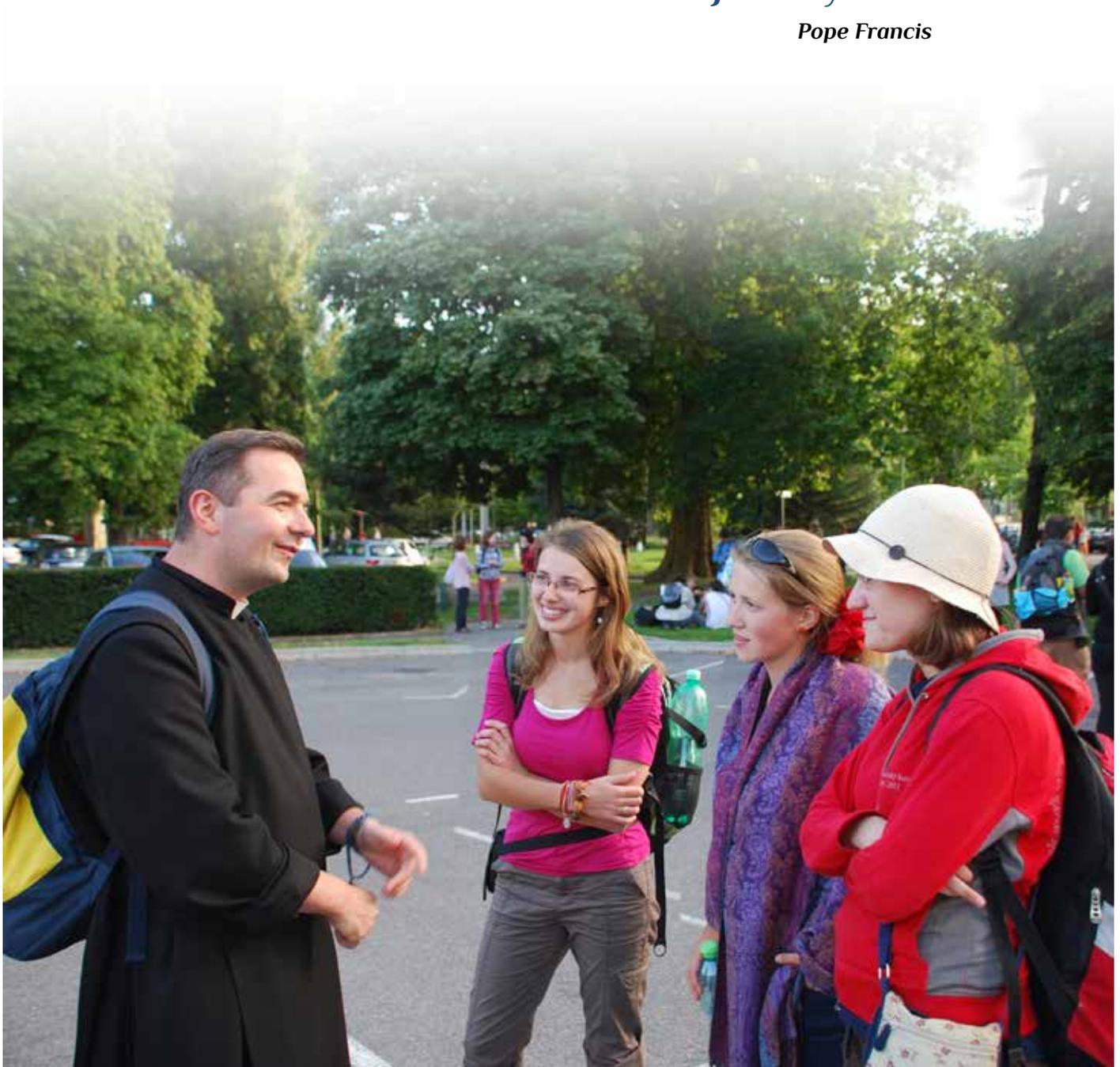


*We need a Church capable  
of walking at the side of people,  
of doing more than simply listening to them;  
a Church that accompanies them  
on their journey.*

*Pope Francis*



## DEAREST SISTERS...

### PAULINE PANORAMA

#### Calendar of the General Government

#### The Circumscriptions

*Bolivia:* Inauguration of a New FSP Book Center

*Korea:* Online School of Prayer

*Ivory Coast:* Formation Meetings in the *Paulines Cultural Center*

*Philippines:* Pauline Family Reunion Goes Ecological

*India:* Mission and Apostolic Passion

*Italy:* #IoLeggoPerché2017

*Madagascar:* FSP Bookmobile

*Romania:* FSPs at the *Gaudeamus Book Fair*

*United States/ESC:* 23rd Anniversary of the FSP Christmas Concerts

*South Africa:* New Website

### OUR STUDIES

The Role of the Daughters of St. Paul in Development Communication

The Significance of Vocational Training on the Living Standard of Youth

Formation in the Postulancy according to the Thought of Fr. Alberione

### TOWARD THE SYNOD ON YOUNG PEOPLE

Listening by Way of the Internet

### MOVING AHEAD WITH THECLA

A True Apostle: Active in Contemplation and Contemplative in Action

### SHARING OUR STORIES

An Important Time in My Life

### AGORÀ OF COMMUNICATIONS

Online Identity, Relationships and Knowledge

### THE PAULINE FAMILY

XXXV Meeting of the General Governments of the Pauline Family

### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

#### Window on the Church

Christian Persecution on the Rise Throughout the World

Birth of an Observatory on Respect for Religious Freedom in the World

Women Judges and Lawyers at Vatican Summit

#### Window on the World

Building Peace in South Sudan and the Congo

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

FOCSIV International Volunteer Awards Bestowed on Three Women

#### Window on Communications

Fides News Agency: 90 years of Service to the Church

Farewell to Fr. Emilio Mayer, the "Priest of the Cinema"

Vatican News Exceeds 4 Million Users on Social Media

### EVENTS AND APPOINTMENTS

Professions

Anniversaries of Religious Consecration

### CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE

## TOWARD THE BEATIFICATION OF MAESTRA THECLA



Dear Sisters,

When I visit our various communities around the world, I am invariably asked, "What point has the beatification process of Maestra Thecla reached?" As we recall, on 22 January 1991, Pope John Paul II announced that Maestra Thecla had lived the virtues to a heroic degree and proclaimed her Venerable. The process has therefore been concluded for over 25 years, but a miracle is necessary for her to be officially "enrolled" in the register of the Blessed.

The first steps of her journey toward beatification took place very quickly: in 1967, just three years after her death, Fr. Alberione asked the Congregation for the Causes of Saints to begin the information-gathering process on Maestra Thecla because we were all firmly convinced Prima Maestra had left behind her an authentic witness of life to the Gospel that should be proposed to the whole Church. Thus the ecclesiastical courts of Alba and Rome began the work of collecting depositions and her figure as Mother of the Pauline Family emerged with even greater clarity. The subsequent stages of the process unfolded in the usual manner and with great speed. In recognizing that she had lived the virtues in a heroic way, the Church pointed her out as a guide in the journey of faith, hope and love, and certainly as a model of the Pauline vocation. We now await the confirmation of her holiness, which usually takes place through the recognition of a miracle. So this is the point we have reached...we are waiting for a miracle!

But in order to obtain this, we must collaborate intensively to make Maestra Thecla, her evangelical message and her apostolic zeal known to everyone so that believers will resort to her intercession. We are already doing this but we must increase our efforts and our faith,

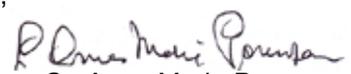
asking her to intercede for us, for our loved ones and for the Church. With this in mind, a Novena booklet entitled *Trust God* has been prepared and has already been translated into the main languages so as to ask for graces through the intercession of Prima Maestra. Let us enthusiastically disseminate this small but precious booklet wherever we go, inviting people to pray to our Mother and ask her to intercede for them before the Father.

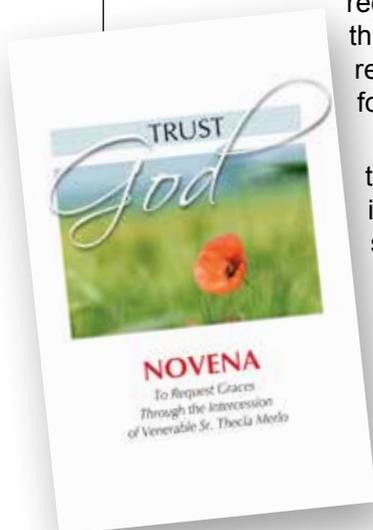


If you receive any information concerning graces received and possible miracles, please send the documentation to the Generalate. The more testimonies there are, the better. Let us all get involved in this beautiful task of urging Maestra Thecla to work for the benefit of humanity today, including through the restoration of physical health to people by means of her extraordinary intervention. Let us recommend to her in a special way family situations—something to which she was very sensitive. And let us emphasize in a special way the celebration of 5 February—a favorable moment for making Maestra Thecla known in our Local Churches. On that day, the FSPs in Rome will have the joy of welcoming among us Bishop Angelo De Donatis, the Pope's new Vicar for our Diocese, who will celebrate a commemorative Liturgy in honor of the occasion.

Let us recall the words of Maestra Thecla: "The Lord does not give you what you ask for but what you believe you will receive." United in belief, let us ask through prayer to live of her great loves: Jesus Master, the Eucharist, the Church, and the Gospel proclaimed to all peoples with the new languages of communication, to the point of complete sacrifice.

