

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

The Divine Master has once more knocked on the door of our Albano, Italy community. At 3:10 p.m. today, he visited its San Raffaele wing to invite to the heavenly banquet our sister:

VONA ANGELA – SR. MARIA ANTONIETTA
born in Frosinone, Italy on 28 September 1924.

Sr. M. Antonietta's resolute, calm, simple and industrious personality was characteristic of her native zone of Ciociaria, a land rich in traditions dating back hundreds of years. Entering the Congregation in Rome on 2 June 1944 at the age of twenty, she underwent her initial formation in the Divine Providence community there, working with enthusiasm in the bindery. She also made her novitiate in Rome, concluding it with her first profession on 19 March 1948.

As a young professed, Sr. M. Antonietta carried out capillary and collective diffusion of the Word of God in the dioceses of Naples and Caltanissetta, striving to reach even the most remote farmhouses so as to bring every person a word of consolation and hope. She continued to nurture this apostolic passion in her heart over the next 30 years (1952-1982), while carrying out the service of cook in the communities of Rome, Albano and Alessandria consecutively. She was convinced that her life, dedicated to the Lord day after day for the salvation of her brothers and sisters, was a pleasing offering to him.

In 1982 she was transferred to Albano, where she was asked to carry out various community services, especially in the laundry and kitchen, as well as through the hospitality ministry and maintenance of the community wardrobes. In spite of her full schedule, she always made time to visit the hospital's patients, bringing them a smile, an encouraging word or any basic supplies they requested. Sensitive to the needs of everyone, she often said: "The most important thing is love."


In fact, Sr. M. Antonietta loved life and all creation, especially flowers. She joyfully participated in community life, spreading the sweet fragrance of charity and generosity wherever she went. The sisters of her community say that her kind manner and wise words glued them together and incited them to strive for the good. Sr. M. Antonietta was very close to her natural family and prayed in a special way for her nephew, a priest, and his pastoral work.

About 8 years ago respiratory ailments, heart problems and an overall decline in health made it necessary to transfer her to the San Raffaele (infirmary) wing of the Albano community. It was not easy for Sr. M. Antonietta to accept this relocation, but she did so with faith, ready to do the will of God. In the last stage of her life, her physical condition worsened due to an intestinal tumor, which, given her age and physical condition, was treated simply through palliative therapies. Aware of the gravity of her situation, she cultivated silent recollection even more intensively so as to unite herself wholly to the Lord and reinforce her desire to do his will.

Today, the Feast of the Divine Master, we believe that Sr. M. Antonietta found great hope and consolation in the words of the Liturgy of the day, in which Jesus says: "Do not let your hearts be troubled... There are many rooms in my Father's house.... I am going to prepare a place for you...and I will take you with me so that where I am, you too will be."

Grateful to our dear sister for her witness of faith, love, dedication and self-sacrifice, we are sure that she is now rejoicing for all eternity with the large Pauline Family in heaven.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 30 October 2016