

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

We received the news that at 1:30 p.m. today (local time), God the Father visited the Seguro Social Hospital of Puebla, Mexico to call to himself our sister:

**VAZQUEZ MARTINEZ SR. LUCIA IRENE**  
**born in San Pedro Ver, Mexico on 18 October 1938.**

Sr. Lucia was hospitalized several days ago due to a severe case of pneumonia. Her condition unexpectedly worsened and today a heart attack led to her definitive meeting with the Lord. Like little Samuel, whom we contemplate in today's Liturgy, Sr. Lucia responded to the divine call with a prompt, "Here I am," made in faith and overflowing with gratitude and love.

We remember her as a simple and good sister who deeply loved the Blessed Mother, like all the Mexican people, and who dedicated herself wholeheartedly to the apostolate.

Sr. Lucia entered the Congregation in the community of Mexico City on 29 January 1955—the year Fr. Alberione entrusted in a special way to the Divine Master. After a brief period of formation, she was sent to the recently-opened community of Guadalajara, where she carried out the propaganda apostolate in factories, hospitals, markets and other collectivities. The following year, while still a postulant, she was transferred to Puebla, where she continued to work in the diffusion apostolate and also organized biblical and Marian book displays. In 1958, she returned to Mexico City to make her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on the Feast of St. Paul, 30 June 1959.

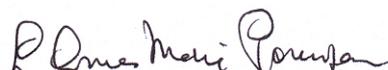
Sr. Lucia's Pauline life was characterized by the technical and diffusion apostolates. For many years, she was in charge of the FSP bindery in Mexico City. She alternated this valuable service with short and long periods of direct apostolate in the book centers and in capillary diffusion of the Word of God in the dioceses of Puebla, Ciudad Juarez, Tijuana and Monterrey. Sr. Lucia was very devoted to Our Lady of Guadalupe so it was a great joy for her to spend 3 years (2007-2010) in our Mexico-Amatista community, located in the shadow of this famous Marian Sanctuary. There she carried out various community services and willingly lent a hand in the book center, which was visited by innumerable pilgrims.

About two years ago, Sr. Lucia returned to Puebla to work in our big, beautiful book center and also carry out the very useful service of driver and errand-runner for the community.

The Lord's call took place very unexpectedly: he approached her, took her by the hand and drew her to himself. The "here I am" which she had voiced on the day of her profession and which accompanied her throughout her life, also marked her final and definitive call: "You called me, Lord. Here I am." Today, along with Sr. Lucia, we too can exclaim: "Sacrifice or oblation you wished not, but ears open to obedience you gave me. Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not; then said I, 'Behold, I come.'"

The good soil of Sr. Lucia's life was fecundated by the Word and bore abundant fruit; in that rich terrain the Word sprouted, releasing all its energy for the salvation of many.

Affectionately,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan  
Vicar General

Rome, 11 January 2012