

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

While we are celebrating the novena in preparation for the Feast of St. Paul, one of the members of our James Alberione community, Albano, Italy finished her Pauline “race” at 3:00 p.m. today:

NOTTURNO SR. IVANA
born in Treviso, Italy on 1 October 1939.

Sr. Ivana, with her innate wisdom, transmitted in our communities an ardent love for the Pauline charism and a powerful yearning for life in God through ever more vital and profound prayer. Her simple, good and compassionate heart enclosed in a warm embrace especially the poor and those in need of help.

Ivana entered the Congregation in the house of Alba on 11 Dec. 1961. After a time of formation and apostolic experience in Bologna, she returned to Alba for her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1965. She spent her Juniorate in Rome, Verona and Milan, engaged in study and diffusion of the Word of God. In asking for admission to perpetual profession, which she made in 1971, she expressed to the Superior General her desire to throw herself headlong into the Pauline life, trusting in God and available to the full action of the Spirit. She added: “I feel that this Congregation is my family, the concrete environment in which the Lord is calling me to live a life of consecration to him and of service to my brothers and sisters.”

Beginning in 1969 and for 5 consecutive years, Sr. Ivana had the chance to place her organizational skills at the service of the secretary’s office of SSP Editions and to assimilate from our Pauline brothers a love for editorial work and the urgency to reach everyone through texts suitable in content and form. The experience she acquired made her an appropriate choice for the position of secretary of the FSP Roman Province, which at that time was located in the Via Ponzio community. She also served as superior of that community for 3 years. But Sr. Ivana’s heart burned with yearning to live an apostolic experience characterized by greater simplicity and poverty, in direct contact with the people, so she joyfully welcomed a subsequent transfer to Asti, where she dedicated herself to various forms of the Pauline mission and to animation of the sisters.

In 1982, she was asked to accompany one of the FSP communities in the Via Antonino Pio complex, Rome. When the community was subdivided into smaller groups, she was appointed a group leader.

Another unforgettable experience for Sr. Ivana was her time in Agrigento, where she devoted herself to catechetical and community animation and also to the service of superior. This prolonged contact with the people gave her the interior resources she needed to live with peace and availability a long period of time as secretary of the (reunited) FSP Italian Province—an often arid work that she carried out for six consecutive terms (1991-2008). Her attention to the conservation of documents, her precision and punctuality, and also her ability to get ardently involved in the life and history of the entire Congregation, were clearly evident in her activities. But despite her heavy work load, she found the time to guide various courses of spiritual exercises in which she revealed her competence and love for the liturgy.

At the end of this long period of service, Sr. Ivana was once again appointed superior, this time of the Divine Master community (A.P., Rome), after which she threw herself into the reorganization of the provincial archives. In 2016, she accepted, with her habitual availability, the service of group leader in the big Divine Providence community (AP). But in 2017 she was transferred to the James Alberione community, Albano, to provide our sick sisters with animations and also receive care for her own increasingly fragile health. With suffering but also with the courage of faith, she underwent surgery for the removal of an eyeball but in recent months her physical situation worsened due to the spread of numerous malignant cysts throughout her body. Associating herself to the Passion of Jesus, she surrendered herself to him with great serenity and peace, offering her life for the many intentions she carried in her heart.

We thank Sr. Ivana for spreading so much sweetness and love among us and for having made our communities more beautiful by means of her smile, her joyful self-donation, and the offering of her sufferings. May the Divine Master, who today stretched out his hand to her with the touch of salvation, grant her the joy of eternal life.

With deep affection,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 26 June 2020