

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

Yesterday, the Sixth Sunday of Easter, our risen Lord visited our Cidade Regina community in São Paulo, Brazil at 1:26 p.m., to call to eternal life our sister:

MEGDESSIAN SR. ROSA MARIA
born in Ferraz de Vasconcelos (SP), Brazil, on 15 November 1953.

Rosinha, as she was usually called, was a very creative and vivacious sister of Armenian descent. Her entire being exuded her love of life and her desire to communicate with others and surround herself with the beauties of nature. In fact, she drew inspiration from everything to transmit the Good News to others through today's new media languages.

She entered the Congregation in the Divine Master community of São Paulo, Brazil, on 11 January 1969. She made her initial formation and novitiate in the Cidade Regina community, concluding this stage of her Pauline life with her first profession on 25 Jan. 1975, Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. As a young professed, Sr. Rosa Maria had the opportunity to complete her cultural formation, earning a degree in theology and catechetics while helping out in the catechetical sector of the editorial department. In her letter requesting admission to perpetual profession (which she made on 25 Jan. 1980), she wrote to the Superior General: "For me, the past years have been very rich ones, marked by personal growth, especially in the area of self-donation. I know very well that the religious life is not easy, but I feel that it is worth working and living for the Kingdom of God through our apostolate, even in the face of problems. I want to continue to belong to the Congregation of the Daughters of St. Paul for the rest of my life. I find it very meaningful and beautiful to live for the One who gave himself for me."

Her direct contact with the public through book center work and outreach to families in the communities of Niteroi, Brasilia and Porto Alegre enabled her to experience first-hand the urgency of the Pauline mission and, in particular, the need to make the most of the new languages of communication to spread the Gospel.

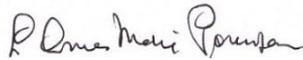
In 1986, Sr. Rosa Maria was transferred to São Paulo. In the different FSP communities and apostolic sectors located in that city, she had the chance to develop the artistic gifts and technical skills with which the Lord had endowed her. Little by little, she became an expert in fields ranging from video and audiotape production to television and radio programs, particularly in the sphere of the Internet.

She continued to keep herself updated in all these apostolates, almost anticipating the development of various technologies, so as to proclaim the Word in step with the times. In 1993, she pursued specialized studies in music and obtained a baccalaureate degree in that field. With great enthusiasm, she sought to produce innovative and creative multimedia content for different forms and languages of communication.

Sr. Rosa Maria never hesitated to share with the other sisters her always up-to-date knowledge in the computer and digital fields. For several years, she was in charge of the radio program "In the Footsteps of St. Paul," conducted live on weekdays by a radio station belonging to the Archdiocese of São Paulo. She also provided competent technical coverage for *Web Rádio Paulinas*, broadcast 24 hours a day via the Internet. The many flowers and plants with which she embellished her surroundings stimulated her creativity and gave wings to her truly tireless activities as a media apostle.

Sr. Rosa Maria's vitality "infected" every aspect of her apostolic and community life. She was a hardworking, understanding presence in the communities in which she lived, concerned for the welfare of the other sisters, especially those who needed greater attention and care. But all too soon she found herself in a situation in which she needed to receive care rather than provide it. In fact, in August 2020 she was diagnosed as suffering from ovarian cancer, already in metastasis.

The final chapter of her life was marked by strong faith and hope. She alternated between residence in the St. Paul and the Cidade Regina communities, where she was cared for with great love by our sisters until her final call to heaven. We are comforted by the thought that Rosinha is now cradled in the arms of God, our good Father, in his kingdom of light and peace. Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 23 May 2022