

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

Around 1:00 PM, in the James Alberione Community of Albano, the Virgin Mary, Queen of Apostles brought to the Father's house our Sister

SR. NATALIA PILLOLLA (REDENTA)
Born on June 15, 1919 at Pimentel (Cagliari)

In October 2007, due to very fragile health, Sr. Natalia left Trieste to join us in our community in the Alban hills. Her state of health preoccupied us, especially her circulatory health and her blood count, but even yesterday, she wanted to be present at Sr. Alfonsina Mascolo's funeral. For some time she has had a deep desire for Paradise, and repeated often to us, "Let me go..." She prepared for her great passage with serenity and joyfulness, still offering her service in community life, especially in the moments of prayer. And it was significant that Providence, in its eternal and unfathomable design, arranged for her passage to her eternal life on the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus when we contemplate his entrance to the Temple.

Sister entered the Congregation in the house of Cagliari, August 13, 1938. She made her Novitiate in Rome and pronounced her First Profession on Christmas of 1942. This is why she received the profession name of "Natalia".

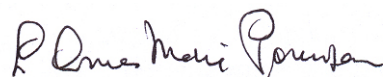
As a young professed, she carried out the apostolate of propaganda at Salerno, and after having served a mandate as superior at Ascoli Piceno, she put her heart into the Book Center apostolate at Mestre, Trapani, Crotone, Massa, Chiavari, and Cremona. She nourished a lively desire participate in the "mission to the peoples", and in 1947 she volunteered to go to help in the areas where there were new foundations. Her writings were always overflowing with enthusiasm, joy, and gratitude for having been called to so great and beautiful a mission. And when obedience asked her to communicate the Gospel within the walls of our own houses in the communities of Savona, the Provincial house in Rome, the house at Via Bosio in Rome, Brescia, and Trieste, her apostolic fervor was not lessened in the least. Even in her old age she continued to follow with prayer and great interest the progress of her "dear and beautiful Congregation", as she loved to describe it. She wanted to know what was being carried out, and she listened with lively participation to the communications of the sisters, sitting right up at the front, so as to hear well, since she had hearing difficulties.

In November of 2008, while she was stationed in Tecla Merlo House at Albano, letting herself be guided by the Lord, she wanted to write down some lines that she hoped would be published after her death. We listen to Sr. Natalina's voice, as if she were still among us:

"Here I am, Lord. I am already with you face to face. Now, into your hands, receive the soul you gave me, which you have loved from all eternity and which is precious in your eyes. Praise and honor to you for all the graces you granted me in the long years of my earthly life. Blessed may you be, Lord, for the parents you gave me, who traced out for me the way of goodness, who lived in holy fear of God. Honor and glory you who made me your child through Baptism and for the inestimable gift of religious consecration in the Pauline Family. I ask pardon if I have not always corresponded to your gifts. I will sing for all eternity the two Misereres. Blessed be the Congregations that have raised up in your Church generous souls to follow you, in particular the Daughters of St. Paul. I entrust the elderly sisters to you; sustain them in their difficult moments. Fill with graces and blessings all those who collaborate with the means of social communication. To you, O Virgin most holy, I entrust my nieces and nephews and all my relatives... Receive my soul, Lord into the heavenly banquet."

The words of Simeon can be well applied to this dear sister: "Lord, now you let your servant go in peace. My eyes have seen your salvation." We, too have contemplated in the simple and rich life of Sr. Natalina the marvels of grace that the Lord works for those who are faithful.

With affection,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar general

Rome February 2, 2010