

DEAREST SISTERS...

PAULINE PANORAMA

Calendar of the General Government

The Circumscriptions

- Philippines*: Students' Video Festival 2012
Pauline Spirituality Today
- Japan*: Meeting for FSP Lay Collaborators
- Spain*: Meeting with Pauline Book Center Collaborators
- Ivory Coast*: We take pen in hand...
- India*: New Book and Media Center in Holy Family Hospital
- Great Britain*: FSPs at the International Eucharistic Congress
- South Africa*: Seminar in the Light of the Document *Africae Munus*
- Portugal*: Bible Study Groups in Porto
- Korea*: Where will the polar bears go?
- Brazil*: *Cibercatequese*: A New Online Catechetical Magazine
- Colombia*: Together for the Faith
- Italy*: Together Toward Apostolic Holiness
- Peru-Bolivia*: Pauline Cooperators Meeting

Our Studies

- FSP Studies in Kenya and in Ivory Coast

FAITH-A RELATIONSHIP

- Faith as Discovery

THE TEACHINGS OF MAESTRA THECLA

- Associated Artists

SHARING OUR STORIES

- My Vocation Story

THE PAULINE FAMILY

- Apostolines: A New Community in Brazil
- Italy: St. Paul Store: An Oasis for the Spirit

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Window on the Church

- Support Features for the Year of Faith
- Inauguration of the Observatory of the New Evangelization for Latin America
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2013

Window on the World

- First Woman President for the African Union
- Pan-African Congress for the Catholic Laity

Window on Communications

- The Liturgy as Communication
- Third Catholic Cinema Festival Held in Rome
- Philippines: First Meeting on the Catholic Social Media

CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE



THE "FIFTH TALENT"

Dearest Sisters,

I spent several days trying to decide what to talk about in this circular letter. I took into consideration very important and timely subjects such as the 13th Ordinary General Assembly of Bishops on the theme, *The New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith* (7-28 Oct. 2012), in which I will be privileged to participate as Superior General of the Daughters of St. Paul; the *Year of Faith* that the Church will be celebrating from 11 Oct. 2012–24 Nov. 2013; the preparations for our 10th General Chapter...but I just couldn't make up my mind.

Then, this morning, my meditation on the Sunday Gospel reading (Mark 7:3-37) triggered memories of the early 1990's when the enlightened Shepherd of the world's largest diocese, Milan, proposed in his pastoral letter what might be called a "theology of communication," taking as his starting point God's self-communication to human beings. The Shepherd was Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini, already an internationally-renowned biblical scholar, and his pastoral letter bore the title of today's Gospel proclamation: *Ephphatha! Be Opened!* Using the image of this biblical figure—a man who could neither hear nor speak—Cardinal Martini emphasized the urgent need to eliminate every barrier to communication. How? First of all by improving one's listening skills: if you want to communicate, first learn to listen....

As missionaries of the Gospel who work in the field of communications, the FSPs are deeply indebted to Cardinal Martini for his many books, which have enriched our catalogues; for his wise teachings, on which we have often drawn; for the steadfast passion with which he taught and supported the practice of the *Lectio Divina*; for his profound interest in communi-

cations, which, as he said in another pastoral letter, "should make us brothers and sisters, not enemies" (*The Hem of His Garment*, 1991). An adept biblical scholar, in this second letter the Cardinal makes use of another biblical image to express an idea very much in line with the thinking of Fr. Alberione, namely: that the instruments of communication can give rise to "a truly humanizing and even salvific communication" that transmits something of the mystery of God without being this Mystery.

Delivering a talk at a Congress held in 1997, Cardinal Martini used a third image—what he called "the fifth talent"—to define communication in the Church. A Christian community, he said, must take into equal account all the "talents" entrusted to it. The first of these is the *Word of God* (and therefore *catechesis*); the second is the *Liturgy* and *sacraments*, above all the *Eucharist*; the third is *charity*; the fourth is *fraternal communion*, and the fifth is *communication*. In his discourse, he said very clearly that if we do not pay close attention to the way we communicate, then charity, catechesis, the Liturgy, the Word of God and a spirit of communion within the community will not make a very deep impact on the lives of others. These "talents" will all remain closed within themselves and will gradually fade away....



In his book, the *Ages of Life* (2010), the Cardinal quotes an Indian proverb that divides existence into four parts. In the first age of life a person studies, in the second, teaches, in third, reflects and in the fourth, learns to beg. Cardinal Martini learned the art of "begging," of depending on others for care, because had surrendered himself completely to the One who, today, draws us aside, saying once again, this time to us who are evangelizers in the world of communication: *Ephphatha! Be Opened!*

United to all of you in affection and prayers,

S. M. Antonietta Bruscato
Sr. M. Antonietta Bruscato
Superior General

Rome, 9 September 2012

PHILIPPINES
STUDENTS' VIDEO FESTIVAL 2012



The Daughters of St. Paul organized a “Students’ Video Festival” on the theme *Silence and Word: Path of Evangelization*, to celebrate the 46th World Communications Day (WCD). The grand finale of the event was held on 17 June 2012 in the FSP Alberione Auditorium, Pasay City. Eleven schools from Cavite, Olongapo and Pasay City participated in the event, which was attended by more than 200 students and over 80 young people from other youth organizations.

The Festival opened with a Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Fr. Ramil Tapang, SSP, who discussed the theme of the Day in his sermon, challenging the assembly to go out and proclaim the Good News, to become Jesus for others not only in words, but also in deeds, using the language of love.

The grand finale included the screening of all video entries, the casting of votes by the audience and an evaluation by the board of judges, composed of Sr. Consolata Manding, FSP, Director Lemuel Garcellano and Bro. Hansel Mapayo, SSP.

The winners and the participating schools received cash prizes and special gifts from sponsors. The Festival was spearheaded by the Paulines Institute of Communications in Asia (PICA).

PAULINE SPIRITUALITY TODAY



This past August, 19 Daughters of St. Paul from Korea, Japan, Pakistan and the Philippines participated in a 3-week seminar/workshop entitled, *Pauline Spirituality in the Later Years*. Held in Manila, Philippines, the seminar aimed to help the participants come to a greater awareness of the immensely rich spiritual heritage left to the Pauline Family by Fr. Alberione and how relevant it continues to be today.

