

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 2:45 p.m. today, our merciful Father visited the San Raffaele wing of our Albano, Italy community to call to his eternal dwelling our sister:

TOLDO ESTER ANTONIA – SR. MARIA NIVES
born in Rotzo (Vicenza), Italy on 9 August 1931.

Sr. M. Nives entered the Congregation in the community of Alba on 27 December 1951. In 1953, while still a postulant, she was sent to carry out capillary diffusion in Alessandria. Following this, she went to Rome to make her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 19 March 1955. Afterward, she was transferred to Ferrara, where she carried out the apostolate of “propaganda” to the families for five years, disseminating the Word of God wholeheartedly. We are sure that she established profound apostolic bonds there and that this Christian community always remained in her heart because one of her last requests was that the Ferrara diocese be informed of her death.

After her perpetual profession in 1960, Sr. M. Nives was transferred to Pordenone, where she worked in the book center and also carried out the service of driver. Following this, she spent some time as an errand-runner in Milan and then was assigned to the St. Paul Film Agencies in Trent, Udine and Rome successively, where she verified the films returned each week from the parishes and also served again as a driver.

In 1978, Sr. M. Nives spent a year of “evangelical renewal” in Alba—a time that left a deep mark on her personality and gave new motivation to her life. She then continued her apostolic work in the St. Paul Film Agencies of Verona, Rome, Salerno and Bologna. Following this, she returned for two years (1990-1992) to her beloved Ferrara.

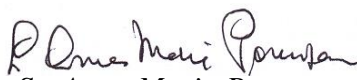
In 1992, she was assigned to Albano, where she carried out various services, especially that of receptionist in Queen of Apostles Hospital and then in the community. Serious and quiet by nature, Sr. M. Nives would break into a big smile whenever any of the hospital personnel would stop by her desk to ask for information. About two years ago, declining health made it necessary to transfer her to the San Raffaele wing of the community.

Sr. M. Nives rejoiced that she had been able to dedicate all her energies and her entire being to the Lord, especially through the diffusion apostolate. She always sought to deepen her prayer life and in these last days she turned with childlike trust to our heavenly Father, asking him repeatedly to call her to heaven. She was very grateful for the kindness with which her caregivers met her needs and for all the ways in which the sisters manifested their affection for her.

In the last days of her life, her situation steadily declined: she experienced constant abdominal pain and ran a high fever. While the doctors were still trying to determine a more effective way of assisting her, respiratory failure brought about her definitive meeting with the Lord.

Sr. M. Nives lived among us with great simplicity, sincerely seeking the Master to whom she had lovingly dedicated her whole life. And in the Liturgy of these days, the Divine Master offered her words of great hope and consolation, saying: “I praise you, Father, for revealing to little ones the mysteries of your kingdom.” Sr. M. Nives was one of the “little ones” whom the Lord chose and called to follow him through the Pauline vocation. She was an apostle of the Gospel and today he lovingly welcomed her to the ranks of the saints and blessed in his heavenly kingdom.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 25 October 2016