



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,

At 8:30 this morning, local time, the Father of light once again visited us, calling to himself our sister:

MENOSSI SR. LEONILDA
born in Santa Cruz das Palmeiras (Ribeirao Preto), Brazil, on 11 March 1932.

We knew her as a sister who was wise and lovable, sensitive and kind, with a gentle manner. She was a true Pauline communicator with many talents that she knew how to make full use of in the Pauline mission.

She entered the Congregation in the house of São Paulo DM, Brazil, on 26 Dec. 1947, at the age of fifteen. After a time of study and formation, she made her novitiate in São Paulo DM, concluding it with her first profession on 19 March 1951. Afterward, Sr. Leonilda had the chance to perfect her academic skills by obtaining a Bachelor's degree in classical literature, which allowed her to teach literature, Portuguese, Latin and English to our young women in formation in the communities of Curitiba, São Paulo DM and Cidade Regina. She also received training in music through specific studies that enabled her to play the organ with fluency, compose and teach music, and animate liturgical celebrations in our communities and in parishes.

In Porto Alegre, she made a valid contribution to the writing apostolate for about ten years, including through her own publications in the fields of spirituality and children's books.

In 1972 Sr. Leonilda accepted the request to go as a missionary to Portugal. At first she dedicated herself to diffusion, but soon she was appointed superior of the community of Funchal, on the island of Madeira, and then of Faro, in Algarve. For a few years she also served as a vocationist in Lisbon.

After five years in Portugal Sr. Leonilda returned to Brazil, where she worked especially in the editing of magazines and the preparation of radio programs, and also completed her apostolic training by obtaining a license in journalism. With the openness and competence she had acquired, she fostered the development of communication in the ecclesial organizations of São Paulo, Recife and Belo Horizonte, as well as in the Brazilian Episcopal Conference. Everything about Sr. Leonilda was tinged with the perfume of communications, the proclamation of the Gospel and Pauline joy. She firmly believed in the grace of her vocation and was committed to perfecting her own gifts and those of the sisters. In the field of radio, she contributed greatly to the growth of the new Catholic radio station *Radio 9 de Julho*, which was later closed for political reasons. Always at the side of the great Archbishop Paulo Evaristo Arns, she vigorously nurtured the growth of sensitivity to communications in the Archdiocese of São Paulo. Among the many radio programs she wrote, we can mention the daily program "The Bible: God with His People," which was broadcast on radio stations throughout Brazil and abroad.

For three years Sr. Leonilda served as local superior of the São Paulo community and also as information secretary for the entire Province. From 2003-2015, except for a period in which it was necessary for her to assist her sick sister, she dedicated herself to the publishing apostolate while living in the different FSP communities in São Paulo. Because of her excellent knowledge of Italian, she was asked to revise the texts of the Alberionian *Opera Omnia*, as these were little by little translated into Portuguese.

For the last six years of her life, Sr Leonilda was a member of the Cidade Regina community of São Paulo, where she willingly made rosaries for our book centers. Fully surrendered into the hands of the Lord, she did not lose her serenity even when one of her legs had to be amputated due to a serious form of diabetes. A few days ago, Sr. Leonilda's health suddenly took a turn for the worse as a result of pneumonia and a generalized infection. The Divine Master found her ready for her definitive encounter with him in eternity, leaving us with the longing to imitate her example as to how to live the Pauline life in all its fullness, as true apostles of the Gospel.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 7 November 2021