

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

We received the news that at 3:30 p.m. yesterday, the Lord visit Cardinal Santos Hospital, Manila, Philippines, to call to himself our sister:

RACELIS AURORA – SR. MARIA AMALIA
born in Lucena (Quezon), Philippines on 4 October 1928.

Sr. Aurora's death due to cardiopulmonary arrest was very sudden, even though her health was known to be at risk due to the fact that she had suffered an aortic aneurysm several years previously.

She entered the Congregation in Lipa on 14 June 1949, after her graduation from high school. She spent her postulancy in Pasay City, carrying out capillary and collective diffusion, and then returned to Lipa for her novitiate, concluding this stage of her formation with her first profession on 19 March 1952.

As a young professed, Sr. M. Amalia carried out the "propaganda" apostolate in Pasay and Davao. With great trust in the grace of the Lord, she prepared for her final profession, which she made on the Feast of St. Joseph 1957 in Lipa. Afterward, she was asked to carry out the service of local superior in the communities of Cebu and Naga. In 1963 she was transferred to Italy, where she spent a year at Albano, assisting our sick sisters.

Upon her return to the Philippines, Sr. M. Amalia was once again appointed superior of Naga and also provincial councilor. Afterward, she spent about 10 years working in the Sorsogon and Pasay City book centers, and was also placed in charge of the Paulines Service Center (the Center for Non-FSP Editions).

Sr. M. Amalia was a very active sister, who dedicated all her energies to the Pauline mission. She loved the book center apostolate because it gave her the chance to come in contact with the needs of the people and she generously carried out this mission in Baguio, London and Glasgow (England), Pasay City, Cagayan de Oro and Bacolod.

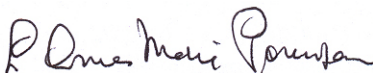
In 2000, she was asked to help the sister in charge of searching for benefactors for the Pauline mission and in carrying out this service she revealed a wonderful ability to forge strong bonds of friendship with people who assisted the Congregation in different ways. She would visit them on special occasions or when they were sick, expressing her gratitude and affection to everyone.

In 2006, Sr. M. Amalia was assigned to the production department, where she carried out duties compatible with her declining health. She always sought to rise about her fragile physical condition and not allow it to weigh on others, particularly in difficult circumstances. She joyfully made a contribution to many community services, with great foresight and attention to the needs of the sisters. Above all, she prayed incessantly for vocations and for the young women in formation, whom she deeply desired would receive a wise and concrete formation to the Pauline way of life and remain faithful to the directives of the Founder and Maestra Thecla.

Several years ago, Sr. M. Amalia told the Superior General that she yearned to attain the great goal of the Pauline vocation: "It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me." And the Divine Master fulfilled her desire, molding and forming her in his image: in fact, in the last years of her life her strong and decisive personality was enriched by great sweetness and serenity, along with an increased desire to serve the sisters and interact with them more gently.

During the Christmas Novena, the Liturgy reminds us that the Lord is near: he is at the door, ready to free us with his mighty arm. Blessed are those whom he finds waiting for him vigilantly and lovingly, like Sr. M. Amalia.

With deep affection,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 18 December 2014