The daily itinerary of the course consisted of input, reflection, sharing and prayer on themes such as psycho-spiritual integration, the spirituality of the elderly, Jesus Master-center and unifier of the Pauline life, media literacy education and the new media.

JAPAN
MEETING FOR FSP LAY COLLABORATORS



From 3-5 July 2012, the Daughters of St. Paul of Japan held a formation meeting for the lay personnel who work in their central diffusion office in Tokyo and in the Pauline book centers of Sendai, Nagoya and Yamaguchi.

The primary purpose of the encounter was to present the Congregation to our collaborators through a deeper look at our Pauline history, spirituality and mission, with a special focus on the mission of the laity.

Sr. Giovanna Mishima, fsp, and Fr. Augustino Suzuki, ssp, gave very enlightening talks on the Pauline charism, and afterward the group watched two documentaries, *Thecla* and *In the Far East*, the latter of which describes the first years of the FSPs in Japan. The encounter concluded with a sharing of ideas and experiences in a spirit of profound communion that fortified our collaborators’ sense of belonging to the Institute.

SPAIN

MEETING WITH PAULINE BOOK CENTER COLLABORATORS



Our sisters of Spain recently held their third *Cultural-Formation Meeting* for their book center collaborators. These meetings, which began in 2008, have been held on both the local and national levels so as to improve our book center mission. The encounters have little by little met important goals such providing our collaborators with the opportunity to get to know one another and exchange experiences, strengthen their group spirit and their identity as Pauline cooperators, etc. This year's meeting was also an occasion to reflect more deeply on the socio-cultural and religious situations that make an impact on our book center mission and they also provided an opportunity to consolidate a unitary and progressive management of our centers.

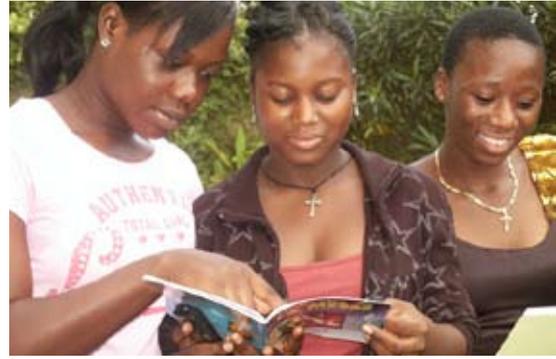
The talks of guest speaker Professor Juan Martin Velasco focused on *the religious situation of Europe and Spain, the crisis of God in society and in the Church, what it means to be a Christian in a pluri-cultural and pluri-religious environment and evangelization today.*

The program also included two very helpful workshops: *Book Centers in Crisis* and *The Organization of the Pauline Book Centers*. Our collaborators engaged in a very fruitful exchange of ideas concerning the products of our publishing house, advertising and new forms of online presence. All the participants were very appreciative of the paths sketched out and the lines of action that emerged. The meeting concluded with a renewed desire on the part of everyone, sisters and lay personnel alike, to continue this formation itinerary.

IVORY COAST

WE TAKE PEN IN HAND...

"If the mountain won't come to Muhammed, then Muhammed must go to the mountain." This saying can be applied very appropriately to the



recent visit of seven young students from Burkina Faso (a country where the Pauline Family is not present) to the Daughters of St. Paul in the Ivory Coast, in the month of June 2012. The young women immersed themselves in the life and apostolate of our Pauline community there for thirty days and had this to say about the experience: "It is a custom here in Africa to thank others for the good—no matter how large or small—received from them. Because of this, we take pen in hand to write to you... The good we received was so great and profound that we don't have the words to express our feelings. Our stay [with the FSPs in the Ivory Coast] helped us see and 'touch' the mission of the Daughters of St. Paul. We met a community that radiates joy, sociability, attentiveness to one another, dynamic action, prayer and a great desire to do good. In the footsteps of the Apostle Paul, evangelization with all the instruments of communication responds to the teaching of Fr. Alberione. Our best wishes to all the sisters as they strive to make Jesus Master, Way, Truth and Life the center of their lives. May Mary, Queen of Apostles, protect the Pauline mission and may St. Paul pour out his zeal abundantly on all the Daughters of St. Paul."

Ruth, Ursula, Judith B., Judith, Clémence, Clémence O., Séraphine, Florence, Anita

INDIA

NEW BOOK AND MEDIA CENTER IN HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL



With the opening of a small book center in Holy Family Hospital, Okhla, New Delhi, the Daughters of St. Paul have established another center of light, love and prayer that they hope will touch the lives of many people in this huge city. The Paulines were welcomed with comments such as: "We are very happy to have you, sisters. Your book center provides us with the things we want. Thank you for your presence." This type of reception has encouraged our sisters to hope that the little shop, located near the entrance to the building, will attract a lot of visitors because they are convinced that the hospital's personnel, patients and visitors all need to find the message of Christ in this place of suffering. They say: "We feel blessed to serve the Lord with our mission. We ask you all to continue to pray for us so that we will be able to reach many people here and continue the work of the Lord Jesus, who gave us this mission." Let us support this new apostolic endeavor and all our sisters of India with our prayers

SOUTH AFRICA

SEMINAR IN THE LIGHT OF THE DOCUMENT *AFRICAE MUNUS*



In the light of Pope Benedict XVI's post-synodal document *Africae Munus*, which calls the family a *sanctuary of life*, the FSPs of South Africa, in collaboration with the South African Episcopal Conference's Organism for the Family, held a seminar to help the faithful get to know and reflect more deeply on the elements necessary for the formation, spiritual life and cultural growth of this basic building block of society.

The seminar was subdivided into three parts:

- a presentation of the document
- a conference on the family
- a special look at the world of youth.

A significant number of people participated in the event and shared their first-hand experiences of what family life is like in today's ever-changing world.