Affectionately,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan



**BOLIVIA**

**INAUGURATION OF A NEW FSP BOOK CENTER**



The FSPs of Bolivia have finally realized their dream of opening a second book center in La Paz. During the inauguration ceremony, Fr. Gregory, the pastor of St. Michael's parish, where the book center is located, cited the words of Blessed James Alberione: "Our centers irradiate light and truth"—and invited our sisters to launch this latest portal of evangelization with faith and courage.

In his homily, he said: "God has led you to this part of the city to help the people here receive a Christian formation. You can do great good through your mission—a mission that is of the highest importance in today's society."

The blessing of the locale was followed by the enthronement of the Word of God so as to remind all the participants that the Daughters of St. Paul were born of the Word and live in it.

We rejoice with our sisters at the opening of this new evangelization center which, although small, will be a place from which to disseminate faith, love and hope through the proclamation of the Gospel.

**KOREA**

**ONLINE SCHOOL OF PRAYER**



To celebrate the 102<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the Daughters of St. Paul, our

sisters of Korea launched a school of prayer on Facebook.

The five-week course, entitled *Attraction*, which introduces participants to prayer, also makes use of a candle, the rosary and several videoclips to help the user learn about prayer and put it into daily practice. Listening to and watching this series of programs on the Internet, participants are able to build spiritual relationships, share questions and deepen their prayer life. Our sisters of Korea hope that this online school will help many people come closer to the Lord.

**IVORY COAST**

**FORMATION MEETINGS IN THE PAULINES CULTURAL CENTER**



The Daughters of St. Paul of Abidjan are holding monthly formation meetings on the Bible and the Liturgy in continuity with the animation activities being carried out in their *Paulines Cultural Center*.

Given the great desire of the laity to get to know Sacred Scripture better, their two latest encounters focused on the Bible.

In the first session, Fr. Jean-Marie Guillaume, SMA, presented the rich content of his book *Initiation à la Bible*, a true encyclopedia that narrates the birth of the texts of the Bible up to their latest translations.

In the second encounter, Fr. Paulin Degni Congo, an author, FSP collaborator, and coordinator of the African Bible project, spoke on the subject: *Paul, Servant of the Word*.

Both meetings were of great interest to the participants, who asked many questions and requested further information.

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## PHILIPPINES

### PAULINE FAMILY REUNION GOES ECOLOGICAL



The Pauline Family celebrated the 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary of death of Blessed James Alberione (Nov. 2017) with the theme “Paulines Go Green.” Hosted by the Pious Disciples of the Divine Master, the event was held in the beautiful grass-carpeted backyard of their convent in Antipolo. The reunion was attended by the Society of St. Paul, Daughters of St. Paul, Pious Disciples, Pastorelle Sisters, Pauline Cooperators and Friends of the Divine Master.

The Eucharistic Celebration was presided over by Fr. Jose Aripio, SSP, who was joined by more than 15 Pauline priests and two deacons. Afterward, a number of songs, dances and games—all on an ecological theme—were performed in praise of God’s creation.

The coordinators of the event sought to help the participants become more aware of the ecology and eventually commit themselves to ecological resolutions by presenting them with six R’s, namely: Respect, Refuse, Recycle, Reduce, Re-use and Rot.

As part of the festivities, the Pauline Family gave a special gift to *Talitha Kum Philippines*, an organization of feminine religious congregations and law-enforcers that ministers and responds to the problem of human trafficking.

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## INDIA

### MISSION AND APOSTOLIC PASSION

The Daughters of St. Paul of India organized a seminar on the Pauline apostolate, guided by Sr. Teresa Marcazzan of the St. Paul Publishing Center in Nairobi, Kenya. Almost all the sisters of the Indian Province participated in this formation experience (held in



3 different sessions), during which Sr. Teresa developed her theme from the following standpoints: *Paulines: Agents of Evangelization; Content and Audience* and *New Media, New Channels*. Drawing on the wealth of her apostolic passion and experience, Sr. Teresa also discussed the perspectives of vision, organization and discipline in relation to the Pauline mission. She concluded her input with the observation that study without apostolic vision makes one a professional, not an apostle, and that vision without organization is like the dream of a dead person.

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## ITALY

### #IOLEGGOPERCHÉ2017



In 2017, 22 FSP Book Centers participated in the third edition of the initiative, *#IoLeggoPerché2017* (*#IReadBecause2017*), organized by the Association of Italian Publishers for the purpose of restocking school libraries. The religious and secular book shops participating in the project were paired with a total of 129 schools on every academic level, ranging from kindergarten through high school. In various ways and with the help of a few “messengers,” the shops encouraged their clients to donate books to the school libraries with which they had been paired. Nation-wide, more than 66,748 books were donated by 1,774 book shops to the 5,636 schools that had asked to participate in the event. Our Pauline book centers, thanks to the generous collaboration of their clients, donated a total of 500 books to the project.

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## MADAGASCAR FSP BOOKMOBILE



Blessed James Alberione often said: “We have to go out to the people. We can’t wait for them to come to us!” And so the three members of the circumscription’s new Toamasina community (opened in January 2017) have been joyfully trying to reach their fellow-citizens via bookmobile: a new apostolic endeavor that is helping them make the Pauline presence concretely felt in the city’s neighborhoods and marketplaces.

Their three-wheeled minivan opens on three sides to become a “table” on which the multimedia material can be displayed. The residents of Toamasina, located in eastern Madagascar, have never seen anything like this before and our FSP Bookmobile has quickly become famous throughout the city, with people eagerly looking forward to its arrival in their neighborhoods. The Pauline mission truly knows no boundaries!

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## ROMANIA

### FSPs AT THE *GAUDEAMUS* BOOK FAIR



The Daughters of St. Paul of Romania had the opportunity to joyfully participate in the *Gaudeamus International Book Fair*, held in the country’s capital, Bucharest, from

22-26 November 2017. Because it is the nation’s most important book fair, *Gaudeamus* is usually attended each year by hordes of people from many different places and cities.

Although the FSP publishing presence at this event was like a drop of water in a sea of books, it was a wonderful occasion to evangelize a very varied and multifaceted world. The sisters’ small book stand was a sign of contradiction to some, a curiosity to others, and a source of wonder to all due to the high quality of their publications. In short, they carried out a very meaningful role in proclaiming the Gospel and sowing seeds of hope among the Fair attendants and we are sure that their apostolic commitment will yield precious fruit, making it possible for the Word of God to race ahead and be glorified.

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## UNITED STATES/ESC

### 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FSP CHRISTMAS CONCERTS



One of the many activities of the Daughters of St. Paul of the United States/ESC Province during the Advent season is a nation-wide Christmas Concert Tour. This year the initiative, which holds a special place in the sisters’ evangelizing activities, was held in 10 different cities across the country, from Boston to Los Angeles. The members of the Pauline choir gathered together in November to prepare to bring the love and joy of Jesus to as many people as possible through their repertoire of both traditional and contemporary Christmas carols. Each song on the program spoke to the audiences about God’s gift of love to us in his Son, Jesus. In fact, the theme of this year’s series of performances was “Love Among Us.”

People of all ages, faiths and walks of life have been attending the choir’s performances in steadily-increasing numbers over the years. When introducing the various songs,

the sisters took turns giving inspiration to the people. As one of the choir members, Sr. Julia Mary, said: “Music is God’s gift, the only art of heaven given to earth; the only art of earth we take to heaven.”

Our warmest congratulations and best wishes to our sisters for their dedication to this special mission of evangelization. May it yield abundant fruit!

## SOUTH AFRICA

### NEW WEBSITE

After months of planning and hard work, the FSPs of South Africa have launched their new website: [www.paulinesa.org](http://www.paulinesa.org). The new portal has been completely updated with regard to language, graphics and the organization of content.



Through their online presence and intense activity in the sphere of social media, our sisters hope to reach an ever-greater number of people and help them get to know the publications and audiovisual products carried by our book centers.

We offer them our very best wishes for a fruitful apostolate.

## THE ROLE OF THE DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL IN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNICATION

BY JUSTINA UKAMAKA OMEJE, FSP



The Diploma Paper submitted by Sr. Justina Omeje Ukamaka to Tangaza University College, Nairobi, Kenya for a Diploma in the Sciences of Human Development is a case study of the Consolata Youth Rehabilitation Program (COY-

REP) in Nairobi.

In light of the fact that 60% of Nairobi’s population (about 2 million people) live in slums, it is not hard to understand that this is a problem that needs to be examined more closely. Consequently, the Paper is an analysis of the situation of the inhabitants of Deep Sea slum, located in a parish run by the Consolata Fathers. The purpose of the case study was to examine the level of poverty among youth in this slum, to determine the extent to which COYREP has succeeded in redressing it and to find out how Development Communication can be used in this process because the mass media are not only effective instruments of evangelization

but can also be used to address sustainable development issues such as poverty.

The Paper is divided into four chapters that contextualize and present the problem, provide a socio-cultural analysis of it, offer a theological reflection on the subject, and set forth the challenges and prospects for the future. The Paper is accompanied by an ample bibliography that shows how seriously the author carried out her work. Of particular interest are her suggestions concerning the use of community-based communication for social transformation and how to involve the local people in communications planning.

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON THE LIVING STANDARD OF YOUTH

Continuing her studies, Sr. Justina Ukamaka Omeje submitted a Final Project Paper in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sustainable Human Development. The Paper examines the *Significance of Vocational Training on the Living Standard of Youth* and the contribution of Paulines Publications Africa to this process.

