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Dearest Sisters,

We just heard that the Divine Master visited Wada Hospital in Nagoya, Japan at 11:00 a.m. local time today to call to the joy of his kingdom our sister:

NOGUCHI MIOKO – SR. MARIA ADEODATA
born in Nagasaki, Japan on 16 May 1941.

Sr. M. Adeodata entered the Congregation in the community of Fukuoka on 2 April 1957. She was 16 years old at the time and fired by a great desire to dedicate herself to God, a yearning in keeping with the illustrious tradition of her hometown, Nagasaki, which has enriched the Church with many martyrs. In fact, among her relatives she could count bishops, priests, brothers and her own sister, ten years her junior, who also became a Daughter of St. Paul and died in 1973.

Sr. M. Adeodata underwent her initial formation in Fukuoka and then went to Tokyo for her postulancy and novitiate. She made her first profession there on 30 June 1964, after which she returned to Fukuoka to carry out capillary and collective diffusion.

When she was admitted to perpetual profession in 1969, her formator described her thus: “Sr. M. Adeodata is a person of profound faith, expressed in her strong apostolic spirit. With good will, she strives to do everything patiently and for supernatural reasons.” In 1972, Sr. M. Adeodata was transferred to Nagoya, where she joyfully carried out the book center apostolate in the “St. Paul Corner” of the large Meutetsu department store. The book corner was frequented by many shoppers, especially young people looking for books on formation.


In 1974, Sr. M. Adeodata was assigned to Osaka and three years later to Nagasaki, where she worked in the “Catholic Corner” of another small book center in a large department store. Her health, always delicate, obliged her to return to Tokyo in 1980, where she carried out various community services.

Sr. M. Adeodata was a kind and gentle person who was able to clearly express her feelings and who possessed a beautiful singing voice. Always ready to help her sisters, she wanted to serve her community by responding wholeheartedly to the needs of its members but her frail health limited her possibilities in this regard.

In 2000, she was reassigned to Nagoya, where she continued to serve her sisters simply and fraternally to the extent that her delicate health permitted. About 6 years ago, while making a course of spiritual exercises in Tokyo, she experienced a health crisis that left her temporarily paralyzed. When she returned to Nagoya, she began a long calvary in which she divided her time between periods in the community and periods of hospitalization. In fact, she spent the last months of her life once again in the hospital. A few days ago, her blood pressure dropped sharply and she also required blood transfusions due to kidney problems.

Today, the first day of the novena to the Holy Spirit, the moment Sr. M. Adeodata had been expecting finally arrived. Today’s Gospel reading casts a special light on her life: “When a woman is in labor, she is sad that her time has come. But when she has borne her child, she no longer remembers her pain.... In the same way, you are sad for a time, but I shall see you again; then your hearts will rejoice with a joy no one can take from you.” This morning, Sr. M. Adeodata entered fully and—we are sure—wholeheartedly into the peace and love of the Lord, where she now rejoices with a joy that no one will ever be able to take from her.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar General

Rome, 3 June 2011