GREAT BRITAIN

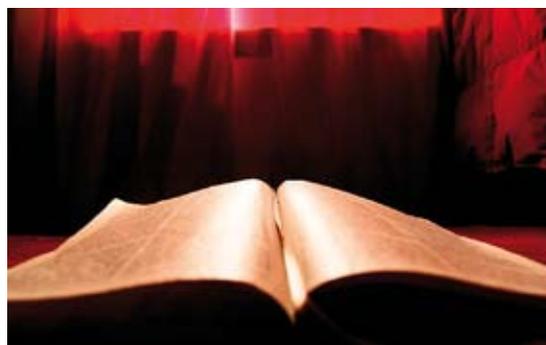
FSPs AT THE INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS



The 50th International Eucharistic Congress, 10-17 June 2012, which focused on the theme, *The Eucharist: Communion with Christ and with One Another*, opened in Dublin, Ireland on 10 June. It was a very significant event for the Local Church and for the whole Christian community. People from innumerable countries flocked to the Irish capital to celebrate in faith and unity the love of the Lord, who transforms himself into bread that is broken for the life of the world. The Congress was a favorable time for the FSPs of Great Britain, in collaboration with the Pious Disciples of Ireland, to offer everyone the "bread of the Word" through their presence and stand. Our sisters commemorated the occasion by gifting Cardinal Sean Baptist Brady, President of the Irish Episcopal Conference, with a copy of their new *Children's Catechism*, designed to facilitate the faith journey of the youngest members of the Body of Christ.

PORTUGAL

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS IN PORTO



With the arrival of summer, the Daughters of St. Paul concluded their annual program of Bible study sessions in the parishes of Porto. In a climate of celebration and reflection, the

participants evaluated their journey over the past year, with many saying over and over again how much they appreciated this chance to get together to listen to the Word of God, pray and share their reflections and experiences with one another. They said that their study of the Gospel of Mark, proposed by the Liturgy this year, offered them a wonderful occasion for spiritual growth and the opportunity to forge stronger bonds of communion with God and among themselves.

KOREA

WHERE WILL THE POLAR BEARS GO?



The Daughters of St. Paul of Korea have published a book entitled, *Where Will the Polar Bears Go?*, written by Fr. Benedict Hwang, Changyeon. The aim of the text is to encourage people to take an interest in environmental issues.

In promoting the book, our sisters made use of today's language, SNS, code QR. They also created a video clip advertisement: www.pauline.or.kr/images/media/test.wmv, which gave web navigators the chance to participate in a contest by using their own blogs or Youtube to offer their personal suggestions concerning Fr. Hwang's book or the environment. Participants were asked to leave their addresses on the advertisement page of the sisters' virtual book center (www.pauline.or.kr/special/pageview?pageid=65). Fr. Hwang offered the winners of the contest a three-day stay in his specially-created ecological village, *St. Philip Neri*, located in Pyeonchang, and the chance to participate in his environmental programs.

BRAZIL

CIBERCATEQUESE: A NEW ONLINE CATECHETICAL MAGAZINE



On 20 August 2012, the date on which the Pauline Family celebrated its 98th anniversary of foundation, the Daughters of St. Paul of

Brazil launched their new online magazine,

Cibercatequese (Cybercatechesis) (www.cibercatequese.com.br)—a service aimed at all the country's catechists and pastoral workers. The periodical, which will come out every three months, is meant to help catechists in their important work of transmitting the Faith to others. Catechesis has always been one of the priorities of the FSPs throughout the world. The decision of the Local Church of Brazil to provide its pastoral workers with a deeper formation in the Faith revealed the need for new and efficient instruments to support this ministry. Use of the Internet is the answer. Easy online access to the new magazine will ensure that catechists and all those who want to grow in the Christian life receive the help they need on their journey.

COLOMBIA

TOGETHER FOR THE FAITH...



The Catholics of Villa Rica, Colombia (a region near the Pacific Ocean) recently celebrated a ten-day "mission to the people" in St. Roch parish, where many initiatives for the Year of Faith are being organized. The fact that the team coordinating the event was both inter-congregational and international in make-up rendered the mission especially meaningful. The FSPs of Colombia and Peru, along with some of their Cooperators, made a notable contribution to the initiative by means of their visits to the families and schools of the area, their animations of various liturgical services, their daily radio messages to the people, the meetings they organized for adults, teens and children, and their enrichment of the music/dance dimension of the program. All were moments of grace, "favorable times" for everyone to deepen their relationship with God and among themselves with renewed enthusiasm.

ITALY
TOGETHER
TOWARD APOSTOLIC HOLINESS



Together Toward Apostolic Holiness: this was the theme of the meeting for our European Juniors, held at the Generalate in Rome, Italy from 1-9 September 2012.

After a year of study and apostolic activities, the group of juniors (made up of Srs. Andrea and Karina from the Czech Republic, Srs. Ana Maria and Paula from Romania, Sr. Sara from Portugal and Sr. Silvia from Poland), spent this interval reflecting on an essential dimension of the Pauline life: our *mission*. Drawing on the life and writings of Fr. Alberione and Maestra Thecla, the various speakers traced out the features of the Pauline mission and apostolate.

The sharing of their experiences and their ideas concerning how to carry out the apostolate during the Year of Faith, their times of prayer before the tomb of St. Paul and our Founders, and the joy of being together from so many different countries all helped our young sisters intensify their enthusiasm for the Pauline vocation. They summed up the encounter with this statement: "After this brief but very enriching 'pause' in our daily schedule, we are returning to our communities with a deep sense of gratitude for having been chosen to carry out the same mission as Christ: *to give God to people and to bring people to God.*"

We offer our young sisters our very best wishes and prayers as they strive to concretize this goal in their respective contexts.

PERU-BOLIVIA
PAULINE COOPERATORS
MEETING



The FSP Cooperators of Peru-Bolivia gathered in Lima, Peru from 31 August–2 September 2012 for a national meeting. The encounter was guided by Dr. Arturo Reyes, director of *Red Hacienda Lideres Peru* and creator of the *Pastoral Coaching Method* used in formation work. The meeting, held as a preparation for the *Year of Faith*, helped all the participants reinvigorate their enthusiasm in following the path traced out by Fr. Alberione as they communicate the message of God to the world through the book center apostolate.

Goals of the meeting:

- to help the Cooperators reinvigorate their enthusiasm for the Pauline charism, the font of inspiration for their apostolic activities;
- to create a climate favorable to interpersonal relations and collaboration between the various departments of the book center;
- to make the most of the talents of our lay collaborators by using *Pastoral Coaching* (a modern instrument for personal and professional formation) to help develop each individual's gifts;
- to train our collaborators to use new instruments like strategic and pastoral marketing so as to make their book center activities more effective;
- to draw up an *Organization Manual* to facilitate planning in every sector of the Pauline apostolate.

