

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

At about 6:30 this morning, God the Father unexpectedly visited our community of Albano, Italy to call to his eternal light our sister

LATINI ENRICA – SR. MARIA ANNUNZIATA
born in Sant’Angelo Lodigiano (Lodi), Italy on 12 April 1928.

Sr. M. Annunziata entered the Congregation in the community of Alba on 26 March 1951, after having earned a teaching degree and taught elementary school for a few years. As a postulant, she spent some time in Naples and then was sent to Aosta to carry out the diffusion apostolate. It was precisely during this time when she was experiencing the joy of carrying out the Pauline mission for the first time that she contracted tuberculosis. She was very worried that she would be sent home because of this but Maestra Thecla, with great faith and sensitivity to her situation, reassured her and proposed that she be transferred to our Albano clinic to receive the care she needed. This illness was certainly part of God’s plan for Sr. M. Annunziata and left its mark on her entire life. By 1954 she was completely healed and was able to make her novitiate in Rome, concluding this stage of her formation with her first profession on 19 March 1955. Immediately afterward, she was assigned to the bookkeeping sector of the Albano clinic.

For 57 years—that is, for the rest of her life—Sr. M. Annunziata lived in our Albano community, participating in the joys, uncertainties, sufferings and problems of Queen of Apostles Hospital. In 1973, she was appointed councilor and bursar of the first government of this Special Delegation. In 1978, after a group of FSPs left the hospital and Congregation, she was reappointed Delegation councilor. From 1984-2001, she was the hospital’s Director of Administration.

These were not easy years in which to run an institution that had become a regional hospital and thus had to abide by national health care legislation. Sr. M. Annunziata developed all the talents with which the Lord had enriched her so as to be able to respond to the demands of the Italian health care system and at the same remain faithful to the directives of the Congregation. By this time she had become a solid point of reference for the hospital’s personnel and collaborators. Her directive style was marked by great discretion and her generosity was proverbial: everyone who turned to her received concrete help, together with a word of comfort. She participated in many congregational events held in the hospital, making the community’s presence felt through her own presence and thoughtful provision of desserts like ice cream and other sweets. She believed that the good of the hospital was the good of the entire Congregation and consequently, with great tact, she sought the best ways to lighten the burden of our more needy communities.

In 2001, Sr. M. Annunziata quietly resigned from her administrative duties and never interfered with the way things were conducted under the new management. She realized that a stage of the hospital’s history had ended and a new one had begun. She spent the last few years of her life in the background, in part because of heart problems that required her to undergo several operations. She enjoyed spending her vacations in San Felice Circeo, a small summer community by the sea run by our sisters.

In these last days, Sr. M. Annunziata learned about and approved the choice of the General Government to hand over the management of Queen of Apostles Hospital to a third party because she was fully aware that the Congregation no longer had the personnel to direct this demanding apostolic activity.

Sr. M. Annunziata lived her entire Pauline life in the shadow of Queen of Apostles Hospital. May its patroness, Mary our Queen, now obtain for her the reward of a life spent in reparation and self-offering—attitudes which our Founder insisted were extremely important and which are intensively lived by all the members of our Albano community.

Affectionately,

Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar General

Rome, 22 September 2012