



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

This was an exceptional day for our Primo Maestro (ex-IV Novembre) community of Albano, Italy because the guardian angels visited it a second time in 24 hours to take to heaven another sister:

BADENCHINI MARIA LUISA – SR. LUCIA
born in Albareto (Piacenza), Italy on 23 April 1935.

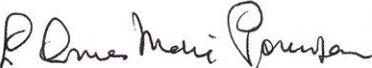
In 2000, Sr. Lucia was diagnosed as suffering from Alzheimer's disease and from that time on her situation began to decline as she steadily lost her memory and ability to speak. For the last seven years of her life, she communicated only with her eyes, her gentle gaze revealing the wealth of her interior life and her suffering at the realization that the inexorable advance of her illness was slowly depriving her of her creativity, her love of beauty, and her ability to "clothe" our Italian editions in a worthy manner.

Sr. Lucia entered the Congregation in the community of Alba on 24 April 1954. She carried out the propaganda apostolate in Treviso, then returned to Rome for her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1957. Her formators said that she was an open, docile, sociable and very industrious person. As a young professed she worked in the typography of Rome and then, together with Sr. M. Luisa Benigni, she was selected to attend the Art Institute of Urbino, which specialized in the illustration and decoration of books. The course of study was a demanding one (40 hours of classes a week) and at the end of it Sr. Lucia received a Master's Degree in Fine Arts and then, successively, a License in Lithography.

Her studies and talents were immediately put to good use in Turin where, from 1972-1985 she was in charge of the graphics department of both the SSP and FSP publishing houses. For Sr. Lucia, these years were rich in creativity, collaboration, fraternal relations and the chance to make the most of her artistic talents.

After concluding her apostolic activities in Turin, Sr. Lucia was transferred to the Divine Providence community of Via Antonino Pio, Rome, where she used her graphics skills to impaginate the magazine "Way, Truth and Life" and to design the covers for our musical and audiovisual productions, various series of books, and the guides and workbooks produced by our catechetical sector. In 1992, she was assigned to the graphics department of our FSP Editorial Headquarters in Milan, where she continued to impaginate texts and design covers.

But the Father in his mysterious and unfathomable way was preparing a new path for Sr. Lucia—a long and painful road by means of which he would use the fire of the Spirit to "design" the suffering features of his beloved Son in her life. During these years of steady physical decline, Sr. Lucia was truly transformed into one of the "little ones" of the Gospel. She was totally dependent on everyone to meet her needs, and her caregivers responded by surrounding her with great love and providing her with thoughtful service. Like the Suffering Servant, "she had no form or charm to attract us, no beauty to win our hearts; like a lamb, she never opened her mouth" Faith tells us that now Sr. Lucia finally beholds the light of God and is filled to overflowing with knowledge of him. She also gazes upon the angel who preceded, supported, accompanied and guarded her during her journey here on earth, and who finally led her with great joy to the place in heaven prepared for her from all eternity. Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar General

Rome, 2 October 2009