

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

At 8:30 this morning, the Divine Master visited our Divine Providence community of Via Antonino Pio, Rome, Italy, to call to his eternal wedding banquet our sister:

MURA ELISA – SR. MARIA GIULIANA
born in Terralba (Oristano), Italy, on 25 January 1937.

Among the sisters of the Italian Province, Sr. Elisa was affectionately known as “our Parisian dressmaker” because of her impeccable good taste, elegance, and masterly skill in dressmaking and embroidery work. Everything about her spoke of order, harmony and beauty. Her skillful fingers, when busy with the rhythms of embroidery, caused one to think of the tender hands of God the Father, designing his mysterious project of love in her life, day after day.

She entered the Congregation in the house in Rome on 25 June 1957, at the age of twenty. She spent a period of apostolic experience in La Spezia and then returned to Rome for her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1961. During the Eucharistic Liturgy, the Founder delivered a particularly inspiring homily that emphasized the role of the Apostle Paul in the Congregation and in the Pauline Family, saying that he was “the father and inspirer of the Institute, its doctor [...] and the most faithful and most profound interpreter of Jesus Christ.” Those words would illuminate Sr. Giuliana’s entire life.

She spent her Juniorate in the house in Naples, where she was primarily involved in spreading the Word of God to families, businesses and libraries. After her perpetual profession in 1966, she was transferred to Bologna to continue sowing the grace of the Gospel and where she was also grateful to have the chance to deepen her cultural formation so as to carry out her mission more fully.

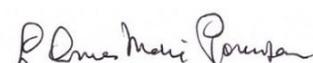
In 1974, she was sent to the community of San Rufillo (Bologna), the headquarters of Italy’s Northeastern Provincial Government, which was also home to a group of FSP students. There, she put her skills as a driver to good use at the service of the community. She was then invited to be an Agent of our Pauline editions—a group of sisters who opened new avenues for the Word of God by presenting our publications to hundreds of secular bookstores scattered throughout the country. A strong believer in that truly prophetic apostolate, Sr. Giuliana gradually came to know the bookstore managers of her region very well, establishing apostolic relationships with them characterized by mutual trust as she offered them our catalogue of editions and presented them with our newest publications. In 1979, when the San Rufillo community closed, she was transferred to the Via Mondo community. For over 10 years, she continued the Agency’s apostolic activities in the vast area extending from the Po Valley to the Romagna Riviera and Apennine mountains. Afterward, she was assigned to the Pauline Editions Agency in Rome.

Treviso was the last branch house in which Sr. Giuliana lived. Here, from 2003-2012 she worked with great commitment at the book center’s reception desk and check-out counter, which became the place of her daily self-offering. She loved the book center apostolate because she delighted in meeting the many people who flocked to the center, offering them the gift of her smile and hospitality.

About 10 years ago, due to the onset of Alzheimer’s disease, Sr. Giuliana was moved to the infirmary of our Divine Providence community in Via Antonino Pio, Rome. She spent this time of progressive limitation in serenity and peace, always present at times of prayer, recreation and community sharing. She did not speak much, but her alert and discerning gaze manifested her involvement and participation in the life of the community.

Her fingers were no longer able to embroider the beautiful and intricate designs for which she was well known, but God, our good and merciful Father, stepped in to bring to completion his own magnificent design for her life—one that revealed his immense and eternal love for her.

Affectionately,



Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 17 August 2022