

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,

On the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, around 9:00 p.m., at the Villa Tiberia Hospital in Rome, one of our sisters was called to contemplate forever the gift of salvation:

**SILVIA GIUSEPPINA sr MARIA AURELIA  
born in Lampedusa (Agrigento) on March 27, 1942.**

She entered the congregation in Rome on July 23, 1958. After a few years of formation and novitiate, she made her first profession in this community on June 30, 1961. She was only nineteen years old and everything in her expressed vitality, energy, enthusiasm for the Pauline apostolate and hope for the future. In the community of Naples, where she spent her juniorate, she soon had the opportunity to experience the effectiveness of the itinerant mission through book displays, Bible weeks, vocation exhibits, and Gospel days. Her heart was open, ready to respond to any invitation from the Lord. In her request for admission to perpetual profession, she expressed to the superior general her total willingness to go anywhere: "I trust very much in the grace of profession... dispose of me as you wish and for any office... the grace of obedience will sustain me and the Lord will always be close to me."

After her perpetual profession on June 30, 1966, she continued to give herself with enthusiasm while in the community of Cagliari, from where she travelled almost all over Sardinia with a car full of books and magazines and a heart full of apostolic fervor. Later, she had the opportunity to stay in Rome to pursue further studies and formation and soon after resumed diffusion and outreach in Lazio and nearby regions.

In 1976, she began a new stage of Pauline life serving in the book centers of Turin and then Trent. With a profound sense of responsibility, she fully immersed herself in this mission, becoming acquainted with the books of other publishers as well as competent and confident in the book center. The sisters with whom she worked experienced her to be positive, encouraging and someone with whom it was easy to get along.

However, new experiences were far from over. From 1985 to 1992, she was called to be superior in Florence where the community was primarily dedicated to bringing Pauline editions to other bookstores. She was passionate about this new apostolic initiative and carried it out with great passion. At the end of her term of office, she continued with this same mission in the community of Bari, from where she could reach bookstores scattered throughout the regions of Puglia, Basilicata, Molise and Calabria. When the congregation launched its Missionary Project, she shared with the superior general the fervor that was welling up in her heart. She wrote: "I feel strongly challenged by this new project of the congregation and I renew my total availability to the various appeals in Italy and abroad... The Lord is addressing a second call to us... ours is the responsibility of a generous response."

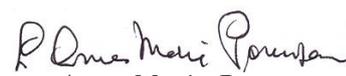
In 1997, she was asked to be superior of the community of Cagliari and then of the large provincial house in Rome, Via Vivanti. Her practical sense was of great help in the organization of this very special community, where numerous initiatives were underway, and where sisters were welcomed from various locations around the province. But God's proposals were not yet finished. In 2004 she was asked to serve as superior in the house of Napoli Duomo. At the end of her term, she devoted herself again with joy and availability to serving God's people in the book centers of Livorno and Verona.

In 2008 she was transferred to Rome, to the "Queen of Apostles" community primarily to work in the book center on that property and then in the sector devoted to small apostolic services. At this point, her health began to decline due to debilitating arthritis, which caused her severe pain and made her every step difficult.

About twenty days ago, she was exposed to the *covid-19* virus and was admitted to Villa Tiberia Hospital. Even while in isolation, she experienced a deep communion with her sisters who remained close to her, especially through prayer and constant contact with the doctors who were assisting her. However, the complications of the illness soon led to her encounter with the Lord, to live forever the beatitude of those who have become messengers of peace and whose steps "are written in the book of life".

Affectionately,

Rome, February 3, 2021.

  
sr Anna Maria Parenzan