

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

We received the news that at 1:00 p.m. today, one of our sisters in Sao Paulo, Brazil, suffered a heart attack while undergoing medical exams at Santa Paula Hospital and passed to eternity:

FREZZATTI LEONOR – SR. INACIA
born in Sao Paulo, Brazil on 24 September 1919.

Sr. Inacia was one of the oldest sisters of our Brazilian Province. She entered the Congregation in the community of Sao Paulo on 30 September 1938—a time when the sisters were living the heroic years of their foundation period. Even though the first FSPs had arrived in the country only 7 years earlier, they were already attracting many vocations and experiencing great growth in the apostolate. They had already opened their first branch house in Porto Alegre, diffusion through the book center and propaganda to the families was flowering, and the small typography they had set up was very active, producing the Brazilian edition of the *Family* magazine, in addition to books and leaflets.

Following a period of initial formation, Sr. Ignacia made her novitiate in Sao Paulo, concluding it with her first profession on 25 January 1943. As a young professed, she took the Word of God to families in the dioceses of Porto Alegre, Sao Paulo, Curitiba and Maringa.

In 1961 she returned to the Divine Master community in Domingos de Morais (Sao Paulo), where she was assigned to the sewing room, a service she had already carried out during the years of her initial formation. Sr. Ignacia enjoyed sewing and willingly placed her talent for this at the service of the sisters. She especially enjoyed making the habits needed for vestition and profession. A very hard-working sister, she performed her duties quietly, careful not to waste time so as to offer it all to the Lord. Some of the younger sisters found Sr. Ignacia's gruff manner a little intimidating but when they got to know her better they discovered that she had a big heart, open to everyone. Her great desire was to live the Pauline vocation in a spirit of fidelity and self-donation. She deeply loved Maestra Thecla and Fr. Alberione, whom she got to know on their visits to Brazil, and she preserved their words in her heart as a precious heritage. In May 1952, she received a holy card from Maestra Thecla, with the following inscription: "Do everything always and only for the glory of God and the good of souls. Think of heaven! Ask the Blessed Virgin to grant both of us the virtue of patience." This advice gave direction to Sr. Ignacia's life.

From 1972 onward, she carried out the services of seamstress and cook in the local communities of Porto Alegre, Niteroi and the Città Regina, Queen of Apostles and Piassanguaba communities of Sao Paulo. While stationed in this last community, she was able to visit and assist her sister, who was seriously ill. In 2008, Sr. Ignacia was transferred to the Città Regina community so that she could receive the assistance she needed due to her advanced age. Although frail in health, she continued to lend a hand with whatever community services were possible to her. She had no special needs because she was accustomed to a life of renunciation and offered the Lord all the circumstances of her daily life in union with his sacrifice on the Altar. Her sole desire was to carry out his will moment by moment.

Toward the end of October 2011, Sr. Ignacia's health began to steadily decline. Up to the last day of her life she lived in the community she deeply loved, together with sisters with whom she had shared long stretches of her Pauline journey. In his infinite goodness, the Lord called her to himself quickly, inviting her to "arise" from the burdensome weight of an aging body and fly swiftly to his embrace. Today, the Radiant Dawn, the Sun of Justice, shone on our sister, clothing her in the splendor of his eternal light.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar General

Rome, 21 December 2011