

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,

Last night, Jesus Master visited our community of Mantua, Italy and fixed his loving gaze on our sister:

MARCAZZAN TERESA – SR. MARIA EUSEBIA
born in San Giovanni Ilarione (Verona), Italy on 14 October 1931.

Great was the amazement of our sisters when, toward noon today, the Twenty-eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time, they discovered that Sr. Eusebia was not just having a peaceful Sunday morning “sleep in” as they had thought, but instead had already been welcomed into God the Father’s loving embrace. She left us on tiptoe, without causing a disturbance to anyone, just as she had desired. In these last few days, she was convinced that the Lord would be coming for her soon. In fact, when she received the news of the death of her cousin, Fr. Giuseppe Marcazzan, the day before yesterday, her only comment was: “He has gone to heaven. And I’ll be joining him very quickly.”

Sr. Eusebia entered the Congregation in Alba on 15 March 1952, together with her cousin, Sr. Federica. A few months later, she would be followed by her sister, Sr. Maria Pia. Sr. Eusebia made her novitiate in Rome, concluding this stage of her formation with her first profession on 15 March 1955. Afterward, she was sent to Alba and then to Mantua to carry out capillary and collective diffusion of the Word of God. After her perpetual profession she was assigned to Turin, where she began to learn the book center apostolate—a mission she would carry out for almost her entire Pauline life.

Sr. Eusebia spent a few years in Grosseto and then had the chance to carry out the “teaching ministry” of the Institute through her work in the book centers of Lodi, Novara, Como and Lugano. She spent a few years in each of these communities and thus was able to get to know each diocese, its men and women religious and laity, all of whom flocked to our apostolic centers and to whose service she dedicated the best of herself with simplicity and great faith.

A simple, straightforward and modest person, Sr. Eusebia yearned to respond wholeheartedly to the Lord’s call. In 1969, she wrote to her Superior General: “I don’t have any problems to confide to you. I just want to tell you that my desire is to live like a genuine Daughter of St. Paul in the footsteps of Maestra Thecla and under the secure guidance of my superiors, seeing in them God’s will for me. As far as my community and work are concerned, I only ask that you don’t leave me in any community for too long so that I won’t become an ‘indispensable’ person.”

Sr. Eusebia’s Pauline life was grounded on the solid values of the Gospel. She was a strong woman who sought, above all, whatever would do greater good. She carried out her apostolate generously and tirelessly, spreading a spirit of joy and an optimistic outlook on life wherever she went. It hurt her when negative things were said about others and she would immediately cut short any uncharitable conversations.

Sr. Eusebia was assigned to our Mantua community in 2006, where she carried out the household services entrusted to her with the same enthusiasm and love that had characterized her direct contact with people through the book center ministry. Whenever necessary, she would willingly substitute for a member of the staff who was unable to report for work, doing her best to lighten their physical labors.

Although the call of her Spouse was unexpected (Sr. Eusebia died of a heart attack), we are sure that he found her ready to meet him with her lamp lit, hoisted high in faith, love, and a spirit of interior freedom and poverty. She was like the wise virgins and apostles who left everything for the sake of the Gospel, so we are confident that she has received the treasure promised by the Lord: a heritage more precious than gold, namely, the treasure of eternal life with him.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 11 October 2015