

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

We received the news that at 5:30 a.m. this morning (local time), the Divine Master visited our community of Mumbai, India, to call to the *other shore* our sister:

RODRIGUES SR. DORIS
born in Andheri (Mumbai), India, on 6 April 1933.

Sr. Doris was born during a family gathering in Andheri, a suburb of Mumbai, but she was raised in Malwani, located in the western part of the city. She entered the Congregation in Mumbai on 15 Sept. 1955, in the community in Vile Parle, where the first FSP missionaries to India, who had arrived in 1951, were living. She quickly became involved in the intense work of evangelization carried out by these first sisters. In July 1956, while still an aspirant, she contributed to the opening of the Calcutta community, alongside Sr. Albina Baruzzi and Sr. M. Elena Tezzele, two sisters whom she always remembered with great affection.

After some time dedicated to the diffusion apostolate, Doris returned to Mumbai to make her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1959. She spent the years of her temporary profession in Calcutta, where she worked primarily in the book center and helped to hold Gospel Days with great enthusiasm. She returned to Mumbai to prepare for her perpetual profession, which she made on the Feast of St. Paul, 1964.

In that same year, while working in the Archbishopric of Mumbai to help draw up the Catholic Directory, Sr. Doris also had the chance to participate in the preparations for the International Eucharistic Congress, which was held in India for the first time on the occasion of the visit of Pope Paul VI. It was a very special moment, during which her heart expanded to embrace the whole world with renewed love for the Pope and the universal Church.

After her perpetual profession, Sr. Doris was transferred to Bangalore—a city where she spent more than twenty non-consecutive years of her Pauline life. In this city, which gradually developed into the “Silicon Valley” of India, Sr. Doris zealously spread the Gospel and a wide array of books on human and Christian formation by means of her work in the book center and the various Press Days organized by the sisters.

Because of her humility, kindness, pleasant personality and strong sense of responsibility, Sr. Doris was appointed superior of the Bangalore community in 1966 and then reconfirmed for a second term. Four years later, she was transferred back to Mumbai. Her perfect knowledge of the local language made it easier for her to visit families, businesses and institutes to disseminate the books printed by the Society of St. Paul. An excellent typist, she often helped the Provincial Superior, Sr. Pierluisa Albini, in the preparation of various documents.

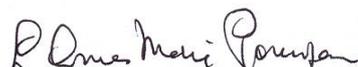
Considering Sr. Doris’ pioneering courage and her willingness to launch out on new paths to spread the Word, in 1974 she was asked to join Sr. Albina Baruzzi in Shillong, the capital of the state of Meghalaya, located in the northeastern part of the country. Sr. Albina had opened an FSP community there only a year earlier. Sr. Doris succeeded Sr. Albina in the service of superior and reinforced her commitment to developing our Pauline presence in that area, rich in vocations and prospects for the future. In 1977, she had the joy of welcoming into the Congregation Caroline, the first FSP candidate from that region.

Following this, Sr. Doris was reassigned to Bangalore, where she worked for about 10 years in the book center before being appointed local superior once again. Calcutta, Mumbai and Bangalore were the communities in which she continued to witness to her joy at being a Pauline and to generously carry out the services entrusted to her, which ranged from book center activities to proofreading in the editorial department.

In 2014, Sr. Doris was transferred to the newly renovated central community in Mumbai, where she deeply appreciated all the amenities provided for the circumscription’s elderly and sick sisters, who resided on the infirmary floor. About 2 years ago, Sr. Doris fell and fractured her hip, after which her health began to slowly decline. Surgery eased her pain a little but she was never able to walk again.

With serenity and full awareness, she began to prepare herself to leave for the *other shore*—the one toward which she had been straining all her life with her entire being, the *shore* on which her Bridegroom was waiting for her in order to immerse her in the light of Easter and fullness of life.

Affectionately,


sr Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 30 April 2022