

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

At about 10:30 p.m. yesterday, God the Father once again visited our Institute to call to himself a member of our James Alberione community, Albano, Italy:

**FARISCO ROSARIA – SR. MARIA DONATA**  
**born in Foggia, Italy on 7 November 1924.**

Sr. M. Donata entered the Congregation in the community of Rome on 6 March 1946. She was assigned to work in the Salerno book center, returning to Rome to make her novitiate. This stage of her formation journey concluded with her first profession on 19 March 1949.

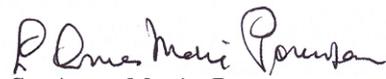
As a young professed, Sr. M. Donata joyfully carried out the Pauline mission in Benevento and afterward returned once again to Rome, where she made her perpetual profession in our Queen of Apostles Sanctuary in 1954. On that occasion, Fr. Alberione told the group of young professed sisters very clearly: “You will remember this day on your deathbed, when you are getting ready to make your eternal profession. At that point, the priest will not only say, ‘Receive the hundredfold and life eternal,’ but will in a certain sense introduce you into this new life. At that moment, you will remember that here on earth you already received the hundredfold with regard to grace and you will thank the Lord for this. You will make your eternal profession—not one that endures only as long as you are here on earth, but an eternal profession in response to the invitation of Jesus, just as you accepted his invitation to make your first profession and the perpetual profession you are making today. But you must be faithful every day—forever! If you are, then when Jesus says, ‘Come, spouse of Christ,’ you will be able to generously reply: *Yes*, just as you generously said *yes* to the divine call.”

Sr. M. Donata’s life was always marked by fidelity, even when illness knocked on her door. In fact immediately after her perpetual profession it was discovered that she was suffering from a particularly aggressive form of tuberculosis, which made it necessary for her to be hospitalized in our Albano clinic. She remained there for 13 long years, clinging firmly to the hope that she would eventually be healed and would be able to resume the Pauline apostolate in our small communities. She was finally declared cured in 1967 but to enable her to achieve that goal the doctor was forced to remove one of her lungs. Having successfully overcome this life-threatening malady, Sr. M. Donata willingly accepted a transfer to the Divine Master community of Via Antonino Pio, Rome, where she remained up until just a month ago, when declining health made it necessary to move her to the James Alberione community, Albano.

Sr. M. Donata loved her community, located in the shadow of the Queen of Apostles Sanctuary, which enabled her to pray there frequently. For several years she collaborated with the apostolic sector that dealt with non-Pauline books. Afterward, she made a much-appreciated contribution to various administration offices of the Italian Province. From 1979-1986 she worked in the secretary’s office of Pauline Editions, directed at that time by Fr. Valentino Gambi. In the last stage of her life, she was placed in charge of the administration of the Via Antonino Pio stock room.

Sr. M. Donata was a quiet, courteous, cultured and methodical person. A sister who deeply loved order and harmony, she was able to peacefully accept the physical disabilities that little by little afflicted her. Besides losing a lung, she also underwent a mastectomy and suffered from a progressive loss of sight that resulted in almost total blindness by the time she died. Sr. M. Donata lived her consecration with love and the desire to give herself always more completely to her Lord and Master. We are sure that the prophetic words spoken by our Founder on the day of her perpetual profession have now been fully realized and that the *yes* she said to him for the rest of her life has been transformed into an eternal *yes* to the Father.

Affectionately,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan  
Vicar General

Rome, 28 July 2011