

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

At a little after 1:00 p.m. today, the Father of Light visited our community of Albano, Italy, to call to himself our sister:

NIEDDU FAUSTINA – SR. MYRIAM
born in Bolotana (Nuoro), Italy on 15 February 1932.

For the past three months, Sr. Myriam had been prophesying her imminent call to heaven, telling everyone that her Spouse would be coming soon. She prepared herself for this call by surrendering herself to the doctors and nurses who treated, with true professionalism, the serious form of leukemia from which she was suffering.

Sr. Myriam was a competent sister with an excellent academic preparation that enriched the communities in which she lived with a thirst for knowledge, a love for study, and the desire to express the teaching dimension of the Pauline vocation through the mission of the Institute. She entered the Congregation in the house of Rome on 1 September 1947, at the age of 15, and was assigned to the typography, where she set type by hand, impaginated texts and did proofreading. As a postulant, she spent some time in the Rovigo and Trieste communities, returning to Rome for her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 19 March 1953. She considered herself fortunate to be able to make her vows according to the new Constitutions, which had been officially approved by the Church just 4 days earlier (15 March).

She finished high school within the Institute, and then went on to take in-house courses in philosophy and theology. At the same time, she worked in the editorial department, where she wrote book reviews and prepared texts for printing. After completing her studies, she was transferred to the Congregation's "Catechetical Community" in Grottaferrata (Rome) to collaborate in the writing of catechisms. Later, in Messina, she had the opportunity to participate in the beauty and effectiveness of Bible and Catechetical Weeks. Following this, she spent 3 consecutive years in the Udine book center.

In 1966, Sr. Myriam was called to the mission *ad gentes*. Sent to Sydney, Australia, she carried out the diffusion apostolate and produced radio and television programs for the diocese's Catholic Center. Returning to Italy, she prepared film reviews and afterward was sent to Birmingham, Great Britain, to study English and also work in the book center. Returning once again to Italy in 1971, she was assigned to the Divine Providence community and then to that of Flaminio Ponzio (both in Rome), where she continued her work in the publishing field. During this period, she also had the chance to deepen her theological preparation by attending the Pontifical Lateran University, from which she obtained a Master's Degree and then a Doctorate in Theology, with a specialization in pastoral work.

In Verona, Belluno and Nuoro, Sr. Myriam communicated the Word of God through the radio apostolates of these dioceses. For a time, she also collaborated with SPICS, based in the SSP headquarters in Rome. Following this, she asked for a leave of absence from the Congregation to assist her sick and elderly mother. On her re-entrance in 1994, she was assigned to the Albano community, where she worked in the administration office and in the library of Queen of Apostles Hospital, which she called "a treasure trove of medical science." She felt called to be a "sacramental presence" by "rolling up her sleeves" and fostering the ideal of the hospital through the activities entrusted to her.

Sr. Myriam always preserved with great care a hand-written message of the Founder to her, which she wore over her heart up to the last day of her life because it had become her program of life: "Always and in everything, Pauline," it read. Recalling with joy and deep emotion that moment of grace and profound harmony with Fr. Alberione, she wrote: "I still feel the hug Primo Maestro gave me on that day in September 1956, in his office...."

Let us entrust this dear sister to the mercy of our good Father, asking him to hold her close to his heart, immerse her in the flood of his delights, and bless her with fullness of life.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 2 January 2020