

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

At 6:35 p.m. today, during Evening Prayer I for the Feast of Mary, Queen of Apostles, the Lord visited the San Raffaele wing of our Albano, Italy community to open the gates of heaven to our sister:

MARAZZI VIRGINIA – SR. MARIA ROSANGELA
born in Minozzo (Reggio Emilia), Italy on 5 August 1937.

Sr. M. Rosangela came from a big, beautiful family: in fact, she was the youngest of nine children. In his letter presenting her to the Congregation, her pastor praised her, saying: “Her optimum conduct, deep piety, strong family spirit and valuable work in parish groups are to me all signs that she will do well [in your Institute]. I am praying for all of us and for these good mountain people, dark of skin but brilliantly white in faith, poor in material goods but rich in virtue and sacrifices: these are the people who will save the world.”

Sr. M. Rosangela entered the Congregation in the community of Alba on 3 Oct. 1955. As a postulant, she carried out propaganda to the families in the diocese of Lodi. She made her novitiate in Rome, concluding it with her first profession on 30 June 1959. As a young professed she returned to the propaganda apostolate, this time in Rimini. On the occasion of the renewal of her vows, she asked her superiors to pray for her perseverance in her beautiful vocation, underscoring the intense apostolate she was carrying out in the seaside town of Rimini: “I am on the beach from morning to night.” In her letter to the Superior General requesting admission to perpetual profession, which she made in Rome on 30 June 1964, she wrote: “I know my health is frail but I want to dedicate all my physical resources to the glory of God and the good of souls. In addition to all the *yeses* I have said up to now, I want to add this *yes for all my life*, if you will allow me to do so.”

After her perpetual profession, Sr. M. Rosangela was assigned to the Albano community, where she first carried out various services in the outpatient sector and then in the radiology and cardiology departments. To perform her work competently, she earned a technical diploma in radiology in 1973. All the sisters and patients who benefited from her services say that she was a serene, hospitable, kind and friendly person.

The sisters of our Albano community, in which Sr. M. Rosangela lived almost her entire Pauline life, remember her devotion to the Congregation, her wholehearted participation in group activities and her collaboration in preparing for feast days and the special events celebrated by the community. Everyone was happy to be around Sr. M. Rosangela because she radiated joy, a positive outlook on life and great love for her vocation. In 1997, she wrote what can be considered her last will and testament:

“To all my sisters: thank you for your love for me and please forgive my many shortcomings. I can say with great conviction that I love you all. I want to thank all of you for helping me persevere in my Pauline vocation. I am praying for you and ask you to do the same for me. I would like as many priests as possible to concelebrate my funeral liturgy, but please—no sermon. For flowers, I would like three roses, if they are in season. Sincere thanks to all the members of my large natural family. I have received so much good from all of you and I love you very much. Farewell until we meet again in heaven.”

In 2009, back problems forced Sr. M. Rosangela to give up her beloved work in the hospital, which brought her into direct contact with patients. Last summer it was discovered that she was suffering from pancreatic cancer, already in an advanced stage. She lived the last months of her life in peace, fully aware that her Spouse would soon be calling her to himself.

Today the Queen of Apostles, whom Sr. M. Rosangela loved very much, led her through the gates of heaven and we are sure that our sister is now rejoicing with her in the presence of the Lord.

With deep affection,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar General

Rome, 25 May 2012