

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

at 5:30 in the afternoon, in the community “Giacomo Alberione” of Albano, the Lord called to his peace, our sister

**LEONE ASSUNTA Sr CORINNA**  
**Born at Resina (Naples) on January 15, 1937**

We can well say that Sr. Corinna has concluded her long calvary, and has finally gone to contemplate the Face she had so desired. Especially lately, she had a strong nostalgia for heaven, and she repeated it insistently to the sisters who stopped by to pay her a visit. In her bed of pain, where she had become all swollen since her body could no longer absorb liquids, it seemed that Corinna was in a continual tension toward Life. She was vigilant and aware that the Spouse was coming for her, and that her long “passion” and suffering were ending.

In 1998, she had a severe stroke that left part of her body paralyzed. At the time, Sr. Corinna was a delegate of one of the zones of the Italian province. This sudden illness in some way shattered her intense activity and her exuberant Neapolitan stamina. She was a likeable and generous sister, quick-witted and with a ready answer always enriched by interesting details. She was a sister who lived her religious life with much depth and authenticity. As a young professed she had written, “I am happy. The more time passes, the more I become aware of the graces that Jesus is granting me during these years of juniorate. As sisters, we are beginning to truly love each other in a holy way, and at the same time we extend this love beyond the communitarian circle to those we encounter through the exercise of the apostolate.”

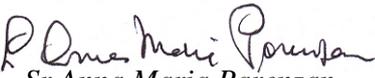
Sr. Corinna entered the Congregation in the house of Rome on November 27, 1961. She made her novitiate in Alba, which concluded with first profession on June 30, 1965. As a young professed she worked in the offices of the apostolic “Center” in Rome, then in Milan, where she lent her assistance in the stock room. Afterward she went to Ravenna, La Spezia, Brescia and Palermo where she had the possibility of joyfully experiencing the apostolate of the bookcenter. For a time she worked in Rome, in the administration section for the magazines, and then at the Study Center of St. Paul Film. In Foggia and in Cagliari she was a superior capable of generating enthusiasm and love for the Pauline vocation.

Sr. Corinne then began an intense period of service in government as a delegate provincial from 1985 to 1991, and from 1994 until 1998 when the illness interrupted her activity. This illness had somehow been predicted to her. When she was sick, she used to love to recount a dream that she had had before the stroke; in it, the Lord addressed these words to her: “I associate myself to you.” These words sustained her through the long years of suffering and shed light in her journey of pain. She perceived fully the mystery of this association to the sufferings of Jesus for the salvation of the world. Moreover, even in the most critical moments, it was sufficient to repeat these words for her to feel serene again, fully abandoned in the arms of the Father, offering herself daily for the good of the Church, the Congregation and the whole world.

Especially lately, Sr. Corinna’s bed had become an altar where she was consuming the oblation of her entire life. When she was still full of energy and so much desire for self-giving, she had had to accept the difficult mission of becoming small again, fully dependent on the nurses and the sisters who cared for her with so much love.

On July 22, 1998, some days before being struck by the illness that was to mark her life forever, she wrote to the Superior general: “I realized once again that God’s forbearance is my salvation.” The Lord’s love accompanied her in these last few years. By now, this was her continual prayer: “Jesus, take me. Jesus, help me. Jesus, come.” Jesus did come to associate her to himself forever, and to unite her to his death and resurrection, into the intimacy of the life that will have no end.

With affection.

  
Sr Anna Maria Parenzan  
Superior general

Rome, Novembre 16, 2013.