul for the first time and enthusiastically began to carry out the Pauline apostolate. She made her novitiate in Lipa, concluding it with her first profession on 30 June 1960. As a young professed up until as long as her strength permitted, Sr. M. Redenta carried out almost exclusively the service of seamstress in the large Pasay City community. Her work in this sector was interrupted for just a few years when she was asked to carry out the service of cook and, following this, to work for a short period in the Iloilo, Pasay and Baguio book centers.

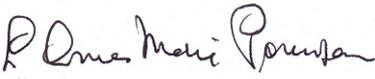
In 1996, Sr. M. Redenta’s poor health forced her to take a complete rest from her apostolic activities but as soon as she felt a little better she dedicated herself to helping out in the bindery and with household duties compatible with her fragile physical condition. We can well say that Sr. M. Redenta was called to fecundate with her prayer and sufferings the steps of our propagandists, the diffusion of the Gospel from our book centers, and the editorial work carried out in our publishing offices. She rejoiced that the Word of God was being proclaimed by our sisters via the radio and Internet because she felt fully involved in the Pauline apostolate being carried out in countless countries around the world.

The stitches she set in the innumerable habits she made were the “paths” by which she contributed to bringing the Gospel to a multitude of people whose faces remained unknown to her.

Our sisters remember Sr. M. Redenta’s great faith, her focus on essentials, her love for the Pauline vocation and her observance of the vows, especially that of poverty. They say she was a person of deep vocational motivations—a tranquil sister who maintained her serenity even during the long stretches of illness she experienced. Her tender and compassionate heart prompted her to treat everyone with respect and to be moved to the point of tears by the sufferings of others. Even in the hospital, while her own health was very precarious, she was more concerned about the weariness and needs of the doctors and nurses than about herself.

Sr. M. Redenta was a shy person who preferred to remain in the background, channeling the intentions and feelings of her good heart into her preferred prayer: the rosary. We can truly say that this dear sister lived the trials she was asked to bear with a joyful heart, seeking always the true wisdom and humility of heart that make a person pleasing to God.

Affectionately,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan  
Superior General

Rome, 17 February 2014