The Paper takes St. Therese Vocational Training College as a case study of the importance of vocational training because most of its students come from low-income backgrounds that prevent them from continuing

their studies at the university level. The author used interviews, focused group discussions with the students and questionnaires as tools for data collection.

The work, which is divided into five chapters, offers background information about the study; a literature review concerning vocational training among youth; the author's research methodology and an analysis of the data she collected; a theological reflection on vocational training, and a plan of action for implementing the findings of the study.

The audiovisual material produced by Paulines Publications Africa, which the author used with the students in carrying out her research, was warmly received by them.

The Paper concludes that technical vocational training provides young people from disadvantaged economic backgrounds with the training they need to escape the web of poverty and become more productive in many different fields of work.

## FORMATION IN THE POSTULANCY ACCORDING TO THE THOUGHT OF FR. ALBERIONE

BY ZOE RAZAFIMAMONJY, FSP

Sr. Zoe, from Madagascar, concluded her curriculum for a License in Education from the Pontifical Salesian University, Rome, Italy, with a thesis on the formation of vocations with particular attention to the Malagasy context.

She writes that formation today must be very careful to offer candidates to the religious life a solid foundation in the human,



spiritual and apostolic spheres, given the socio-religious context of today's world. The thesis focuses on formation in the postulancy with reference to the thought of Fr. Alberione, who made his own the directives of Saint

Paul regarding the Christian identity, namely: to aim at Christification—*until Christ is formed in the person* (cf. Ga. 4:19). In her dissertation, the author examines how this Pauline/Alberionian directive is being applied to FSP formation in Madagascar.

The work is developed in three chapters that take into consideration the various stages and themes of formation. Chapter 1 presents the growth process offered by the Congregation of the Daughters of St. Paul, followed by a summary of the life and charism of Fr. Alberione. Chapter 2 considers integral formation in the light of various cultural challenges. And Chapter 3 proposes some lines of action for making the most of the Pauline charism in the contemporary Malagasy cultural context so as to consolidate the Pauline identity.

The thesis is enriched by several appendices on the subject and an ample bibliography of texts by Fr. Alberione and the Daughters of St. Paul, followed by those of the Magisterium of the Church and various scholars on the subject.

### FIRST PROFESSIONS - 25 JANUARY 2018

#### INDIA

EKKA Anukampa  
REIKHAN Joyly  
AROKIASAMY Vency

#### SEOUL, KOREA

KANG Min Hye – Rosa  
KIM Tae Hee Elizabeth – Tecla  
YOON Na Ra – Paula

### PERPETUAL PROFESSIONS - 25 JANUARY 2018

#### SEOUL, KOREA

AHN Jung Do Hyoju – Sr. Agnes  
CHO Hyun Jin – Sr. Bona  
NOH Seol A – Sr. Francesca



## LISTENING BY WAY OF THE INTERNET



The big event is drawing nearer. The XV General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, scheduled for October 2018, will focus on contemporary youth.

The Church wants to listen to the new generations. The Synod will be *about* young people, but when Pope Francis announced the event, he revealed that his intention was to make it primarily *their* event. He wrote that he wanted them to be the center of attention because “I carry you in my heart.”

For this reason, the Church wants to involve young people in the event as protagonists, above all by gathering them together from 9-24 March 2018, so as to meet them and give them the chance to express their expectations and desires, their uncertainties and concerns regarding the complex situations in today’s world. This moment will enrich the “consultation stage,” already launched through the publication of the Synod’s Preparatory Document and its related questionnaire. It is a year, therefore, of listening to the voice, faith, doubts and criticisms of young people—*all* of them, even those farthest from the Church, because hopes and dreams for the future leave no one out. The Church is looking for a “space” in which to enter into harmony with youth, tune in to their wave lengths

and connect with them in their preferred spaces, meeting them through their posted messages and “selfies.” The Synod intends to be interactive in its strategies and in its channels to inform, share, plan, listen to young people and celebrate this event with them. Months ago, the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops launched an online channel in several languages ([youth.synod2018.va](http://youth.synod2018.va)) so as to encourage a wider participation of all the youth throughout the world in this event, not only by providing them with information about it but also by giving them the chance to interact and participate in the preparations for it.

During this year, the whole Church is invited to open up, think in new ways and walk together with young people, coming face-to-face with their doubts, criticisms and hopes about a Church that sometimes seems too far removed from the uncertain and fluid world in which they live their relationships, build their identities and plan their lives.

I think it would be a good idea to let ourselves be provoked by some of things Pope Francis had to say during his meeting with the Bishops of Brazil in the Archbishop’s house in Rio de Janeiro, 27 July 2013, on the occasion of World Youth Day:

“We have to face the difficult mystery of those people who leave the Church, who, under the illusion of alternative ideas, now think that the Church—their ‘Jerusalem’—can no longer offer them anything meaningful and important. So they set off on the road alone, with their disappointment [like the disciples on the way to Emmaus]. Perhaps the Church appears too weak, perhaps too distant from their needs, perhaps too poor to



respond to their concerns, perhaps too cold, perhaps too caught up with itself, perhaps a prisoner of its own rigid formulas. Perhaps the world seems to have made the Church a relic of the past, unfit for new questions; perhaps the Church could speak to people in their infancy but not to those who have 'come of age' and are now adults. It is a fact that nowadays there are many people like the two disciples of Emmaus; not only those looking for answers in the new religious groups that are sprouting up, but also those who already seem to have eliminated God from their lives, both in theory and in practice.

"Faced with this situation, what are we to do?"

"We need a Church that is not afraid to go forth into the night of these people. We need a Church capable of meeting them on their way. We need a Church capable of joining their conversations. We need a Church able to dialogue with those disciples who, having left Jerusalem behind, are wandering aimlessly, alone, with their own disappointment, disillusioned by a Christianity now considered barren, fruitless soil, incapable of generating meaning. [...]"

"From this point of view, we need a Church capable of walking alongside people, of doing more than simply listening to them; a Church that accompanies them on their journey; a Church able to make sense of the 'night' contained in the flight of so many of our brothers and sisters from Jerusalem; a Church that realizes that the reasons why people leave also contain reasons why they can eventually return. But we need to know how to courageously interpret the larger picture.

"Jesus warmed the hearts of the disciples of Emmaus. I would like all of us to ask ourselves today: are we still a Church capable of warming hearts? A Church capable of leading people back to Jerusalem? Of bringing them home? Jerusalem is where our roots are: Scripture, catechesis, sacraments, community, friendship with the Lord, Mary and the Apostles.... Are we still able to speak of these roots in a way that will revive a sense of wonder at their beauty?"<sup>1</sup>

The word is an appeal that requires a person to mobilize him/herself and reach out to others:

<sup>1</sup> [http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/it/speeches/2013/july/documents/papa-francesco\\_20130727\\_gmg-episcope-pato-brasile.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/it/speeches/2013/july/documents/papa-francesco_20130727_gmg-episcope-pato-brasile.html)

Our way of reaching self-fulfillment as individuals requires exchanging words with others. It is a paradox but the need we have to build our personality, our individuality, involves the game of exchanging words. Therefore words are essentially an intermediary between me and myself, between me and the world, between the world and me. This is the purpose of words. In fact, the meaning of any word is to help us get in touch with what is human.<sup>2</sup>

Words and listening are therefore relational: the presence of the other person implies the opening of a space for asking questions. Communication is linked to a bouncing back and forth of questions that make listening not something passive but an attitude of allowing oneself to be "invaded," inconvenienced, by those queries. The questioner is offering the listener the chance to reply; he/she is initiating a dialogue, adopting a stance of openness to the other person on the emotional level.

Today's teenagers have grown up with the Internet. They are always connected; they view and listen to what they please, when they please. They talk about themselves by means of their YouTube videos, the stories and photos they post on Instagram, their posts and links on Facebook, their messages on Snapchat and conversations on Whatsapp. They write and publish their stories and novels on Wattpad. For them, social media are spaces in which to keep updated about what is happening in the world; they are environments in which to talk to others and talk about themselves, places in which to freely express their anger, take on commitments, confront themselves, dialogue, empathize with the stories of others and be there for them.

Paulo Freire says that the word is more than a simple tool that connects people to one another; it is also reflection because "there is no authentic word that is not praxis. Therefore, to speak authentically means to transform the world."

To be continued in the next issue....

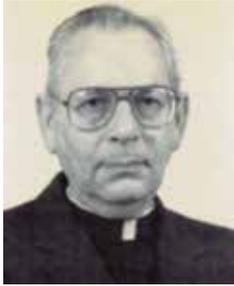
Maria Antonia Chinello, fma

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Barcellona Pietro, *La parola perduta. Tra polis greca e cyberspazio*, Dedalus Editions, Bari 2007. Also by the same author: *Elogio del discorso inutile. La parola gratuita*, Dedalus Editions, Bari 2010.



## A TRUE APOSTLE:

### ACTIVE IN CONTEMPLATION AND CONTEMPLATIVE IN ACTION<sup>1</sup>



When I was asked to speak about Sr. Thecla Merlo, Co-Foundress and first Superior General of the Daughters of St. Paul, I was reminded of the words the Apostle Paul wrote at the beginning of the third chapter of his letter to the Colossians: "Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God." Perhaps some people would be amazed at my placement of a strong-willed and ardent woman alongside the thought of death and hiddenness. As the Gospel says, one does not light a lamp and then place it under a bushel basket. But besides being a strong-willed, energetic and ardent woman, Sr. Thecla Merlo was also very wise. Precisely because of this, she knew how to "die in Christ" so as to live with him and thus become a messenger of life. The secret of her charismatic efficacy was her hiddenness in Christ. [...]

