

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,

At about 9:15 a.m. today, during the Sunday Eucharistic Celebration, the Father of Light visited our Carril del Conde community in Madrid, Spain, to call to his eternal light our sister:

GARCIA ALVAREZ ADELA – SR. MARIA DE LOS ANGELES
born in Quintana de Fuseros (Astorga), Spain on 20 December 1925.

Sr. Angelines, as she was familiarly called, entered the Congregation in Barcelona (our first community in Spain) on 3 September 1948. At that time, our missionaries to this country were living the difficulties of their foundation period and their new candidate lent a willing hand in disseminating the few books printed by our SSP brothers. She also worked in our small and poor typography.

She made her novitiate in Rome, concluding that stage of her formation with her first profession on 19 March 1951. Soon after this, Sr. Angelines returned to Barcelona where, in 1952, she had the chance to meet Maestra Thecla, who intended to send her to Valladolid to help begin a new FSP community there. That joyful and intense encounter was forever engraved on the heart of Sr. Angelines. Remembering it, she said: “Maestra Thecla looked at me with the maternal, affectionate and profound gaze so characteristic of her, and said: ‘Go to Valencia, where Sr. Fedele is waiting for you. From there, the two of you can then proceed to Valladolid.’ With a trembling voice, I said *yes* to her invitation and I still remember the warm hug she gave me.”

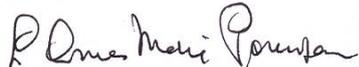
Sr. Angelines and Sr. Fedele arrived in Valladolid on 30 Sept. 1952. Another religious Congregation offered them hospitality until they could find a house of their own, which was essential. With great faith, the two sisters visited the Sanctuary of the Great Promise and with their intense pleas challenged the Sacred Heart of Jesus to grant them this grace. With deep emotion, Sr. Angelines recounted that she turned to Jesus with great simplicity and trust, saying: “If you want us to remain in Valladolid, give us a sign. Otherwise we will go to Burgos. We will wait eight days....” And the grace was quickly granted: in fact, before their *ultimatum* expired, the sisters were offered a furnished house free of charge. They lost no time moving in, using a cart to transfer their few, poor belongings to their new residence. From Valladolid, they visited the vast Castile region, sometimes traveling by donkey, to hold Gospel Days and Bible Weeks. Looking back on those times, Sr. Angelines said simply: “We encountered many problems and dangers but the Lord saved us from them all.”

In 1962, she was transferred to Valencia and three years later she was appointed superior of the newly-opened San Bernardo community, Madrid. She herself, thanks to a “second sense,” had found the home for her sisters. She then served as superior of the Valencia community for one term, after which she was placed in charge of our St. Paul Film Agency in that city for about 10 years. In 1982, she was assigned to the Las Rozas community, Madrid, where she was first asked to manage the stockroom and later was appointed superior of the community. Afterward, she dedicated herself with competence and love to the diffusion apostolate through her work in the San Bernardo (Madrid) and Valladolid book centers.

From 2008 onward, Sr. Angelines lived in Madrid primarily for health reasons. She suffered from heart problems and tumors, but above all from almost complete blindness, for which she underwent several operations. But her sight did not improve and she finally came to the conclusion that the true light of her life was faith alone.

With the grace of God, Sr. Angelines gradually placed herself totally in the hands of her sisters and doctors, whom she was obliged to visit frequently due to ongoing and serious respiratory problems. Her latest breathing crisis, which took place this morning, opened to her the gates of heaven, where she can now contemplate forever the immense goodness and love of the heart of Jesus, who had captivated her life.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 25 August 2019