

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

Another of our sisters has left us. This afternoon around 3:15pm in the infirmary of the Divine Providence community in Rome, the Father called to himself our sister,

FERRARI Sr CARLA
born in San Gervasio d'Adda (Bergamo) on April 10, 1925

Sr. Carla entered the Congregation in Alba on April 14, 1944. She was 19 years old and from the beginning, due to her serious and dedicated personality she was known to be someone who could always be depended upon. After her time of formation in Alba and Lodi, she went to Rome for her novitiate which she concluded with her first profession on March 19, 1947. From her novitiate until her death, except for a few months spent in the community of Albano, she lived uninterruptedly in Rome, first in the house of the Divine Master and in these last two years, in the infirmary of the Divine Providence community. Sr. Carla, better known as Sr. Clelia, always carried out the service of driver and errands together with her most faithful companion Sr. Cristina Pieri (Cristinella). Both were persons whom Prima Maestra Tecla and the other superiors trusted. With fidelity, discretion and gentleness, they carried out the most delicate services. And in order to have greater freedom of movement, especially to be able to make trips to the bank, they would go out without their veils. Yet with their black habit and their hair tied up they were quite identifiable.

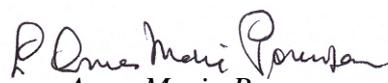
As they traveled the streets of Rome, often by car, always available at whatever hour of the day or night, Sr. Carla felt herself to be fully an apostle and a *Pauline* apostle. She was accompanied by the Virgin Mary whom she continually invoked through the prayer of the Rosary and she nourished a very strong devotion to the Eucharist. She would even cleverly plan out her day so as to celebrate in as many Eucharistic celebrations as possible and tried to be present at the evening Benediction at the Sanctuary of the Queen of Apostles. The bells of this sanctuary, so dear to the heart of the entire Pauline Family, rhythmically marked her days, spent in company of her beloved Queen.

Even the sisters who shared in just brief moments of the journey of her life recall her goodness, her great delicacy, the order and cleanliness that marked her entire person. She never spoke words of blame towards anyone and was always ready to forgive, to excuse and to show esteem and respect towards everyone.

When her service as driver came to a close, she continued to give of herself with patience and love taking care of the door and the gate of the large community in Rome. About three years ago, she suffered a stroke that required her transfer to the infirmary of the Divine Providence community. She lived these final years in silence, in prayer, and in gratitude for all the care shown to her by the sisters and the infirmary staff. Her heart suffered greatly due to an aortic regurgitation and physically her body could hardly endure the severe back pain. But Sr. Carla continued to be an example of Pauline fidelity to the sisters. She left us unexpectedly, in the silence of her room, without disturbing anyone. The words that Jesus addresses to us today, as we journey towards Easter, are particularly comforting, "If anyone keeps my word, she will not see eternal death." Sr. Carla, throughout her entire life, loved, assimilated and incarnated the Word of the Lord and so we think of her already participating in the life that has no end.

While we thank this dear sister for her silent, discreet presence and for being so rich in love, being so close to our Father, we entrust to her intercession the sisters who carry out the service of driver and errands, who in every part of the world spend and over spend themselves in total gratuitousness.

With affection,


Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar General

Rome, March 29, 2012