PAULINE STUDIES

IN KENYA...

Three Daughters of St. Paul recently concluded their studies at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya, two of them with the submission of an extended essay in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Diploma in Spirituality and Religious Formation, and one with a dissertation in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce.



Sr. Metrine Nafula Walima's extended essay for a diploma in spirituality is entitled: *Eight Days Retreat Conferences for the Temporary Professed Daughters of St. Paul*. The main theme of the retreat conferences, "A Letter of St. Paul to the People of Today," was inspired by the theme

for the Centenary celebration of the foundation of the Pauline Family because, as the author says, "this is an opportunity to celebrate the faithfulness and mercy of God and also a time to revitalize our personal and congregational response to him." She then invites the young professed sisters to respond to their religious vocation more profoundly by cultivating deeper intimacy with Christ and by striving to witness to him by means of their lives.

Each day of the retreat develops a verse taken from the Letters of Paul and applied to different aspects of the life of the Pauline apostle. The theme of the last day, *You are our letter of recommendation*, encourages our FSP Juniors to become living words of God.



Sr. Hellen Joseph Ndian-g'ui Wanjiru's essay—also for a diploma in spirituality—centers on the theme: *The Value of Spiritual Direction in Christian Living in Relation to Ongoing Formation in Religious Life*. Reflecting on several issues in the religious

life that are putting the Church through a time of testing and trial, the author considers spiritual direction to be a good tool to combat the emptiness of heart and rift experienced by many religious in their ongoing formation.

The first chapter of the 4-part essay focuses on Scripture and Tradition, the foundations of Christian spiritual direction. The second chapter presents the purpose and reasons for spiritual direction in both Christian living and religious formation, explaining how spiritual direction can help to remedy scandals in the Church. Chapter Three outlines the qualities and duties of the spiritual director and discusses some of the ethics to be observed during the directive process. Chapter Four focuses on prayer and the discernment of spirits and concludes with recommendations to both the director and the directee.



Sr. Hellen Nechesa Mალიatso's dissertation for a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce treats the subject: *Effective Measures for Inventory Management and Control in a Non-Profit Organization: A Case Study of Paulines Publications, Africa*.

The author obtained her data through the use of questionnaires and interviews and then proceeded to analyze this material quantitatively, presenting it in the form of mathematical calculations and graphs. Analysis of her findings reveals that Paulines Publications Africa considers inventory management and control to be very important because its inventory is its main investment. However, two big challenges faced by the publishing house are the fact that it lacks a marketing department and that its employees in the inventory sector do not have enough professional training to carry out their job effectively. The dissertation concludes with the recommendation that appropriate measures be taken to remedy these shortcomings by setting up a marketing department and ensuring that some employees receive specific training in inventory management and control so as to better respond to the needs of the publishing house and the people it is striving to reach.

...AND IN THE IVORY COAST:

Two FSPs recently presented dissertations to the Institute for Science and Technology of Communications—one sister in view of obtaining a professional license in radio and audiovisual production, and the second sister in visual graphics communication.



Sr. Cristiane M. José Ngave Dz'za's dissertation tackles the subject: *National Catholic Radio and the Promotion of Peace, Justice and Reconciliation in the Ivory Coast*. Part I of the three-part work seeks to identify personal,

congregational and scientific-social problems emerging in the field of radio. It then examines the Church's efforts to proclaim the Gospel and foster a more just and reconciled society through the radio apostolate, and concludes by suggesting a methodology to follow in this regard. Part II presents the development of Catholic radio broadcasting in the Ivory Coast, while Part III compares and analyzes the radio's broadcasts with the social doctrine of the Church, the problems of the country and the impact of the radio's programs on the people.

This ample and carefully-prepared dissertation is enriched with various graphs that

summarize the research data, as well as with a bibliography and several appendices.

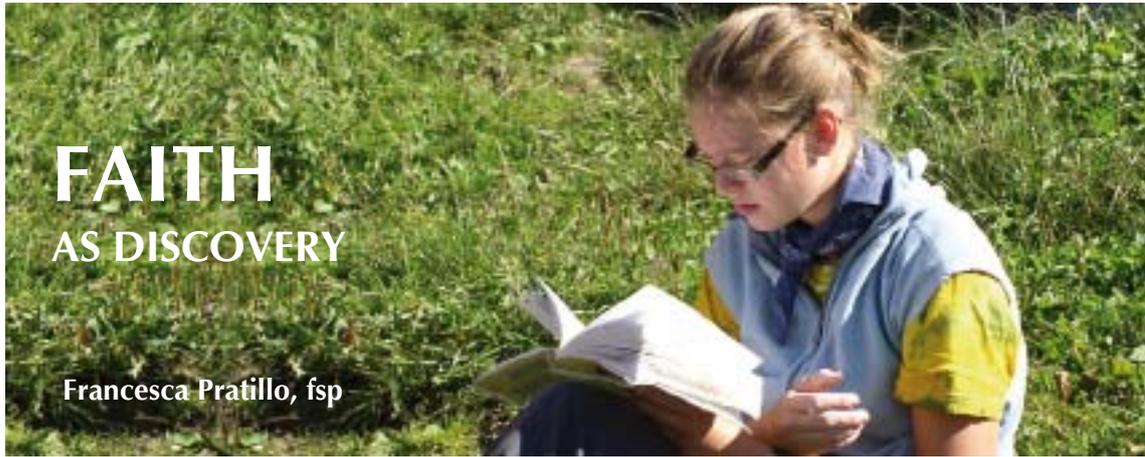


Sr. Thérèse Tshibola Nsaka's dissertation, the fruit of her experiences during a period of professional training in the SEPRIM company, is entitled: *Optimizing the Quality of Typographical Productions*. The author says her period of

apprenticeship with SEPRIM helped her upgrade her technical skills and apply them to the Pauline apostolate so as to improve and increase production—a process that begins with brainstorming, moves on to the creative stage in its various forms, and from there to printing and diffusion. She concludes with the affirmation that the word "quality" should be the determining feature of every Pauline product, of the whole Pauline mission and of the life of every Daughter of St. Paul.