She did not always find fidelity to the Founder and dedication to the Congregation with its many worries and fatiguing responsibilities simple and compatible in day-to-day practice. Her responsibilities energized her but she also felt the exhaustion of self-immolation. Religious life was a crucifixion. "The vows," she said, "are the three nails that bind a soul to the service of God." And she threw herself into this service without hesitation, accepting in advance all the consequences of her decision.

The words of Paul that I just cited find an echo in chapter 12 of the Gospel of John: "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life."

This is the sublime mysticism of Christ. Annihilation in him yields abundant fruit, and that

<sup>1</sup> This text is taken from the testimony of Silvano Gratili, ssp (1915-1993), delivered at the Congress: "I Carry You in My Heart": *Twenty-Five Years after the Death of the Servant of God Maestra Thecla Merlo*, Rocca di Papa (Rome), 2-5 February 1989.

fruit is apostolic work. Immolating oneself on this earth enables a person to rediscover life; it makes a person a bearer of life. But it is a work of grace. Sr. Thecla opened her entire being to the grace of God. She died to self so that Christ might live. And the grace she received in return gave her life such depth and power that it seems like she is still alive today.

We need to consider Sr. Thecla under a psychological-spiritual profile, that is, as the object of the work of God's grace. She practiced self-denial and balance, and one of the effects of the work of grace in her was precisely to give her spiritual equilibrium. Persuaded that the source of true success in the apostolate was life in Christ, there was no activity in her that distracted her from contemplation, just as there was no prayer in which she did not unite to Christ all the problems of the Congregation and the Church. [...]



Hers was a truly apostolic life: she was active in contemplation and contemplative in action. Not bigotry or workaholicism, but apostolic activity in Christ and for Christ—a flood of charitable works that flowed from her life of faith. Speaking about the apostolate, she said: "The Lord wants to associate us to his own mission of saving the world."

Aware of the grandeur of the [Pauline] vocation, she lived it by dying to self and living in Christ. She wanted her daughters to do this too so as to be worthy of such a lofty gift of God. Therefore she felt there should not be any ambiguity about the meaning of the [Pauline] vocation. Every thought that could soil its

beauty—that is, assimilation in Christ—was to be banished.

In one of her conferences, she said: “Tell those who want to become sisters that there are many sacrifices to be made: if they come because they like the habit or because [the religious life] is comfortable, then they are not good vocations. Above all, we must practice self-detachment—this is the greatest sacrifice. May the Lord give us this grace.”

[...] A woman of faith, her apostolic activity was extraordinary. Because her gaze was fixed on Christ, she saw in him the needs of people. But she was also a woman of marvelous and sublime hope.



The last time I saw and spoke with Sister Thecla was during her final visit to the Far East. I remember that evening clearly: night had already fallen when I met her in Rizal Memorial Park in Manila. The park was crowded with people waiting for the Corpus Christi procession to arrive from the Cathedral. Sr. Thecla was standing on the sidewalk, the beads of her rosary slipping through her fingers in ceaseless prayer. She smiled when she saw me and we greeted each other. As we talked,

what struck me was that the things she spoke about all had to do with spiritual matters, which she discussed without any airs or spiritualistic affectation. She continually referred to God, very simply and I would almost say ingenuously. She was like a little child, in the biblical sense of the word.

I also remember an occasion on which, many years prior to this, I stopped by the FSP residence in Rome and found Sr. Thecla in the courtyard with some other sisters. They were all sewing and embroidering. I paused to exchange a few words with them and one of the group asked me why I did not talk about heaven in my classes (I was teaching a course on St. Paul at the time).

I replied a little loftily that we didn't know anything about heaven. Even St. Paul, the only one who said he had been there, could only say that he had seen things that eye had not seen and ear had not heard. I was trying to be humorous, but Prima Maestra responded with great enthusiasm: “How consoling it is to hear St. Paul say things like that! How beautiful heaven must be if even he couldn't describe it!”

Heaven was Sr. Thecla's goal. She kept her thoughts fixed on it and this gave her the energy she needed on her hard journey through life.

I would like to close with something she said that I find very significant: “Let us always look on high, to heaven! That is our true homeland. The Lord has prepared a place for us there. We must aspire to reach heaven at any cost. Let us never get discouraged! Let us distrust ourselves and trust God!” (VPC 51)

*Silvano Gratilli, ssp*

## INTERNATIONAL COURSE OF PREPARATION FOR PERPETUAL PROFESSION

The FSP International Course of Preparation for Perpetual Profession began on Monday, 15 January at Torvaianica, Italy and will conclude in May 2018.

Participating in the course are junior professed sisters from many different countries and cultures who have created a joyous and cordial atmosphere among themselves thanks to their enthusiasm at feeling united to one another in the same vocation and mission.

This special course is one of the experiences that fosters the growth of the Daughters of St. Paul in internationality and interculturality. We offer all our young sisters our sincere best wishes for the very significant time ahead of them and the promise of our prayers for them to the Divine Master.



## AN IMPORTANT TIME IN MY LIFE



I am Sr. Silvana Sauro and I have been working for years in the Bursar General's Office. In 1981, I was sent as a missionary to the Congo (which at that time was known as Zaire) and I was there for three years. That was

a time of great joy, witnessing and apostolic zeal for me.

Regarding this experience, I would like to share above all a few beautiful aspects of the Congolese people, leaving aside the negative features, namely: the problems that are present in this part of Africa, which is rich in natural resources but whose people live in poverty and an atmosphere of violence due to repressive governing regimes.

The local parishes are active and vibrant because the Congolese people are very religious and also very hospitable. They live in the presence of God, in the firm belief that he alone is the Master of life.

I recall the words of a "pousse pousseur"—a person who does the backbreaking work of pushing a handcart to transport goods. He stopped me in the middle of a local marketplace and confided to me: "Sister, I believe in God, just like all the rest of my family. I believe Jesus dwells in me and that he loves me. So during the day, while I am pushing my cart barefoot beneath the broiling sun, I know that I am not alone. I speak to the Friend who is in my heart, who keeps me company, and I feel stronger in the midst of my toils." I was deeply moved by this man's words and I begged the Friend in his heart to make his presence felt more tangibly not only to this humble laborer but also to all the Congolese people and to me.

The Congolese highly esteem reading and many people would come to our book center to spend the few coins they had on reading material. To give them greater access to our publications, Sr. Domenica Attardo and I would often visit the schools of the area to give the children the chance to purchase a book or booklet to help foster their formation. How many children we met! We did a lot of vocation work among the girls, offering them flyers about our mission. How excited they

became about the Pauline vocation! And how many other opportunities we had to carry out our apostolate in the midst of a people thirsting for Christ....

But in 1984, Jesus Master knocked on the door of my life in an unexpected way. I had to return to Italy for an urgent operation because I was experiencing intestinal problems that mystified the doctors.

When I woke up after the surgery, there were several people gathered around my bed. They all looked sad and worried. I knew at once that my situation was serious. Someone said: "Poor thing. The doctor had to remove so much.... If she's lucky, she might live another two weeks." Within myself, I cried out: "This can't be happening! Lord, why me? I was so happy in the missions! I want to go back there.... Why are you asking this of me???"



Now I too was sad and worried. But at Mass that Sunday, the Lord touched me through the words of St. Paul, who said: "Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." I said to myself: "I am a consecrated religious. But do I truly belong to the Lord?" Those words of Paul were the key that helped me face my situation serenely.

In the days that followed, many FSPs stormed heaven with their prayers for my recovery and I want to take this opportunity to thank Prima Maestra Thecla yet again for obtaining for me the restoration of my health.

I've been a member of the Generalate community for more than thirty years now, serving our communities around the world through my work in the Bursar's Office, which has become the place of my mission and into which I pour all my enthusiasm and apostolic zeal.

I praise and thank the Lord for this and I want to continue to live for his glory!

*Silvana Sauro, fsp*

## ONLINE IDENTITY, RELATIONSHIPS AND KNOWLEDGE



Millions of people throughout the world use social networks. Many of the themes debated by the public revolve around issues connected to the Internet—from the loss of privacy to cyber-bullying, from fake news to the consequences of the Internet’s influence on democratic processes. By now we can see for ourselves that the Internet is an integral part of our life. We are constantly connected to it, to the point that we are no longer able to distinguish the borders between “online” and “offline.” We have reached the point that digital technologies have become extensions of our body.

The spread of cell phones, smartphones and wireless connections has disrupted the continuity between what was once called “real life” and “virtual life.” And this has important consequences on individuals, groups and society as a whole.

