

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

At 8:45 p.m. (local time) on this Second Sunday of Christmas, the Lord visited our community of Mumbai, India, to call to the light of a new day our sister:

**GRACIAS SR. JANE**  
**born in Manickpur, India, on 1 January 1934.**

Yesterday, Sr. Jane celebrated the splendid gift of her life, which was characterized by self-donation, love and self-denial—all spent in service of the sisters, the community and the entire Province.

She entered the Congregation in the house of Mumbai, on 26 October 1956, bringing with her a keen intelligence and wisdom that made her a deeply integrated person on the human and spiritual levels. After her time of formation and novitiate in Mumbai, she made her first profession on 30 June 1960 in this central house of the Province.

As a young professed, Sr. Jane carried out the diffusion apostolate and also that of assistant formator. By 1967 she already had the necessary maturity to serve as superior of the Calcutta community. Soon afterward, she was appointed provincial bursar—a service she performed with humanity, precision, and competence for three non-consecutive terms. She had a great talent for administration and, with passion and far-sightedness, gave the best of herself to this apostolic service.

Because of her knowledge of legal matters, her clarity in her dealings with lay consultants, her broadmindedness and her openness to innovations, Sr. Jane was always considered by the sisters to be a true model for those working in this difficult area of the Pauline life—all the more so in a nation like India where each state has its own legislation on economic matters. Sr. Jane, who had never taken any specialized courses in this field, confided: “I never went to the university. I entrusted myself to God, the Giver of all things...and I just threw myself into the job.”

In 1978, she was appointed the Congregation’s first Indian Provincial Superior. She carried out this service with fidelity and love for two terms, contributing greatly to the integral growth of the sisters and communities. In this capacity, she participated in the Institute’s 5<sup>th</sup> General Chapter in 1983, offering the Chapter delegates her experience in the areas of government and economics. At the conclusion of her second term, she was appointed local bursar in Bangalore and then local superior in Secunderabad.

In 1990, Sr. Jane accepted the request to carry out the office of vice provincial and councilor for spirituality. She was eager to integrate Pauline spirituality with Indian spirituality, which she had studied in depth at the school of the great teacher and writer, Fr. Tony D’Mello, when she participated in his “Sadhana” course. She recognized that she had received many graces from this experience precisely because of her readiness to undergo change and transformation.

In the last two decades of her life, Sr. Jane served in particular as local superior of Mumbai and as bursar of the Dahisar and provincialate communities. A few years ago, she began to manifest signs of aging, but until a month ago she was still self-sufficient. In these last few weeks, Sr. Jane surrendered herself into the hands of the Lord and her sisters to serenely await the arrival of her Bridegroom.

Her words, spoken on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee of consecration, have a special resonance today: “Join me in praising and thanking God for the many graces and blessings he has given me during these years of Pauline religious life, especially the grace of perseverance.” We, too, thank the Father for his ever-faithful love, and we also thank Sr. Jane for responding to her vocation wholeheartedly, steadfastly and with great generosity. We believe that she is already basking in the splendor of God’s eternal light, in the kingdom of the saints.

Affectionately,

  
Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 2 January 2022