

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

At 3:00 a.m. last night, the Divine Master visited the infirmary of our Alba community to call to live in intimacy with him forever our sister:

**VENTURINI SR. IMELDA**

**born in Dossobuono (Verona), Italy on 5 June 1931.**

Sr. Imelda entered the Congregation in the community of Alba on 8 December 1949. She underwent her initial formation in Alba, with an apostolic experience as a postulant in the St. Paul Film Agency of Turin. In 1952 she was sent to Rome to make her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 19 March 1953.


Sr. Imelda's life was characterized by intense apostolic and missionary mobility, which she lived with a great sense of responsibility. In September 1954, while still a young professed, she was sent to Manila, Philippines to study English so as to then enter Australia, her first mission assignment. On 2 July 1955, she and 2 Filipino FSPs arrived in the tiny Sydney community, which at that time consisted of 2 sisters. She shared the joys and anxieties of little community, along with a powerful experience of the providence of God, who guided the sisters' life and mission. In Sydney, Sr. Imelda carried out biblical and catechetical animations in the schools and organized book displays, especially among the Italian immigrants. The Apostolic Delegate wrote to our first Australian community: "May the Lord and the Holy Virgin always sustain you and increase your vocations so that you can multiply your work." In 1961, Sr. Imelda and another sister visited the large island of Tasmania, off the southern coast of Australia and their visits to the schools and families of this remote land yielded abundant fruit.

In 1966, she was asked to accept a transfer to the small community of Lagos, Nigeria, which had been founded just 2 years earlier. She remained in Nigeria until 1968, dedicating herself to capillary and collective diffusion and book displays, which captured the interest and curiosity of the people.

Returning to Italy, Sr. Imelda was assigned to the Castro Pretorio community, Rome, where she worked in the book center and also served as community bursar. In 1970, she once again was sent abroad, this time to Great Britain, where she worked in the Langley book center for 2 years. Following this, she re-entered Italy and returned to the Castro Pretorio community, this time to work in the St. Paul Film Agency. In 1978 she obtained a degree as a practical nurse from St. John of God Hospital, Rome, after which she was transferred to Queen of Apostles Hospital, Albano. Two years later, she was sent to Trent, where she worked in both the book center and the St. Paul Film Agency. After this, she was assigned to the Salerno book center. In 1987, Sr. Imelda returned to Albano, where she worked at the reception desk, after which she once more went to Great Britain to carry out the Pauline mission in Birmingham. In 1991, she returned to Italy definitively, dedicating herself with vigor and creativity to book center activities in Trent, Cremona, Como, Bologna and Treviso respectively.

In 2008, Sr. Imelda was sent to the San Giuseppe community, Alba to work in the bindery and also assist the sick and elderly members of the community. This past March, declining health made it necessary to transfer her to the infirmary wing of the Motherhouse. In the last period of her life, she was often on the brink of death and consequently kept herself ready for the call of the Master, in the hope of soon contemplating face-to-face the One she had sought all her life. Now we think of her as filled with the fullness of God and basking in the Love "that surpasses all knowledge." While we entrust Sr. Imelda to the arms of our merciful Father, we also ask her to intercede for all the countries she carried in her heart, especially Australia, Great Britain and Nigeria.

Affectionately,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan  
Superior General

Rome, 20 October 2016