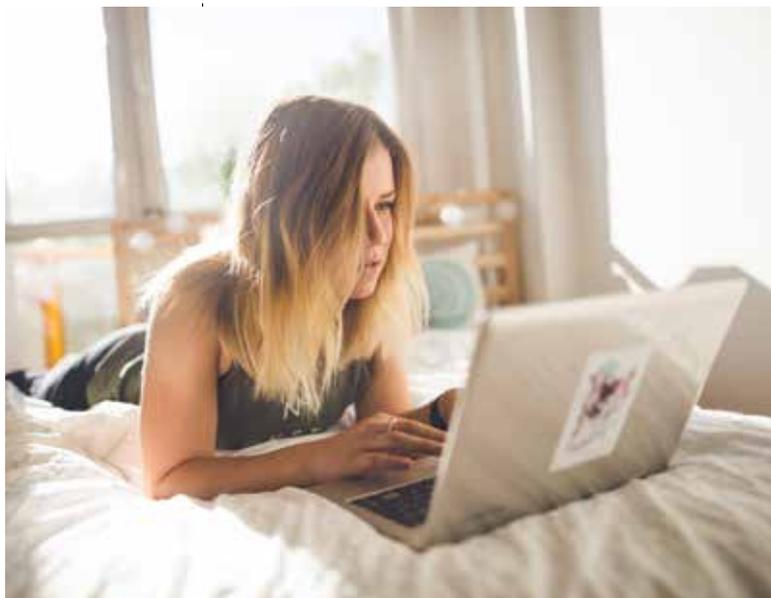
Social networks help us to build our *identity*. By means of them, we cultivate *relationships in society* and increase our *knowledge* about things outside the realm of our direct experience. Because these three dimensions define our rapport with the world, it is necessary to reflect on them, especially from a pastoral perspective. Let us do this here and now.

Traces of our *identity* constantly emerge online in the form of what others say or post about us, and what we ourselves reveal both consciously and unconsciously through our presence online (for instance, when we do a google search; when we click a “like” next to something posted on Facebook, or when we post a picture of ourselves on Instagram). These different types of information should be consistent. If they aren’t, we run the risk of undermining the trust of the people with whom we are in contact.



The “tracks” that we leave on the Web belong to different spheres: personal, social and professional. On the same Facebook profile, it is not possible to separate specific interests from one’s personal, family and Church relationships. The woman religious who expresses herself online does so also in the name of her Congregation. What we post, tweet or share will never be exclusively an expression of our personal point of view because our “multiple identities”—formed by a collection of different, intertwined roles—are expressed simultaneously through our accounts and merge together in a single place, making it impossible to distinguish between our personal milieu—in which several roles (daughter, friend, sister, etc.) are already included—and our institutional milieu. We must be aware of this logic because, as Pope Francis reminded us in 2014, the quality of the Church’s presence in social media is





## The Agora of Communications

based on the degree to which the relevance, credibility and authenticity of the interactions expressed in her name are put into practice each day.

Regarding the second point, social networks are places for building *relationships*. Here, we are at the center of a network of relationships, some of which are weak (for example, our ties with people whom we know only superficially and interact with sporadically), and some of which are strong (our ties with persons who are already a meaningful part of our daily lives). Social networks, however, are not environments that isolate us from relationships in which we are already involved offline, as has often been argued. For example, a research carried out by the Association of Italian Catholic Webmasters (WeCa) revealed that women religious reproduced on social networks the bonds within their religious community. In building their own network, these religious tended to give preference to the “friendship bond” they had with their sisters, regardless of where they were located geographically (in the same community or “far away” in the missions), compensating for the lack of face-to-face contact.

But the social network is also a place in which to cultivate relationships with the faithful. These online relationships can represent a response to the transformations of the ecclesiastical organization in a particular territory, to a change in the forms of religious belief and to a change in the conditions of life of individuals.

Facebook (and social media in general) help promote the individualization and personalization of relationships.

Various styles of presence can be established, depending on one’s personal characteristics, culture, social background, previous experiences and relationships, the type of office held within the ecclesiastical institution, as well as the characteristics of the community to which one belongs. Through the interpersonal and informal relationships established online, in which we express ourselves and get to know others outside our official role, it is often possible to strengthen some relationships or establish new ones.

With regard to the third point: the media have always played an important role in our relationship with the world. If it is true that today our knowledge is being acquired more and more often from the media and that we act as a consequence of what we believe to be true (as Plato taught through his myth about the cave), then those who play a role within the Church have an obligation to get to know the logic that regulates the flow of online communication so as to be able to influence the process of acquiring knowledge. As Pope Francis states in his message for World Communications Day 2018, we need to reflect on the causes, logic and consequences of fake news.

Speaking more generally, it becomes more urgent to learn the rules according to which information and knowledge are produced in the age of social networks, taking into account the fact that more and more users are informed through these networks and also through instant messaging services. To learn these rules, it is necessary to acquire digital skills: a commitment that cannot be avoided by those called to pastoral service within a religious community, whose members are always more connected and influenced by what they receive and re-mix online.

If we want to make an impact on society, we cannot avoid the challenges and opportunities offered us by the new communications context. It is necessary to do this, however, knowing the rules and the logic that govern these communication environments.

*Rita Marchetti*

University of Perugia, Italy

## FINAL MESSAGE

### XXXV MEETING OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENTS OF THE PAULINE FAMILY

EVANGELII GAUDIUM QUESTIONS THE PAULINE FAMILY  
THE CHALLENGES REGARDING THE FAMILY  
AND THE PROTECTION OF CREATION

**DIVINE MASTER RETREAT HOUSE - ARICCIA, 8-10 JANUARY 2018**



*Dear Sisters and Brothers,*

We are writing to you from Ariccia, Italy at the end of the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the General Governments of the Pauline Family. We thank the Lord that once again we had the chance to get together to reflect, question ourselves and encourage one another in order to better respond to our universal mandate to announce the Gospel of joy to the people of our time, following the same journey of the Church delineated in the magisterium of Pope Francis, and to respond to it according to the mission of communication we received as a heritage from our Founder, in keeping with the individual charism of each Congregation. We lived days of intense communion, which should always characterize our relationships within the Pauline Family so that it will be ever-more attractive and luminous, as Fr. Valdir José De Castro, Superior General of the Society of St. Paul, said in his opening address.

The first thing we did was to welcome the sisters of the new General Governments of the Pious Disciples and of the Pastorelle Sisters who, precisely in these months, are continuing to guide their Congregations toward the goals set by their respective General Chapters for the next six years.

Sr. Regina Cesarato, PDDM, and Fr. Armando Matteo, in their talks about the family and the created world (available on

the [www.alberione.org](http://www.alberione.org) website), underscored several decisive aspects that can help make what is human even more human: diversity as a positive element inscribed by God in creation and therefore in humanity; the need to come out of oneself so as to live love (both spousal and fraternal) to the full; the recovery of the “trade” dimension of how to “craft” a family (cf. AL 16) and how to develop educational relationships that lead one to live in a mature way in a wide variety of contexts (family, school, religious formation, etc.). This is even more necessary in the current circumstances, in which a great anthropological change is underway—what Pope Francis calls *rapidación* (LS n. 18), a neologism that indicates the rapid evolution of technology and of the human being’s vision of him/herself.

The video of a conference by Comboni missionary Fr. Alex Zanotelli (the link can be found on our international website) highlights how some major themes are profoundly interconnected and require a decisive response from everyone, especially the baptized and, among these, we consecrated persons. We refer in particular to inhumane finance, which at this point has spun out of control; to the superpower of banks and the consequent crisis of politics on the world level; to the flourishing arms trade; to the trafficking of toxic waste; to an unrestrained and voracious consumerism; to the poverty that engulfs vast areas

of the globe; to countless wars; to the immense flow of migrants to Europe, and to the serious and accelerated degradation of the environment.

Taking these provocations and our subsequent work in small groups as a point of departure, we feel that it is urgent to make concrete commitments on our part both individually and on the circumscriptional and congregational levels. We list a few of these here so that you can share them with us:

- greater attention to creation by adopting more environmentally-friendly lifestyles that enable us to distinguish the necessary from the superfluous and that prompt us to be frugal in the use of electricity, food, fossil fuels and water (for example, using non-biodegradable material such as plastic as little as possible);
- greater attention to how the savings of our Congregations are invested on both the central and local levels; in particular, to ensure that our bank deposits are not invested in companies that have ethically reprehensible behavior (such as the production of weapons, toxic waste, life-threatening chemicals, etc.) or in investment funds and derivatives that feed an overblown and overbearing finance;
- to become more involved in public forums, both ecclesial and civil, where issues related to justice, peace and the safeguarding of creation are discussed;
- to be animators, through our specific apostolate, in how to give greater importance to the family, the primary place of the human being and for transmitting the Faith, and to the protection of creation, sensitizing our listeners to these decisive themes for the future of creation.

These points seem to be consistent with the five functions of Pauline poverty: *to renounce independent administration, to produce through diligent work, to preserve the things we use, to provide for the needs of the Institute, and to build up by correcting an avidity for goods.*

With regard to the formation course on the Charism of the Pauline Family, now in its 21<sup>st</sup> edition and a one-of-a-kind program on the worldwide level, we want to share with you our hope that more of our brothers and sisters will participate in this experience. We also hope that the course will become

a place for research, deeper study and the comparison of ideas among professors who lecture in common thematic areas.

Let us also remember that this year will be full of events for the Pauline Family: the Interchapter Meeting of the Society of Saint Paul, the 5th General Chapter of the Apostoline Sisters, the International Congress of the Pauline Cooperators, the Centenary of the death of Maggiorino Vigolungo, and the 80th anniversary of foundation of the Pastorelle Sisters. We invite everyone to accompany each of these milestones with abundant prayer, so that they may be authentic events of the Spirit and open our communities to the dimension of prophecy.

Yet another important event of the universal Church will accompany us during these months: the Synod of Bishops on Young People. In regard to this we want to notify you in advance and with great enthusiasm that, in full harmony with this occasion and convinced of the beauty of the Pauline vocation, we have decided to hold a vocational year from 25 January 2019 to 25 January 2020.