Calendar of the General Government

25 Aug. - 25 Sept.	Rome, St. Paul House	Spiritual Exercises	Sr. Annamaria Parenzan
27 Aug. - 1 Sept.	Great Britain	Special Visit	Sr. Anna Caiazza
12-14 Sept.	Bucharest	Special Visit	Sr. Gabriella Santon
13-18 Sept.	Venezuela	Fraternal Visit	Sr. M. Antonieta Bruscato Sr. Luz Helena Arroyave
19-21 Sept.	Puerto Rico	Fraternal Visit	Sr. M. Antonieta Bruscato Sr. Luz Helena Arroyave
20-25 Sept.	Lisbon	Special Visit	Sr. Gabriella Santon
22-27 Sept.	Dominican Republic	Fraternal Visit	Sr. M. Antonieta Bruscato Sr. Luz Helena Arroyave
28-30 Sept.	Caracas	Meeting with the Circumscription Gov't	Sr. M. Antonieta Bruscato Sr. Luz Helena Arroyave
28 Sept. - 5 Oct.	Philippines	Special Visit	Sr. Annamaria Parenzan Sr. Inocencia Tormon
1-4 Oct.	Bogota	SAL Meeting	Sr. M. Antonieta Bruscato Sr. Luz Helena Arroyave
7-28 Oct.	Vatican City	Participation in the Synod for the New Evangelization	Sr. M. Antonieta Bruscato



Addressing the Pauline Family, Blessed James Alberione underscored the efficacy of faith with these words: “Faith in Divine Providence leads us to realize that God is taking care of all things, big and small.” Faith helps us discover the beauty of the infinite love of God, who looks after his creatures with immense tenderness.

This means penetrating the heart of the Gospel message. Jesus reveals to us a God who is very close to human beings and completely invested in their happenings. This truth frees us from worries about tomorrow. Anxiety about the future is the consequence of the existential attitude of the person who wants to plan and supervise everything, as if all things depended on him/her. But the future lies in the hands of God, our Father, who looks after all things: “Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are?” (Mt. 6:26) “Look”: this imperative reveals how necessary it is to observe everything attentively; to fix our gaze on the interior dimen-

sion. The word underscores that we should let nothing escape us. In his teachings, Jesus dedicates abundant space to the importance of experience, helping people become aware of the Father’s relationship with the world. God takes care of everyone and everything, even the defenseless birds of the air.

The disciple of Jesus is invited to look at nature attentively and find in it an answer to the anxieties that agitate the waters of life. The birds and flowers that the Master speaks about are not held up as models for us but as witnesses to the fact that God lavishes immense care on them. He feeds and tends them. In the Bible, the experience of a nurturing God is translated as a God who keeps us company in our difficulties and supports us in the desert of “testing.” Our provident Father is very attentive to the story of each of his children because people count more than birds and flowers.

The purpose of emphasizing the fact that humans are more important than the lower orders of creation is to convince us that God is taking special care of every person. None of us can add even one extra second to our lives.

In placing prayer at the heart of everything, Blessed James Alberione enlightened every apostolic situation with a liberating truth, namely: nothing we do is worthwhile if it is the anxious efforts of a person without trust in God. Faith helps us see that God the Father is watching over each of his children, moment by moment, with great benevolence. He knows what makes life livable and enjoyable and he is aware that this is not something secondary, so he provides. The discovery of this truth can help us live our faith freely and luminously.





ASSOCIATED ARTISTS

The following testimony is by Sr. Giuseppina Balestra, one of the oldest members of our Congregation. For many years she served as Maestra Thecla's driver and in this capacity accompanied her to many communities in Italy and other parts of Europe.



Maestra Thecla's charity toward the sisters was very discreet. More than once it happened that I was a little downcast and defensive after she had pointed out one of my shortcomings. However, the next time I saw her she would smile at me and with her penetrating gaze seem to ask: "You're not still sulking, are you?" At other times, she would say very straightforwardly: "I made that observation because I love you and want you to become a saint. It would be a bad sign if I had to put on 'velvet gloves' whenever I wanted to tell you something. Go now! Be serene and strive to become holy!"

Maestra Thecla was a humble woman who knew how to gratefully accept the "corrections" of even simple sisters like me. Once we arrived unexpectedly at one of our branch houses. The sisters' eyes shone with joy when they saw us but the superior was concerned because two members of the community were out of the house at that moment. She called them by phone and in a short time they arrived home. As soon as she saw Maestra Thecla, one of the two sisters ran up to her, grabbed her hand and kissed it enthusiastically. Maestra Thecla immediately pulled her hand away, making it clear that she did not like this type of "devotion." The sister was very hurt, but Maestra Thecla failed to see this.

I saw the suffering of this sister, who held herself apart from the rest of the group for the entire time we were there. When we left the community, I mustered my courage and said, "Prima Maestra, you did not like it when that sister kissed your hand but the poor thing was very hurt. Be tranquil and don't resist when the sisters want to kiss your hand. That act could help a person come closer to you, especially one who doesn't know you or who doesn't dare to approach you because at first glance you inspire awe!" She replied: "I'm very glad you brought this to my attention because I was not aware of it. You know I don't want the sisters to kiss my hand but if it will bring them closer to me, then I have no problem with it. Look here—the problem is this: no one ever tells us superiors our defects, even when they are obvious. The sisters are afraid to say anything. And because of this we never correct ourselves. I'm really glad you told me this. Deo gratias! When you see me doing something that is not right, please let me know about it."

Both in the branch houses and in Rome, Maestra Thecla was the heart and soul of beautiful community recreations. Whenever she traveled, it was normal for her to include in her luggage a box containing a variety of games for which only she, myself and (sometimes) M. Assunta Bassi knew the "tricks" involved. Because of this, Maestra Thecla would jokingly say that she and I were "associated artists." If the help of another person was needed to perform a trick successfully, then Maestra Thecla would always choose the shyest member of the community or else the sister who seemed to hold her in the greatest awe.

After those recreations, more than one sister would say to me: "You know, Prima Maestra's behavior banished all my fear of her. I'm so happy about that! What a nice person she is! I never imagined she was like that...."

MY VOCATION STORY



My name is Teresia Makiko Inoue and I am Japanese. I entered the Congregation of the Daughters of St. Paul in 1997. Right now I am studying Italian in Rome. I am happy to be in the city in which our Founder, Blessed James Alberione, Maestra Thecla and our first sisters lived.

