

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

Yesterday morning the Lord unexpectedly visited Decimoputzu (Cagliari), Italy to call to eternal life one of our sisters who was at home attending the funeral of her brother:

MOCCI VITALIA – SR. M. GESUINA
born in Decimoputzu (Cagliari), Italy on 13 October 1931.

Sr. M. Gesuina entered the Congregation in Rome on 12 December 1953. She spent her time of initial formation here, concluding it with her first profession on 30 June 1957. This event was celebrated in conjunction with Fr. Alberione's 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood, making it a double feast, brimming over with joy and hope. We are sure Sr. Gesuina always carried in her heart the words Primo Maestro addressed to our Institute that day: "The Daughters of St. Paul, guided by the wisdom of Prima Maestra, who is ever-ready to welcome every good initiative, should thank Jesus Master for having given them such a holy and beneficial apostolate. Their increase in members and diffusion, and the positive results of their activities, can be attributed to their unconditional dedication of every hour and moment to God."

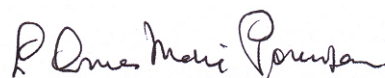
Sr. M. Gesuina witnessed to her *unconditional dedication of every hour and moment to God* through her great goodness and her love for the Pauline vocation and for every sister. Her mother had taught her the art of cooking and even as a young professed she placed this talent at the service of her sisters, convinced that a good cook could help to foster harmony in the community and in the apostolate. In fact, Sr. Gesuina was a very gifted cook who displayed great creativity in preparing and presenting meals. Concerned that her sisters nourish themselves properly and sufficiently, she lovingly she prepared hot meals for the members of the community who were away from home all day, making sure that nothing was lacking—indeed, that there was an abundance of everything. It was clear that she included a piece of her heart in every meal she prepared over the years in the communities of Castro Pretorio (Rome), Naples, Milan, Bologna and Trent.

In 1984, Sr. M. Gesuina's persistent fragile health made it necessary to transfer her to the Thecla Merlo community of Albano, where she remained for the rest of her life. Here, she was placed in charge of the laundry and housekeeping sectors. A very precise and well-organized person, she found great satisfaction in presenting the sisters with fresh, sweet-smelling laundry at the end of the day. When Sr. Gesuina's lay collaborators in the housekeeping department were told of her unexpected death, they openly wept at the loss of such a kind and tactful supervisor.

Some time ago, Sr. M. Gesuina defined herself as *meticulous*, an apt description of her personality, but we can expand this self-definition to also include her strong spirit of fidelity to the Institute and her great sensitivity to everyone in need. This latter quality made her very attentive to the needs of others and moved her to help them bear their sufferings. And we can testify that Sr. M. Gesuina bore many physical and moral sufferings throughout her life.

While thanking God for this dear sister and all the good she sowed among us, we entrust her to the infinite mercy of the Father, asking him to offer her the words of consolation and hope expressed in the readings of today's Liturgy, and to lead her to eternal life and love with him.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar General

Rome, 10 January 2010