Grateful to the Lord for all that he sowed in us in these days and with a sense of nostalgia for the absence of the lay component of the Pauline Family—which we hope to remedy in the future—we want to wish everyone, and in a special way our Cooperators scattered throughout the world, the capacity to live always more profoundly the extraordinary wealth of God's grace so as to ardently proclaim the Gospel of joy to every creature.

With affectionate greetings in Christ the Master,

*The Participants in the XXXV Meeting  
of the General Governments  
of the Pauline Family*

Ariccia, 10 January 2018

## WINDOW ON THE CHURCH

### CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION ON THE RISE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



Today over 215 million Christians in the world suffer persecution for the Faith. Heading the list of oppressor-nations is North Korea, while Pakistan has the distinction of being the world's most violent anti-Christian country, and India is experiencing a rise in Hindu radicalism. This information is part of the 2018 Report published by the Open Doors Organization, which each year, on the basis of about 100 countries surveyed, draws up a "black list" of the nations in which Christians are oppressed, discriminated against, suffer abuse and violence to the point of being killed, and are conditioned in both private and public life—all because of their religious beliefs.

And the number of persecuted Christians is growing: in fact, 1 Christian out of 12 throughout the world is the victim of violence or abuse. According to the Report, over 15,500 Christian churches, homes and shops were attacked between November 2016 and October 2017. This data gives us an idea of anti-Christian sentiments throughout the world.

### BIRTH OF AN OBSERVATORY ON RESPECT FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN THE WORLD



In addition to launching a study and analysis of religious freedom around the world, the new Observatory will monitor the condi-

tions of religious minorities across the globe to strengthen their protection and will also formulate proposals for awareness-raising activities. Salvatore Martinez, president of the Vatican Foundation "International Family Center of Nazareth," has been appointed head of the Observatory.

"The barbaric acts of which we are victims in the Middle East," comments Archbishop Paul Gallagher, secretary for relations with the states of the Holy See, "precede ISIS. Christians and other minorities [in this part of the world] were already feeling like second-class citizens. The mission now must be to defend the human rights of *all*, regardless of faith and origin." For centuries, Christians have coexisted side by side with other faiths in the Middle Eastern regions. Religious pluralism, in those areas, continues Archbishop Gallagher, "is not something to be imported or imposed, but a reality to be recognized. For example, in Iraq, the problem is not that of reconstructing buildings but of re-creating societal, economic and political conditions that can re-establish the foundations for peaceful coexistence." The Christian presence, he concludes, "is essential for the Middle East, which is a mosaic of different people and religions, because without its Christians and those of other faiths its identity is lost."

### WOMEN JUDGES AND LAWYERS AT VATICAN SUMMIT



About 70 women judges and lawyers from around the world participated in the recent Vatican Summit for Judges on the plague of human trafficking and organized crime.

According to the event's brochure, the participants were invited to share their experiences on the subject, propose new models and make the most of existing ones. It was the hope of the Summit's organizers that the women's "feminine sensitivity, tenderness and delicacy, as well as their ability to weigh

matters seriously and equitably, might play a decisive role in administering justice in every case and proposing better practices.”

“It is not irrelevant,” the brochure continues, “that Justice is traditionally represented as a female, the allegorical personification of the moral rectitude on which the judicial system should be based. There is no doubt that this allegory is founded on the universal recognition of woman’s ethical and human values. It is commonly acknowledged that women are more able than men to direct their attention to the concrete person in different situations and that the feminine vocation for justice and society—namely, to give all people their due—develops this disposition even further. The dignity of the woman judge is closely connected to the goodness and firmness that springs from a love capable of interpersonal relationships.”

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## WINDOW ON THE WORLD

### BUILDING PEACE IN SOUTH SUDAN AND THE CONGO



*Building peace together in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo:* this is the title of the round table discussion held on 18 January in the main conference hall of the Pontifical Urbanianum University, Rome, Italy.

The event, organized by the Union of Male Superiors General and the Solidarity for South Sudan Association, in collaboration with the Dicastery for Integral Human Development Service, took place after a prayer meeting for the Congo and South Sudan held in St. Peter’s Basilica on 23 November 2017. The Prayer Meeting was convened and presided over by Pope Francis so as to ask for peace for these two countries, marked by constant wars and violence.

Religious, the laity, members of various associations and representatives of the ac-

ademic world attended the Urbanianum event, the purpose of which was to discuss the causes underlying the torment in this part of the world and explore and promote concrete solidarity actions to help the local populations.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



On 25 November the *International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women* was celebrated worldwide. Launched by the UN in 1999, this important event is celebrated every year to remember and condemn physical and psychological violence against women and girls and to show solidarity and closeness to the victims of this violence.

The date of the Day was chosen by the UN General Assembly in remembrance of the Mirabal sisters, who were raped and murdered in 1999 for courageously battling the dictatorship in the Dominican Republic.

A 16-day Campaign entitled *Activism against Gender-Based Violence* began on 25 November and ended on 10 December, *Human Rights Day*.

## FOCSIV INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER AWARDS BESTOWED ON THREE WOMEN



Volunteer work as a commitment lived above all “in the first person, in the feminine”—this is what motivated FOCSIV to bestow its International Volunteer Awards this

year on three women: Anna Dedola, manager of the Cope Project in Iringa, Tanzania; Khadija Tirha, a Civil Service volunteer in Italy's Piedmont region, and Alganesc Fesaha, president of Gandhi Charity. "Different ages, different lands of origin, different cultures, but a single common denominator," said FOCSIV president Gianfranco Cattai at the awards ceremony.

"These women have made the choice to dedicate themselves to guaranteeing and protecting the right of every person to life and human dignity. It is this profound value that underlies all volunteer work: commitment to the promotion of integral human development by serving one's neighbor on a daily basis, at home or abroad, in whatever one's walk of life."

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## WINDOW ON COMMUNICATIONS

### FIDES NEWS AGENCY: 90 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CHURCH



Fides News Agency, founded in 1927 by the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith, is the first Missionary Agency of the Church and

among the first agencies in the world to use the press to disseminate information about the Church's missionary activity. It also encourages animation and cooperation with this activity through vocational promotion and spiritual and material help.

Adapting to the changes taking place in the world of communications while at the same time remaining faithful to its original mission, Fides continues to call attention to the work of the Church throughout the world, providing information about peoples, situations and communities often ignored by international media circuits, which are perpetually in search of "scoops."

This is a demanding task, given the increasingly multi-religious and multi-cultural context of the modern world, in which the modes of divulging information have changed profoundly and are often manipulated by special interest groups. But Fides is courageously confronting the challenge. Today, 90 years after its foundation, it contin-

ues to be the voice of countries and churches neglected by the major news outlets and to present to the world the vast scope of the Church's mission to proclaim the Gospel of Christ *ad gentes*, including through use of the new "areopagi" of communications.

### FAREWELL TO FR. EMILIO MAYER THE "PRIEST OF THE CINEMA"



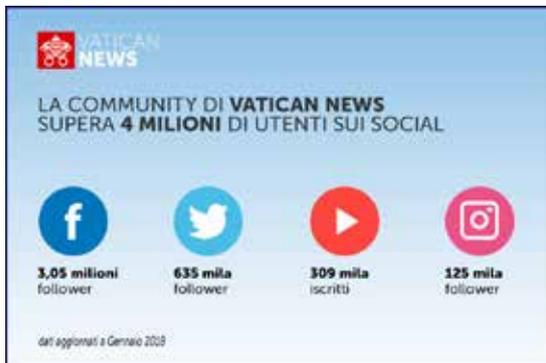
Fr. Emilio Mayer, the "cinema priest" of Bergamo, Italy, died on 2 January 2018 at the age of 99. He had served as director of SAS (Servizio Assistenza Sale) of the Lombard capital from 1965-2008, and as president of the Catholic Association of Cinema Operators from 1981-1999.

At the outset of his priestly ministry, Fr. Mayer discovered cinema as a space for meeting and dialogue. "If in church only the priest speaks," he used to say, "in our oratory halls the people also speak. There is dialogue there and it is a precious opportunity to pre-evangelize. Very often I have seen people who have never set foot in church take an active participation in cineforums." Precisely for this reason he zealously promoted that particular communications medium in his pastoral service, holding several meetings each week in parishes throughout the Lombard zone to discuss quality cinema. Speaking of his personal story, he said: "As a priest, I started from a cinema considered recreation and fun, and then discovered its cultural and pastoral component."

Fr. Ivan Maffei, director of the Office for Social Communications as well as Undersecretary of the Italian Bishops' Conference, says: "The Italian Catholic Church cannot help but mourn the loss of this pastor, recalling how he used the art of cinematography to accompany his flock and touch the souls of people."

The Daughters of St. Paul too want to say a heartfelt thank you to Fr Emilio, a “frontier priest” who was able to grasp with great intuition (and a bit of insanity at that time) the great cultural and pastoral role of cinema in the Church.

**VATICAN NEWS EXCEEDS 4 MILLION USERS ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



A community that exceeds 4 million users between Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram: this is the result of the reorganization of the social media channels of the Holy See’s Secretariat for Communication, which have been unified under the logo *Vatican News*. In particular, according to a statement from the dicastery, the launch of a Global Page on Facebook has allowed the aggregation of over 3 million followers, who have the possibility of consulting the pages of the six languages currently available

(Italian, English, French, German, Spanish and Portuguese). With regard to Twitter, the statement continues, the six different linguistic accounts @vaticannews have acquired immediate visual recognition, overcoming the fragmentation of the past. In addition to these accounts there is also a single multilingual profile of Vatican News available on Instagram. To these three social platforms can be added the YouTube channel (in 6 languages), also under the *Vatican News* logo, which offers users live and on-demand videos concerning the Holy Father’s activities.

