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

With deep emotions, we communicate to you that the Heavenly Father has once again called to himself one of our Filipina Sisters at 6:22 PM (local time) in the St. John of God Hospital of Pasay City (Manila) who entered into life eternal, our Sister,

LAGURA ESPERANZA SR. MARIA EVANGELINA
Born in Cebu City, (Philippines) on 1st August, 1932.

Sr Evangelina entered the Congregation in the house of Lipa on 23rd April, 1952, after having achieved a High School diploma while she was living with her family. She immediately had the possibility of experiencing the technical apostolate, in the typography of Pasay City. She re-entered Lipa for her novitiate which concluded with her first profession on 19th March, 1956. In her requests for admission to the various stages of her formation, Sr Evangelina repeated, almost as a refrain, her profound conviction “I am not worthy, but I want to become a Daughter of St Paul in order to work as a small apostle of the Divine Master in the mission of the Good Press... I place myself in the hands of our Celestial Mama, the Queen of Apostles so that she may guide all of my life.”


From the time she was a young professed sister, she travelled the streets of the regions of Visayas (Cebu) and of Luzon (Manila) with her bag full of books to bring the Word of God to each family. She continued the ministry of the Word in Cagayan de Oro, Iloilo and Cebu. Her character was simple and good, calm and gentle, slow and tranquil, favoring the serene life in the community. She willingly lent her help also in the Book Centres: her presence is remembered in the apostolic centres of Iloilo, Pasay City, Zamboanga, Baguio, Naga, Davao, Tuguegarao. For some years, she dedicated herself to the radio apostolate in the community of Pasay City.

When she was still young, she insistently expressed to the Superior General to send her to the missions in Africa or else in Pakistan or even in the community of Albano to offer them her help as a nurse. But this desire was never granted and it always remained secretly in her heart.

In 2009, she was in Pasay City, first in the community of “The Divine Master” and then in the community of “The Queen of Apostles” working *part time* in doing different services for the community and for the province. She helped in the office for the benefactors, visiting the sick friends of the community, bringing to them words of consolation and hope. She also helped the provincial secretary, especially when for various reasons, the secretary had to be absent. In her simplicity, she continued to communicate serenity, peace, and love for the Pauline vocation and a profound devotion to Mary, Queen of Apostles. And it is beautiful to think that Mary, our “Queen”, carried her rather quickly, to Paradise. In fact, her call came quite suddenly. It was only yesterday that she was admitted in the hospital because of a heart attack in which her body, already with grave problems of diabetes, could not overcome.

Sr Evangelina was really a “small apostle of the Divine Master,” a sister who gave all that she had so that the name of the Lord could be known, loved and brought to everyone. She left with us “the sweet odor of Christ”, the perfume of her littleness and humility.

We gather around our Filipina Sisters expressing to them our closeness and affection for the many sisters who have already gone into eternal life, maintaining with us the ties of love and communion. We are reminded that “we are surrounded by a multitude of witnesses” (Hb12.1) and which stimulates us to walk towards the goal.


Sr Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 8th May, 2018