My family is Buddhist and so was I. Whenever I think about this, I continue to be amazed at the mystery of my vocation: Why did the Lord call *me*—a person who knew absolutely nothing about him?

I discovered Christianity when I enrolled in a Catholic high school when I was sixteen. I chose the school because I wanted to learn English from the sisters who taught there. But the Lord had other plans for me....

One of the conditions for attending the school was that I buy the required textbooks, one of which was a Bible. Since I was not Christian, I did not need a Bible so I made the purchase reluctantly and then placed the volume on my bookshelf without opening it. A year went by. One day, however, I remembered that the Bible had cost me good money so I decided to read it. Opening it at random, my eyes fell on the following passage from the Gospel of John: "I give you a new commandment: love one another: you must love one another just as I have loved you" (Jn. 13:34). How true it is, I thought to myself; loving one another is the most important thing in life. Later, when I read the account of the passion and death of Jesus, I was deeply struck by the way he forgave those who killed him. It seemed to me

that this Jesus was a very special person and it would be to my advantage to get to know him better. As a result, I began to frequent the Catholic Church.

I was baptized when I was eighteen, after speaking to my parents about taking this step. No one—including myself—ever dreamed that I would go on to become a nun, but this desire gradually grew in me.

The sisters at my high school gave me catechism lessons prior to my baptism. They were always very kind and generous toward me and I was impressed by their lifestyle and the fact that they gave up marriage so as to live for God alone. I realized that they were different from other people—their holiness was perceptible. Why shouldn't I live the same kind of life? I wondered. Why not become a nun?

One day, while reading the diocesan newspaper, I saw an article by the Daughters of St. Paul inviting young women to attend a spiritual retreat.

I began to visit the Pauline book center in Tokyo so as to find books and religious objects. Watching the sisters disseminate the Gospel with joy and great commitment, I discovered the beauty of the Pauline charism. "How wonderful it would be," I thought, "to work like these sisters to spread the love of God through the instruments of communication!" That is why I chose to join the Congregation of the Daughters of St. Paul. And lo and behold, when I entered the Institute, I was assigned to work in the same book center in which my vocation was born! The Lord fulfilled my desire and I will never cease to thank him for his goodness.

In Japan, the dominant religions are Shintoism and Buddhism but many people do not practice any religion at all. Individualism is widespread. Families are in crisis. The elderly, always more numerous, live alone and are marginalized by society. After the earthquake of 11 March 2011, many people lost hope. They are confused and life has lost meaning for them.

When I was a student, I was one of those people. When I met Jesus, I found someone who loves and supports me. The Word of God gives meaning to my life and I know it can do the same for others. Through my Pauline vocation, I want to communicate to everyone the good news that God loves us immensely and always will.

Teresia Makiko Inoue, fsp

**APOSTOLINES:
A NEW COMMUNITY
IN BRAZIL**



Blessed James Alberione invited the Pauline Family to look upon the Apostle Paul as a vocation promoter and animator who inspired his communities to strain forward to what lay ahead so as to win the prize offered in Christ Jesus (cf. Phil. 3:13-14). Encouraged by Paul's witness of life and urged on by the call of the Divine Master, our Apostoline sisters in Brazil have taken another step forward by opening a new community in Carmópolis de Minas (MG) in the Oliveira diocese, where they will be carrying out vocation work on the diocesan level. Let us accompany the members of this little community with our prayers, in the conviction that the Lord will accomplish great things through their presence.

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**ITALY:
ST. PAUL STORE:
AN OASIS FOR THE SPIRIT**



The Catholic world has a new presence on the Internet: the *St. Paul Store* (www.sanpaolo-store.it)—a portal through which associations, movements, parishes, pastoral workers and all those who want to deepen and enrich the religious and cultural aspects of their lives can find books, CDs, DVDs and religious objects and order them right from home. This latest initiative of Pauline Publications Italy offer Catholics a valuable point of reference in the innovative and ever-expanding world of e-commerce.

Above and beyond its commercial aspect and in keeping with the Pauline mission, the St. Paul Store is characterized by its wide-ranging and carefully selected publications. The portal does not want to be just another online store but also a space for dialogue, reflection and the comparison of ideas.

Up until now, the Catholics presence has not been as strong as it could be in the e-commerce sector, but in line with Fr. Alberione's command to "speak about everything in a Christian way," the St. Paul Store will hopefully help the Catholic presence take a front-line stand in this dynamic new area of cyberspace.



«People can gain salvation in other ways, by God's mercy, even though we do not preach the Gospel to them; but as for us, can we gain salvation if through negligence or fear or shame or as a result of false ideas we fail to preach it? Let us preserve the delightful and comforting joy of evangelizing, even when it is in tears that we must sow. May it mean for us—as it did for John the Baptist, for Peter and Paul, for the other apostles and for a multitude of splendid evangelizers all through the Church's history—an interior enthusiasm that nobody and nothing can quench. May it be the great joy of our consecrated lives».

Paul VI, Evangelii nuntiandi, 80

WINDOW ON THE CHURCH

SUPPORT FEATURES FOR THE YEAR OF FAITH



The *logo* for the Year of Faith is composed of a square, bordered field on which a boat, symbolizing the Church, is depicted sailing over the waves. The main mast of the boat is a cross from which sails

are displayed in the form of dynamic signs which compose the trigram of Christ (IHS). Behind sails is a sun which, associated with the trigram, also refers to the Eucharist.

The multilingual *website* for the event, www.annusfidei.va, can be accessed directly by current mobile technologies.

The chorus of the *official hymn*, *Credo, Domine*, is a plea to the Lord to increase everyone's faith.

The *pastoral aid* for the Year of Faith, *Living the Year of Faith*, presently undergoing translation into various languages, can help to accompany parish communities and all those who want to come to a more profound understanding of the *Creed*.

A small *picture* of Christ (from the Cathedral of Cefalù in Sicily, Italy), with a profession of faith on its reverse side, has been printed for the use of pilgrims and believers throughout the world.

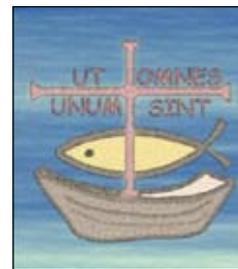
INAUGURATION OF THE OBSERVATORY OF THE NEW EVANGELIZATION FOR LATIN AMERICA



In keeping with the desire of the President Bishops of CELAM (Latin American Episcopal Council), an *Observatory of the New Evangelization for Latin America* has been set up.