According to Monsignor Dario Edoardo Viganò, Prefect of the Holy See’s Secretariat for Communication, “the strengthening of our presence on social networks is one of the effects of the important process of reforming the Vatican media, which is nearing completion—a goal that has been achieved thanks to the intense commitment of our journalists and technicians. As operators in the field of communication, in keeping with the logic of a ‘Church that goes forth,’” continued Msgr. Viganò, “we are called to be among the people. Today this means being present on social networks and the Internet with conviction and responsibility. So our perspective must be very clear. It requires us to focus on the person, on relationships, on the culture of encounter and then, in the last instance, on technology.”

<b>Calendar of the General Government</b>			
8-10 January	Ariccia (Rome)	Meeting of the General Governments of the Pauline Family	General Government
12-13 January	Generalate, Rome	Meeting with the Government of the Italian Province	General Government
15 January - 31 May	Tor S. Lorenzo (Rome)	Course of Preparation for Perpetual Vows	Sr. Clarice Wisniewski
26-30 January	Lisbon, Portugal	Delegation Meeting	Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan Sr. Lucia Kim
1-25 February	Generalate, Rome	Meeting of the Pre-Chapter Commission	Sr. Anna Caiazza Sr. Shalimar Rubia
14-27 February	Perù-Bolivia	Fraternal Visit	Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
27 February - 8 March	Venezuela	Fraternal Visit	Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan



## Anniversaries of Religious Consecration 2018

### **25° Anniversary of Religious Consecration (16)**

	<i>First Prof.</i>	<i>Community</i>
BELTRANO sr Teresa	25.01.1993	PALERMO
COLEIRO sr Joanna Maryanne Laura	25.01.1993	EAST HAWTHORN
CORONA CISNEROS sr Isabel	30.06.1993	MEXICO
FIRMINO sr Maria Veronica	04.07.1993	SÃO PAULO IA
GRANT sr Angela Patricia	25.01.1993	GLASGOW
INAYAT sr Meena Philomena Theresa	25.01.1993	MULTAN
ISHAQ sr Magdaline	25.01.1993	LAHORE
MATHIAS sr Neena	30.06.1993	MANGALORE
MENEZES sr Zarina	30.06.1993	VASAI
MONTEIRO DA SILVA sr Gervis	04.07.1993	SÃO LUIS
MOSTACERO VERGARA sr Jessica Maria	24.01.1993	AREQUIPA
PUEL sr Neide	04.07.1993	CURITIBA
RAYMUNDO DOMINGUEZ sr Hortencia	30.06.1993	MEXICO
SIBAY NGANDJU sr Generose	30.06.1993	KINSHASA CD
SIMON sr Mary Jayanthi	30.06.1993	MUMBAI
STOFFEL sr Julieta	27.06.1993	BUENOS AIRES S

### **50° Anniversary of Religious Consecration (58)**

ABE Hiroko sr Maria Josephina	30.06.1968	OSAKA-KOBE
ALMODOVAR PEÑA Magdalena sr Raquel	08.12.1968	MEXICO-AMATISTA
ARAYA PONCE Dina Angelica sr Gabriela	30.06.1968	SANTO DOMINGO
ARRIAGA PUENTE Agustina sr Lucia	08.12.1968	MONTERREY
BERNARDIS Odila sr Janice	30.06.1968	SÃO PAULO TM
CARRANO Antonia Concepcion sr Maria Claudia	08.12.1968	BUENOS AIRES S
CASTRONOVO sr Filippa	30.06.1968	ROME DP
CATUDAL sr Lucienne	30.06.1968	TROIS-RIVIERES
CONTARDO Gloria Maria sr Maria Paola	30.06.1968	DURBAN
D'MELLO Magdalena sr Mary Virginia	08.12.1968	VASAI
D'SILVA Josephine sr Mary Bianca	08.12.1968	AHMEDABAD
DIAZ sr Omaira	08.12.1968	EL HATILLO CD
DOLZANI sr Rosa Magdalena	08.12.1968	BUENOS AIRES S
ESTONINA Consorcia sr Bernardetta Maria	30.06.1968	PASAY R.A.
FERNANDES PEDROSA sr Teresa de Jesus	30.06.1968	LISBON CD
FERREIRA AZEVEDO sr Maria Nazarè	30.06.1968	FARO
GONZALEZ HERNANDEZ Maria Brigida sr Adriana	30.06.1968	MEXICO
GRECO Anna sr Maria Ester	30.06.1968	ROME DP
GUIGNARD sr Eliane	30.06.1968	LYON CD
IDE Shoko sr Maria Teresia	30.06.1968	TOKYO
LEMIRE sr Jeanne	30.06.1968	MONTREAL
LOBO Juliana sr Maria Rosaria	08.12.1968	SECUNDERABAD
LOZA HERNANDEZ Rafaela sr Maria Cecilia	08.12.1968	MEXICO
LUCIO GONZALEZ Estela sr Maristela	08.12.1968	LEON
MADATHIPARAMPIL L. Theresa sr Mary Carmel	08.12.1968	LAGOS
MAIORANO Carmela sr Maria Bernarda	30.06.1968	ALBANO TM
MALATA Violeta sr Maria Lilia	30.06.1968	CEBU
MALONEY sr Alice Marie	30.06.1968	BOSTON RA
MANDING Corazon . sr Maria Consolata	30.06.1968	PASAY CP
MARTINEZ RUIZ sr Maria Magdalena	30.06.1968	BARCELONA
MENDEZ sr Maria Yamile	08.12.1968	BARRANQUILLA
MISHIMA Chikako sr Maria Johanna	30.06.1968	TOKYO CP
MUCHUT sr Elda Luisa	08.12.1968	MONTEVIDEO
NEVES sr Maria de Lourdes	30.06.1968	BELEM
NISHIMURA Akiko sr Maria Clara	08.12.1968	HIRATSUKA

PADINJAREDATH Aley sr Maria Vincenzina	08.12.1968	NAGPUR
PENA Y LILLO Gloria Del Carmen sr Claudia Maria	30.06.1968	SANTIAGO FL
PEREIRA SILVA sr Maria Otilia	30.06.1968	LISBON CD
PICOLI sr Renilda Terezinha	30.06.1968	BRASILIA
PINTORE sr Domenichina	30.06.1968	ROME DP
PLATHARA sr Annamma sr Anne	08.12.1968	BANGALORE
PLATHARA Theresa sr Mary Ancilla	08.12.1968	MUMBAI
POTTANANIYIL Maria sr Maria Patricia	08.12.1968	CALCUTTA
RABAYA Maria Regla sr Maria Clemens	30.06.1968	CEBU
RIZZOTTO Samaritana sr Fatima	30.06.1968	TREVISO
RODRIGUES DA SILVA Ercilia sr Daniela	30.06.1968	LUANDA
SALVIONI Giovanna sr Maria Beatrice	30.06.1968	ROME RA
SANCHEZ ESPINOSA Rita sr Maria Elena	08.12.1968	MEXICO-AMATISTA
SEPULVEDA sr Maria Alicia	30.06.1968	ANTOFAGASTA
SILVA Maria Aparecida sr Patricia	30.06.1968	BRASILIA
STEWART Anne Lorraine sr Mary Sophie	30.06.1968	ALEXANDRIA, VA
TORRES sr Juliana	08.12.1968	PUERTO ORDAZ
VALDERRAMA sr Teresita	30.06.1968	ALBANO
VALERIANO Manuela De Jesus sr Maria De Jesus	08.12.1968	SANTIAGO.Dom.Rep.
WILSON Deborah Therese sr Mary Leonora	30.06.1968	BOSTON
WOO Je Yeol sr Maria Benedicta	30.06.1968	SEOUL-MIARI
YAMANAKA Chiyoko sr Maria Agnes	30.06.1968	SENDAI
ZANARDO sr Nerina	30.06.1968	SYDNEY

