

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

At 3:30 this afternoon, the moment arrived for one of the members of our Divine Providence community, Alba, Italy to leave this world for the house of the Father:

MEINERO MIRELLA – SR. M. LORENZA
born in Cuneo, Italy on 15 February 1936.

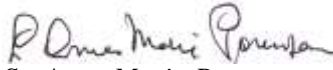
Sr. M. Lorenza entered the Congregation in the community of Alba on 7 June 1958 and after a time of initial formation made her novitiate in Rome. This concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1961. Immediately afterward, she was assigned to the book center apostolate, which she carried out in Turin, Asti and Brescia successively. In 1970 she was called to complete for formal education, which included participation in sociology and catechetics courses in Milan. Following this, she was entrusted with the formation of the Juniors, who at that time were part of the Verona community. However, in 1973 their residence was transferred to the headquarters of Italy's Bologna Province. While there, Sr. Lorenza served contemporaneously as provincial councilor for formation.

In 1976, she was appointed superior of the Treviso community and following this she served two terms as provincial councilor in the reunified Italian Province. In 1985 she participated in a year-long course for sisters who were destined to serve as novice mistresses in the Congregation. In fact, at the end of the course, Sr. Lorenza was placed in charge of the newly-erected European novitiate. She felt that the role was beyond her capabilities but she nevertheless carried it out with obedience and faith. Launching out on this new experience, she wrote: "I am praying fervently that I will be a docile and intelligent instrument in the hands of the Lord, who seems to enjoy choosing things of no value to achieve his ends." From 1986-1997, she accompanied the future European FSPs in their formation journey, first at the Generalate and then, for the last two years, in the Queen of Apostles community in Rome. These young women came from the Italian Province, the Delegations of Great Britain, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Australia and the Lublin community, which at that time was directly dependent on the General Government. It was a time of intense commitment and hard work for Sr. Lorenza, but it was also a time of great joy and an in-depth plunge into the Pauline charism. She proved to be very gifted at intuitively grasping the diverse mentalities and cultures of the young women in formation and was happy to serve as an intermediary in communicating to them the wealth of the Pauline vocation.

In 1997, Sr. Lorenza was once again called to serve as one of the Italian Province's councilors. She willingly shared her formation experiences and was very attentive to ensuring that the young women in formation would be able to face the challenges to their vocation with serenity and faith. When her term of office ended, she was assigned to the Alba community so as to be close to her mother, who was declining in health. But the situation worsened rapidly and she was obliged to ask for a leave of absence from the Congregation in order to provide her mother with full-time care. Launching out on what turned out to be another period of intense self-offering, she wrote: "I am trying to serenely live what the Lord is asking of me. I want to learn from this experience. I am taking advantage of every opportunity to offer him my daily sufferings and sacrifices for the Pauline mission and the needs of the Congregation, especially its formation and vocation sectors. I am truly going through a 'desert' experience...."

Mrs. Meinero died in August 2008 and immediately afterward Sr. Lorenza re-entered the Alba community, filled with a great desire to serve the sisters. But her own health was now very fragile—a situation that prevented her from undertaking initiatives that were physically demanding. In simplicity, prayer and self-surrender to the Lord, she continued to reaffirm the *yes* she had offered the Lord on the day of her profession. Suffering from Alzheimer's disease, she fell into a deep coma a few weeks ago—the prelude to her complete self-offering to the Lord. And today a pulmonary edema (accumulation of fluid in the lungs) hastened her journey to our merciful Father, whom she now contemplates in all his glory.

We entrust to Sr. Lorenza all the young women who are making vocational discernments in this time, asking that they might come in contact with sisters who are able to understand them, guide them and offer them a joyful witness to the Pauline life. Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 12 May 2016