



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

At 8:00 tonight, God the Father visited the Thecla Merlo community of Albano, Italy to call to his kingdom of light and peace our sister:

PEDICINI CARMELA – SR. MARIA ROSETTA
born in Foglianise (Benevento), Italy on 15 June 1921.

Small and humble in bearing, Sr. M. Rosetta transformed her life into a true masterpiece of grace, beauty and simplicity. When she made her perpetual profession, she expressed her desire to “belong completely and forever to the Lord.” And her entire life was truly a manifestation of love and self-offering, generosity and service.

She entered the Congregation in the community of Foggia on 17 June 1940. Several months later she was sent to Rome for a time of formation after which she returned to Benevento to carry out capillary and collective diffusion. She made her novitiate in Rome, concluding it with her first profession on 19 March 1944. She spent her Juniorate carrying out the propaganda apostolate full time in the communities of Sulmona and San Benedetto del Tronto. For her perpetual profession on the Feast of St. Joseph 1949, Maestra Thecla wrote her a message of profound faith that Sr. Rosetta always preserved in her heart and used to direct her life: “The way to heaven is the way of the holy Cross. To reach this point of joy it is necessary to suffer. Let us take up our cross willingly each day and carry it in the footsteps of Jesus.”

Sr. Rosetta followed her Master day after day in serenity and joy from behind the service desk in the Rimini book center and then verifying films in the St. Pau Film Agencies of Cremona and Palermo. But above all she “washed the feet” of Jesus Master by seeing him in the faces of her sisters, dedicating herself to serving them with simplicity and love through various community duties. She worked at the reception desk in the Divine Providence and Provincialate communities in Rome and also in the community of Milan. But above all she will be remembered for the 36 years she spent in Lodi.

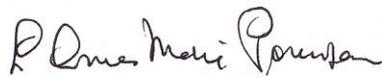
There, she was known to all the shopkeepers of the city as “the little sister” who had a word of hope, light and comfort for everyone. Always in one of the front pews during liturgical celebrations, she was a genuine witness to the values of the Kingdom of God. Every common room of the house was a model of order and cleanliness under her care. Motivated by a profound desire to serve her sisters, she was ever-ready to help any of them at any time. During the last years of her life she began to lose her hearing, which was a great suffering to her because she wanted to participate fully in the life of the community.

In 2011, Sr. Rosetta serenely accepted the proposal that she be transferred to the Thecla Merlo community of Albano and made the transition without looking back. She did not require any special assistance in her new community and indeed was always ready to help everyone else with her characteristic humility and love, heedless of her own fragile health.

The Lord called her to himself almost unexpectedly today, even though she had been in bed for several days with bronchial problems. This evening, she had supper as usual but afterward her breathing became labored and just a few minutes later she flew to heaven, where we are sure she was welcomed into the merciful arms of the Father.

It is consoling to think that Sr. M. Rosetta, in all her littleness and simplicity, is now interceding for us before God, asking that the joyous message of the Gospel reach the ends of the earth.

With deep affection,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 10 November 2014