

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

At about 9:15 this morning, our good Father visited the Alba, Italy community to call to himself our sister:

VIVIAN SR. NATALIA
born in Marostica (Vicenza), Italy on 24 November 1927.

Sr. Natalia entered the Congregation in the community of Alba on 19 September 1949, bringing with her the gift of belonging to a big and beautiful family, where she had breathed the air of a faith lived in a profound and life-oriented way and in which she had learned the importance of prayer, industriousness, sociability and self-donation. In her hometown her mother, a strong woman of God, is remembered as a saint.

While still a postulant, Natalia was sent to Milan to carry out the propaganda apostolate. She began her novitiate in 1951, concluding it with her first profession on 19 March 1952. As a young professed, she traveled the valleys of the Trent region disseminating not only Bibles, Gospels and other good books but also her joy at belonging to the Lord—a joy that illuminated her entire life.

Immediately after her perpetual profession in 1957, she was assigned to the cinema apostolate, a mission well suited to her open and sociable character and her desire to continually find new ways to help the Word of salvation reached everyone. For more than thirty years she was in charge of the cinema programming of the St. Paul Film Agencies of Trent, Udine, Verona and Ancona. In Trent in particular, besides diffusing films to parishes and schools, she collaborated with promoting a public bulletin board that provided moral, religious and artistic guidance on films—an initiative that was later be extended to other dioceses in Italy. Sr. Natalia was deeply convinced that the cinema was a valuable instrument of evangelization and she participated wholeheartedly in the formation meetings that were organized by our Italian Province's Apostolic Center because she wanted to improve her skills as much as possible so as to do greater good. Priests and pastoral workers found her to be a valid collaborator and above all a very enthusiastic apostle.

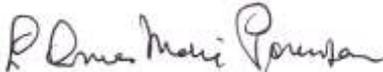
Sr. Natalia viewed the closing of the circumscription's film agencies as a sign of the changing needs of the apostolate and she had no problem accepting a transfer to Lodi and then to Livorno, where she worked in the book center, specializing in the audiovisual sector.

In 2006, she was assigned to our St. Joseph community of Alba, where she dedicated her energies to the technical apostolate. Her health had been steadily declining for the past two years and last November she was moved to the infirmary wing of the Motherhouse. Not long ago she had a bad fall, resulting in a broken pelvic basin and also a broken leg. An operation was not possible because of her fragile physical condition and neither was it possible to put her in a cast. It was in this condition that she quietly ended her life, continuing to offer herself for the needs of the Congregation and for the intention that the Gospel would touch the hardest hearts.

The words of today's Liturgy were fully realized in Sr. Natalia: "Rejoice to the extent that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that when his glory is revealed you may also rejoice exultantly."

With the certitude of faith, we believe that Sr. Natalia is now rejoicing exultantly in the glory of God, together with many other people who, through her dedication to the apostolate, found the joy of faith and the path to salvation.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 27 May 2016