The Observatory aims to be a structure of information, research and study regarding the new evangelization underway in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as to accompany the local Churches on their journey and to stimulate an exchange of experiences. In addition, the Observatory wants to reflect more deeply on the great challenges the Church is facing in carrying out her mission of evangelization and to investigate the motives that are causing Catholics to abandon the Church.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2013



Ever since the first Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was celebrated in 1908, the preparation of a pastoral aid for this event has been entrusted to an ecumenical group from a different country. India has been

charged with preparing the aid for 2013. The task was placed in the hands of India's Christian Students Movement (which has about 10,000 members) and the Federation of Catholic Universities of India. The International Commission of the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity will help the preparatory team redact the final draft of the text, which contains a powerful condemnation of the caste system, the cry of the suffering *dalit* (those excluded from Indian society, who are for the most part Christians), and a protest against the persecution of Christians and other religious minority groups. These and other themes will accompany the reflections and prayers of Christians worldwide during the next Week of Prayer (18-25 January 2013).

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT FOR THE AFRICAN UNION

Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, South Africa's Minister of Health under the post-apartheid government of Nelson Mandela, was elected by the African Union Commission as its chairperson on 15 July 2012, making her the first woman to lead the organization, which



includes most of the nations of Africa. This appointment and recognition is an important event for the continent, whose women have always played a dominant role in transmitting to the new generations the most meaningful values and traditions of Africa's wealth of cultures. The women of Africa also make a strong contribution to maintaining the economies of the continent by means of their small, often rural/agrarian enterprises that help to sustain the daily life and growth of countless villages. Ms. Dlamini-Zuma's election is a sign to the international public of the progress African women have made over the past few years.

PAN-AFRICAN CONGRESS FOR THE CATHOLIC LAITY



Being Witnesses of Jesus Christ in Africa Today: "Salt of the Earth and Light of the World" is the theme of the upcoming Pan-African Congress for the Catholic Laity,

which was held in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 4-9 September 2012. The Congress, which was organized by the Pontifical Council for the Laity, was part of the Council's tradition to hold continental and/or regional gatherings for Catholic lay people in various parts of the world.

The decision to hold the Congress in Africa was related to the Holy Father's visit to Cameroon and Angola (17-23 March 2009) and his more recent visit to Benin (18-20 November 2011) to sign the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, *Africae Munus*.

It is hoped that the Congress will encourage the laity take an active and co-responsible role in the Church's mission and witness to their faith in Jesus Christ in Africa today.

WINDOW ON COMMUNICATIONS

THIRD CATHOLIC CINEMA FESTIVAL HELD IN ROME



The *Third International Catholic Cinema Festival*, an initiative sponsored by the Vatican's Pontifical Councils for Culture and the

Promotion of the New Evangelization, was held in Rome, Italy from 2-5 July 2012. For the first time, the itinerary of the Festival was reinforced with an International Congress on the theme, *The Cinema and the New Evangelization*, organized in view of the Year of Faith.

A similar Congress will be held in ten other cities throughout the world. In South America, it will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil during World Youth Day 2013. Li-ana Marabini, who is organizing the event, reaffirmed vigorously that the cinema is a very powerful instrument of evangelization.

PHILIPPINES: FIRST MEETING ON THE CATHOLIC SOCIAL MEDIA



450 people gathered on 14 July 2012 in Marikina City to participate in the First International

Meeting on the Catholic Social Media. The Youth Commission of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, which organized the encounter, said that the purpose of the event was to encourage the Catholic faithful to evangelize cyberspace.

"The meeting was a success," affirmed Bishop Joel Baylon, president of the Commission, "because it made the participants more aware of the fact that the Internet is a field ripe for evangelization. This meeting, the first of its kind in the history of the Catholic Church in the Philippines, showed that it comes naturally to the Church to respond to the challenges it faces."

**THE LITURGY
AS COMMUNICATION**



It is enough to examine the roots of the word “liturgy” to see immediately that communication is intrinsic to it. In fact, the Greek word combines *leitōs* (public) + *ergon* (work) = *leitourgia* (“public worship service”). But who is the communicator? In the Christian Liturgy, there are two levels of communication: the first and foremost is the divine level, but it is the second level—the human one—that helps us perceive the first and it is also the one that can be analyzed. At times it happens that the Liturgy does not communicate very effectively on the human level. To remedy this, Vatican Council II “cleaned up” liturgical rituals so as to make them more meaningful.

A “Multicoded” Communication

Communication through the Liturgy is complex and multicoded. From the aspect of communication, it has similarities to a theater performance. In fact, like a stage show, the Liturgy too has a “director” who works within a “furnished” space in which lighting, objects and the “costumes” worn all play meaningful roles. The persons who carry out various ministries in the liturgical service are the “actors.” The liturgical rituals themselves include elaborate attitudes, gestures, “spoken parts” and music.

Liturgical rites are not improvised. On the contrary, they are regulated by the rubrics (the *Instructions* or *Principles/Rules*) that precede every sacramental rite.

When the science of communications (semiotics) enters into play in a liturgical event, even though it stops at the phenomenal aspect (the features that strike our senses), it is clear that the divine aspect cannot be omitted because otherwise the liturgical celebration would not be fully understood.

The Entrance Procession

Here is an example: with regard to the Introductory Rites of the Mass, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* says: “After the people have gathered, the Entrance Chant begins as the priest enters with the deacon and ministers. The purpose of this chant is to open the celebration, foster the unity of those who have been gathered, introduce their thoughts to the mystery of the liturgical season or festivity, and accompany the procession of the priest and ministers” (n. 47).

If we carefully analyze the above-cited words, many aspects related to communication can be noticed. We are presented with an assembly context laden with meaning from the very start, with the entrance of several persons appointed to carry out specific roles. These individuals are clothed in sacred vestments and file into the church in a particular order: “The procession is led by the thurifer carrying a thurible with burning incense. He is followed by ministers bearing lighted candles, and between them an acolyte or other ministers with the cross. These are followed by the lector or a deacon carrying the book of the Gospels, which should be slightly elevated. Last comes the priest who is to celebrate the Mass” (cf. *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, nn. 120, 172). The words and music of the entrance chant set the tone of the procession, which gives the assembly a “direction” and “goal.”