**60° Anniversary of Religious Consecration (61)**

ALOJA Maria sr Rita Maria	30.06.1958	ROME DP
ARMARIO Sixta sr Maria Concettina	30.06.1958	PASAY R.A.
BAROZZI Olimpia sr Maria Lilliana	30.06.1958	EL HATILLO CD
BORDIGNON Maria sr Maria Flavia	30.06.1958	ALBANO GA
BOZ sr Rosalina	30.06.1958	SALVADOR
BRANCA Maria Teresa sr Maria Rosalba	30.06.1958	ROME DP
BRESSAN Maria Elena sr Maria Raquel	08.12.1958	TUCUMAN
BRUSCATO Idez Maria sr Maria Antonieta	30.06.1958	SÃO PAULO CP
CAFFERATA Jacinta sr Maria Isabel	29.06.1958	ROME CG
CAMPARA sr Rita	30.06.1958	ALBA
CAPPELLARI Nelsi sr Maria Ida	30.06.1958	SÃO PAULO CR
CARUANA Carmel sr Maria Tecla	30.06.1958	SYDNEY
CASTRINI Aurelia sr Angela Maria	30.06.1958	EL HATILLO CD
CHIONNA Maria Emanuela sr Maria Carmela	30.06.1958	TARANTO
DE BORTOLI sr Eide	30.06.1958	SÃO PAULO CR
DE FELICE Assunta sr Maria Amata	30.06.1958	ALBANO
DELL'ERA Anna Maria sr Maria Chiara	30.06.1958	ROME CG
D'MELLO Gloria sr Tecla	30.06.1958	MUMBAI
FAVERO Erminia sr Tarcisia	30.06.1958	ALBA SG
FITZGERALD Patricia Sheila sr Mary Bernadette	30.06.1958	BOSTON RA
FLORES CERVANTES Maria De Jesus sr M. Fidelis	30.06.1958	LEON
FORTE Angelica sr sr Maria Charitas	30.06.1958	BOSTON RA
GALLI Rita sr Maria Romana	30.06.1958	MILAN PU
GARCIA ALONSO Mariluz sr Maria Isabel	30.06.1958	MADRID
GIULIODORI sr Valentina	30.06.1958	NAPOLI D
GOMEZ sr Ana Cecilia	19.03.1958	BOGOTA O
GOMEZ Teresa sr Maria Amparo	19.03.1958	BARRANQUILLA
HABU Taeko sr Maria Stella	01.07.1958	TOKYO-T
HEINECK sr Maria Dulce	30.06.1958	CURITIBA
INAGAKI Kazuko sr Maria Regina	01.07.1958	TOKYO-1
KANEZAKI Masa sr Maria Arcangela	01.07.1958	TOKYO-1
KLOSTER Maria Prequita sr Maria Sara	29.06.1958	RESISTENCIA
KOYAMA Etsuko sr Maria Clemens	01.07.1958	HIRATSUKA
LANOVARA Jennie sr Mary Margaret	30.06.1958	BOSTON RA
LOMBARDOZZI Ersilia sr Maria Raffaella	30.06.1958	ALBANO
LUCERO Ruth Alicia sr Mary Gemma	30.06.1958	LIPA
MANCINI sr Francesca	30.06.1958	LIMA
MARINARO Rosanna sr Maria Sara	30.06.1958	NAPOLI C
MERCENARO Maria Rosa sr Maria Maurizia	30.06.1958	TRIESTE
MOLINARI Drusilla sr Maria Beatrice	30.06.1958	ALBANO GA
NAGATA Kayoko sr Maria Grazia	01.07.1958	TOKYO-1
NEMER Adele Rose sr Mary Augustine	30.06.1958	NAIROBI
NORO sr Laura Maria	30.06.1958	SÃO PAULO CR
NUME Maria sr Maria Grazia	30.06.1958	RIO PIEDRAS
OKAMOTO Yukiko sr Maria Emmanuella	01.07.1958	TOKYO-1
ORTH sr Belmira Theresinha	30.06.1958	SÃO PAULO DM

PASINI sr Emma	30.06.1958	VERONA
PROVENZANO Rosa sr Maria Immacolata	30.06.1958	MESSINA
PULGA Nilce Ercilia sr Rosana	30.06.1958	VITORIA
QUARTIERO sr Maria De Lourdes	30.06.1958	SÃO PAULO CR
ROUSSEAU sr Carmen	30.06.1958	MONTREAL
SALA TENNA Domenica sr Maria Antonietta	30.06.1958	ALBA
SINGH Maria Magdalena sr Maria Fidelis	30.06.1958	PASAY R.A.
SORIO Maria sr Maria Bernardetta	30.06.1958	COMO
STOCCO Maria sr Maria Concetta	30.06.1958	ALBA SG
SUZUKI Hiroko sr Maria Amabilis	01.07.1958	TOKYO-1
TAJIMA Hisako sr Maria Santina	01.07.1958	TOKYO
TURCATO sr Bertilla	30.06.1958	ALBA
VELOTERI Carmen Elida sr Maria Julia	29.06.1958	BUENOS AIRES N
VIETTI Secondina Maria sr Maria Clelia	30.06.1958	ALBANO
WICKENHISER Judith sr Mary David	30.06.1958	BOSTON

**70° Anniversary of Religious Consecration (15)**

CARMELO Lillian sr Maria Lorenzina	19.03.1948	BOSTON RA
DEL BEM sr Jandira	28.03.1948	FORTALEZA
FANTIN Caterina sr Maria Virginia	19.03.1948	ALBA
FOLETTO sr Eufrosia Annunciata	28.03.1948	CURITIBA
MAGLIANO Teresa sr Bianca Rosa	19.03.1948	ROME DP
MENEGAT sr Assunta	28.03.1948	CURITIBA
PANDOLFO Mercedes sr Eugenia	28.03.1948	SÃO PAULO CR
PROSPERI Andreina sr Maria Angelina	19.03.1948	ROME DP
QUAGLINI Maria sr Maria Agnes	19.03.1948	ROME CG
SANTINI Mafalda sr Maria Ida	19.03.1948	ALBA
SCARAMUZZI Maria Welmides sr Fatima	28.03.1948	SÃO PAULO CR
SERGI Laura sr Maria Luigia	19.03.1948	ROME DP
SILVESTRE Lydia sr Nazarena	19.03.1948	PASAY R.A.
TAGLIARI Osvaldina sr Regina	28.03.1948	SÃO PAULO CR
THOMASI Helena sr Esther	21.03.1948	CURITIBA

**75° Anniversary of Religious Consecration (3)**

FRANCO Emilia sr Elisabetta	19.03.1943	ROME DP
MANERA Maria Paolina sr Maria Adriana	19.03.1943	ALBA
ZIGLIO Dozolina sr Felicidade	25.01.1943	SÃO PAULO CR



## DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL

- Sr. M. Fedele Mashiko, age 82 - 16.11.2017 - Hiratsuka, Japan
- Sr. Lucia Giulia Monterumici, age 97 - 21.11.2017 - El Hatillo, Venezuela
- Sr. M. Teresina Pasqua Pregnolato, age 94 - 21.11.2017 - Alba, Italy
- Sr. Federica Gonzalez, age 79 - 27.11.2017 - Taipei, Taiwan
- Sr. Maria Rosaria Malzone, age 77 - 28.11.2017 - Alba, Italy
- Sr. Maria Caterina Riviera, age 87 - 24.12.2017 - Alba, Italy
- Sr. M. Cecilia Donati, age 76 - 02.01.2018 - Albano GA, Italy
- Sr. Virginia Romana Mazzucato, age 87 - 12.01.2018 - Albano, Italy
- Sr. Maria de Jesus Escobedo Diaz, age 85 - 14.01.2018 - Mexico City, Messico

## PARENTS OF OUR SISTERS

- Sr. Ana Maria Pizzatto (Father, Arminio), of the Manaus community, Brazil
- Sr. Maria Luisa Alvarez (Mother, Victoria), of the Generalate community, Rome, Italy
- Sr. Beatrice Muswamba (Mother, Genevieve), of the Abidjan community, Ivory Coast
- Sr. Karen Marie Anderson (Mother, Margaret Christine), of the Generalate community, Rome, Italy
- Sr. Teresa Beltrano (Father, Francesco), of the Palermo community, Italy
- Sr. Maria Kim (Father, Jong Deok Andrea), of the Seoul-Miari community, Korea
- Sr. Graciela Sanchez (Father, Carlos Alberto), at home, Argentina
- Sr. Modesta Yu (Mother, Maria), of the Wonju community, Korea
- Sr. Teresina Kim (Father, Giuseppe), of the Seoul-Miari community, Korea
- Sr. Marlise Heckler (Mother, Hedy and Father, Alfonso Silvino), of the Luanda community, Angola
- Sr. Bona Son (Father, Bong Ku Pio), of the Seoul-Miari community, Korea

## PAULINE FAMILY

- Sr. Ignazia Maria Pomaro, sjbp, age 87 - 26.10.2017 - Negrar, Italy
- Sr. M. Clemenza Rosa Caronia Ancitta, pddm, age 91 - 27.10.2017 - Palermo, Italy
- Br. Domenico Pietro Negri, ssp, age 92 - 11.11.2017 - Alba, Italy
- Seminarian Bakam Yohanna Bassahwa, ssp, age 25 - 24.11.2017 - Enugu, Nigeria
- Fr. Eugenio Giovanni Fornasari, ssp, age 102 - 03.12.2017 - Alba, Italy
- Sr. M. Alberta Lina Bordignon, pddm, age 88 - 06.12.2017 - Alba, Italy
- Sr. M. Pia Maddalena Chiavassa, pddm, age 99 - 07.12.2017 - Sanfrè, Italy
- Sr. Giuseppina Ambroso, sjbp, age 79 - 09.12.2017 - Negrar, Italy
- Fr. Carmine Giovanni Bruno, ssp, age 82 - 12.12.2017 - Rome, Italy
- Fr. Giacomo Tommaso Sarra, ssp, age 97 - 13.12.2017 - Rome, Italy
- Br. Domenico Ilario Valle, ssp, age 93 - 16.12.2017 - Alba, Italy
- Br. Tarcisio Giuseppe Garzon, ssp, age 78 - 25.12.2017 - Alba, Italy
- Fr. Antonio Timoteo Duarte Nunes, ssp, age 87 - 27.12.2017 - Lisbon, Portugal
- Fr. Jorge Alberto Roberto Melo Becerra, ssp, age 72 - 31.12.2017 - Bogotá, Colombia
- Fr. Domenico Fedele Brandolino, ssp, age 78 - 14.01.2018 - Alba, Italy