



ISTITUTO PIA SOCIETÀ  
FIGLIE DI S. PAOLO  
CASA GENERALIZIA  
Via S. Giovanni Eudes, 25  
00163 Roma  
Tel. 06.661 3039 - Fax 06.661 57 208



Dearest Sisters,

At 9:00 a.m. today, local time, “the favorable moment, the day of salvation” unexpectedly arrived for one of the members of our Nazca (Buenos Aires) community:

**VIGNAPIANO NORMA SUSANNA – SR. MARIA PIA  
born in Lanus (Buenos Aires), Argentina on 27 October 1934.**

Sr. Maria Pia entered the Congregation in the community of Buenos Aires on 8 May 1954, after completing a 3-year commercial and industrial training course. A dynamic young woman, enriched by her experiences in the Catholic Action Movement, she made her novitiate in Buenos Aires, concluding it with her first profession on 29 June 1956.

As a young professed, she carried out the “propaganda” apostolate in Santiago, Chile and then returned to Argentina to dedicate herself to diffusion in Buenos Aires and Mendoza. When the time arrived for her perpetual profession, she asked to be admitted to this important stage of her life “with my heart rooted in Jesus, our Divine Master, and Mary most holy, fired by a great desire to serve God for all my life.” Her letter continues: “I know that by myself I can do nothing, but I have complete trust in God and promise to serve the Congregation with fidelity, love and obedience.” And Sr. Maria Pia truly dedicated her life to the Pauline mission, day after day, with great enthusiasm, generosity and responsibility.

In 1965 she accepted the request to go to Peru, where she worked for about 7 years our Lima book center, at that time the only Catholic book center in the entire country. When she returned to Argentina, she was asked to carry out various domestic services, especially those of cook, seamstress and driver, in the communities of Tucuman, Buenos Aires, Resistencia and Mendoza. From 1980-1983, she worked in the FSP bindery in Buenos Aires.

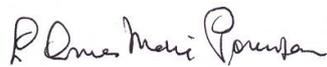
An expert driver, she often spent weeks at a time away from the community, traveling hundreds of miles by car to renew subscriptions to the Family Magazine and to hold Bible and Gospel Weeks. She also worked in the shipping department, sending out packages of FSP products to all parts of the country. Sr. Maria Pia was a kind and serene sister, who carried out her duties very precisely and who was always ready to meet the needs of the community and apostolate. She remembered with joy her assignment to organize the FSPs’ participation in Argentina’s first International Book Fair, which has been held for many years now in Buenos Aires.

She had the chance to take catechetical courses and courses in the use of the mass media which enabled her to prepare filmstrips for catechetical, biblical and formation purposes. Her professional skills were deeply appreciated and many formators and catechists turned to her for instruction in the use of the new instruments of communication.

Following this, Sr. Maria Pia was assigned to the Buenos Aires and then to the Montevideo (Uruguay) book centers, where she worked in the film and video departments. Later, she was transferred to Mendoza, where she carried out the diffusion apostolate, and from there to Santa Fe, where she worked in the music and film sectors of the book center.

In 2009, her fragile health made it necessary to insert her in the Nazca community of Buenos Aires. About 5 years ago, she fell several times in just a few days, hastening her physical decline. In the aftermath of two operations, she was confined to a wheelchair. Although she was no longer able to walk or speak, she never lost the dignified behavior that had always characterized her and that accompanied her up to the last day of her life. She was fully aware that through her silence and immobility, the Word that she had disseminated so lavishly over the years would bear abundant fruit in many hearts. Like the Apostle Paul, she had come to realize that her personal poverty and sufferings enabled her to experience the “All” that filled her life to overflowing.

Affectionately,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan  
Superior General

Rome, 19 June 2017