

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

At 4:00 a.m. today, as the light of a new day dawned, one of the members of our Cidade Regina community in São Paulo, Brazil, was called to enter the light of heaven:

**CAPPELLARI NELSI – SR. MARIA IDA
born in Prata (R.G.S.), Brazil, on 20 April 1932.**

A dynamic, communicative sister with a notable artistic streak, she willingly bestowed on the Congregation the gifts of nature and grace with which the Lord had endowed her. Her solid academic preparation, which enabled her to earn degrees in theology and journalism and a license in philosophy, also enabled her to express the best of herself on the ecclesial and congregational levels. She was a discreet, gentle, kind and creative person, with a profound love for the communications apostolate.

Sr. M. Ida entered the Congregation in the house of São Paulo DM, Brazil, on 6 March 1954. After her initial formation and novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1958, she completed her academic studies and made her perpetual profession on the Feast of St. Paul 1963. In 1966, she was appointed superior of the Brasilia community, and after her term of office ended she devoted herself with great love to teaching communications to the young women in formation in the community of São Paulo DM. Her theoretical-practical classes are still remembered by many of the sisters today, in particular the first video she made with the collaboration of the young novices, which roused their enthusiasm for that new language of communications.

After this, Sr. M. Ida served as local superior in Rio de Janeiro and was then called to live a rich ecclesial experience in the Communications Secretariat of the CNBB (National Conference of Brazilian Bishops). Her cheerful personality and ability to establish simple and serene relationships with every category of people certainly helped her in this service as well, widening her radius of acquaintances and collaborators to the national level.

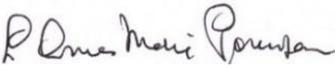
The apostolic activity that distinguished Sr. M. Ida's life was certainly the production of audiovisuals and mini-media for the different communications sectors, which underwent a gradual evolution from slides to videotapes to DVDs. Her passion for the apostolate greatly enhanced and embellished the Province's publishing catalogue by providing catechetical, biblical, and pastoral content for every category of people, using updated language easily understood by the audiences targeted. Sr. M. Ida followed each stage of the various production processes with great meticulousness, enriching the different products with her art and wisdom. She also loved to paint and she channeled this gift into the creation of cards for all circumstances as well as the illustration of children's books.

Her sensitive and contemplative heart led her to appreciate everything beautiful, especially nature in its various manifestations. She was passionate about gardening and also about taking photographs to capture and preserve the beauty of creation.

About ten years ago, Sr. M. Ida's health began to deteriorate due to Alzheimer's disease, which made it advisable to transfer her to the Cidade Regina community in São Paulo, where she was able to carry out small practical services compatible with her possibilities. At a certain point, she could no longer express herself vocally but her eyes, which had always rejoiced in beauty, manifested the indescribable hues of the silent language of love.

Faith makes us certain that Sr. M. Ida is now contemplating the light of God, allowing him to fill her with knowledge of himself so as to flourish forever in his sight.

Roma, 13 giugno 2022


sr Anna Maria Parenzan