
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



Dear Sisters,

In the early hours of this Friday of Lent, the Lord Jesus called to himself in the Castelli Hospital in Ariccia (Rome), our sister

PICCOLO Sr ANNA
born in Porto Romano (Salerno) on 1 March 1933

From the welcoming land of Salerno, she had inherited kindness, openness of heart, warmth in her relationships, and a sincere interest in the needs of those she met. Sr Anna was a smiling, loving person, always ready to help, to get involved wherever she was needed. She was a sister who believed strongly in the grace of her vocation and in the evangelizing efficacy of the Pauline mission.

She entered the Congregation in the house in Rome on 7 March 1952. In this house she lived her time of formation and novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 19 March 1956, at the end of a very rich course of spiritual exercises preached by Fr. Alberione. With mystical accents, the Founder invited the young sisters to "feel themselves as belonging to Jesus" so that the mission might become a radiation of his light: "You are the rays of this light which is Jesus... because you take from him and give them to others" (FSP56, p. 73).

Sr Anna spent her time of temporary vows in Palermo and after her perpetual profession, made in Rome in 1961, she returned to the apostolic center of that important Sicilian city to continue to give from the interior energy that she drew from the Eucharist.

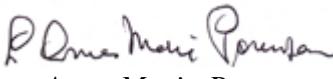
She soon began her lengthy service as superior, which led her to accompany many communities in the province of Italy with wisdom and foresight. San Benedetto del Tronto, Livorno, Trieste, Rome-via dell'Arcadia, Turin, Naples Duomo, Taranto were the communities that were able to enjoy her simple and enlightened leadership for several mandates. Sr Anna had the capacity to accept and build up every sister in her diversity; she was open to every new form of communication and she valued the great gift of the Pauline laity. In particular, when she was superior in Trieste, she was called to welcome with open arms the couples of the Holy Family Institute. At that time, the Holy Family Institute was taking its first steps accompanied by the community of the Daughters of St Paul.

Her heart vibrated with passion as she joyfully welcomed the mission of the "EP agents" [Pauline publication agents], sisters who travelled the roads of the various Italian regions to visit the many customers of the secular bookstores scattered throughout the territory. At first she carried out this apostolic mission in Florence; later she was called as superior to accompany the agents of the community of Rome (via Arcadia), as well as those from the community of Rome (Castro). She thus became fully involved in this mission. For another fifteen years, she left her unmistakable mark in the book centers of Taranto and Lecce: a mark characterised by gentleness, kindness and genuine interest towards the lay collaborators and the people who flowed into the apostolic center.

In 2017, due to advancing *Alzheimer's* disease, she joined the Tecla Merlo community in Albano. A fracture of the femur then complicated her situation and about a year ago, she was welcomed into the Giacomo Alberione community. At the beginning of this month, together with many other sisters, she was struck by *Covid-19*, which today became the doorway that opened up before her the Kingdom of Heaven.

It has been said that there are "prophetic torches being handed down from one generation to the next". The many people who leave us in these days are these very torches that speak to us of God's work and of the fruitfulness of the charism: a charism that – precisely through the humility of these sisters – shines with a blazing light and brings forth miracles of holiness and of apostolate.

Affectionately,


sr Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 26 February 2021.