The numerous codes activated by the procession hark back to the individual semiotics used: the spatial (proxemics), gestural (kinesics), olfactive, iconic-visual, dress and sound codes, etc. The entrance procession reminds the worshipers that they are “on the way” to their heavenly homeland. The cross tells them that they are living a time of redemption and resurrection in Christ, whose cross is elevated as a guide and standard, but also as a model and reference point for each believer and for the Church as a whole.



Alongside the cross, the Gospel represents the Living Word, Christ, who accompanies the Church and never abandons her. When heeded, this Word can transform the assembly into a missionary Church whose members proclaim the Word through their lives, lovingly united to Christ in the sacrament in which he gives his body and pours out his blood.

Thus the Eucharistic Celebration begins with a collection of codes that reinforce one another. And it is only right that this be so because the purpose of the Introductory Rite is to draw and “launch” the assembly and therefore it should involve the worshipers in a powerful way. Let us try to imagine a Liturgical Celebration in which the entrance hymn is sung by just the choir (or, even worse, one in which a taped song is used) and in which the procession has been shortened: it is made from the sacristy to the altar by the priest alone, who performs all the other ministerial roles. In this case, it is clear that the power of the rite to communicate its message is drastically reduced, if not rendered ineffective.

The communicational power of the Liturgy can be further weakened by readings that are proclaimed too quickly and/or with unclear diction, by a sermon that lacks form and substance, by repetitive and distracting gestures, by a poorly-conducted ceremony that flattens everything through a hurried mumbling of prayers, making it hard for the worshipers to follow the Liturgy and participate in it.... The result of all this is the death of liturgical communication.

***From Codes to Persons:
the Christian as a “Sign”***

The setting of the Eucharistic Celebration is charged with symbolic meanings, some of which are immediately understood and others which are less obvious. Some things like the altar, the lectern and the “throne” of the celebrant are clearly identifiable and their significance is immediately understood. However, it is more difficult to grasp the significance of other sacred objects or areas in the church such as the baptistery or the apse. At times “devotion” has played cruel tricks and has created a conflict of communication, such as when the tabernacle is placed on the same level as the altar or on top of it.

Because the Liturgy is a complex communication, it is necessary to be initiated into it. To take an active, personal part in liturgical communication, one must understand what one is doing.

Often the points of reference are the Bible and Christian Tradition (let us call to mind iconological codification). But one aspect that must never be forgotten is that liturgical communication always takes place through the first Christian “sign,” which is the Christian him/herself. If it is true that it is not the church that makes the Christian, it is equally true that liturgical communication implies that the Christian is the first subject of communication, capable of responding to the salvific communication of God in Christ.

Carlo Cibien, ssp



DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL

Sr. M. Laura Maria Balducci, age 85 - 22.06.2012 - Albano GA, Italy
Sr. Maria Antonia Pintus, age 87 - 24.06.2012 - Reggio Emilia, Italy
Sr. Immacolata Arcangela Delmonte, age 83 - 06.07.2012 - Albano GA, Italy
Sr. Elvira Deonila Pritsch, age 70 - 20.07.2012 - São Paulo CR, Brazil
Sr. M. Carla Laura Curti, age 92 - 24.07.2012 - Albano, Italy
Sr. Ubalda Scolastica Gaspari, age 95 - 02.08.2012 - Albano GA, Italy
Sr. M. Saveria Sara Schena, age 75 - 08.08.2012 - Albano, Italy
Sr. M. Alfonsa Carolina Gemelli, age 89 - 21.08.2012 - Alba, Italy
Sr. M. Ernesta Giulia Rosa Panaro, age 96 - 27.08.2012 - Alba, Italy
Sr. M. Pasqua Zoraide Rebellati, age 89 - 28.08.2012 - Albano GA, Italy
Sr. Cornelia Lucia Bignoli, age 92 - 02.09.2012 - Rome AP, Italy

PARENTS OF OUR SISTERS

Sr. Madonna Janet Kuhlman (Mother, Janet Louise), of the Los Angeles community, USA
Sr. Generosa Kyoung Ae Kim (Father, U Dong Paolo), of the Generalate community, Italy
Sr. Emma Myoung Hee Shin (Mother, Bun Su Lupina), of the Wonju community, Korea
Sr. Mari Vita Myoung Soon Her (Father, Kyi Il Ludovico), of the Jeon Ju community, Korea
Sr. Maria Adelaida Leon Montanez (Mother, Rosa Maria) of the Cali community, Colombia
Sr. M. Gesuina Ogata Mariko (Father, Yoshiteru) of the Tokyo-2 community, Japan
Sr. Bernadette Mary Reis (Mother, Shirley) of the Rome Mascherino community, Italy
Sr. Jyoti Kerketta (Mother, Josephin) of the Ahmedabad community, India
Sr. Illumina Hwang Hee Jeong (Mother, Bok Nyo Maria), of the Seoul-Miari community, Korea
Sr. Lynette Constance Chan (Father, Tai Wah) of the Taipei community, Taiwan

PAULINE FAMILY

Fr. Danilo Alberto Regazzo, ssp, age 69 - 22.06.2012 - Alba, Italy
Sr. M. Marcellina Brentali Brentali, pddm, age 95 - 25.06.2012 - Albano Laziale, Italy
Sr. Immacolata Francesca Marruco, sjbp, age 83 - 26.06.2012 - Albano Laziale, Italy
Sr. M. Eleonora Rosa Beltrame pddm, age 73 - 28.06.2012 - Cinisello Balsamo, Italy
Fr. Domenico Benedetto Spoleitini, ssp, age 91 - 08.07.2012 - Córdoba, Argentina
Sr. M. Benigna Angiolina Pezza, pddm, age 97 - 14.07.2012 - Albano Laziale, Italy
Fr. Mathew Robert Kaniyampampil, ssp, age 72 - 14.07.2012 - Mumbai, India
Sr. Franca M. Tersilla Bartolini, sjbp, age 93 - 07.08.2012 - Albano Laziale, Italy
Sr. Michelangela Alessandra Masi, sjbp, age 73 - 06.09.2012 - Gizzeria, Italy