

ISTITUTO PIA SOCIETÀ
FIGLIE DI S. PAOLO
CASA GENERALIZIA
Via S. Giovanni Eudes, 25
00163 Roma
Tel. 06.661 3039 - Fax 06.661 57 208



Dearest Sisters,

At 1 p.m. today, one of our sisters, a patient at Sant'Eugenio Hospital, Rome, Italy, suffered a cardiopulmonary crisis that took her from this world to the arms of our heavenly Father:

MAGLIANO TERESA–SR. BIANCA ROSA
born in Bosia (Cuneo), Italy, on 8 December 1928.

Sr. Bianca Rosa was a sister who loved the Church profoundly and rejoiced in the broad horizons of the Pauline vocation. She confided: “God has set me on a path with many openings: from the individual to the universal, from the small to the immense...because no people or wisdom is excluded from the Pauline ideal.”

She entered the Congregation in the house of Alba on 19 November 1940. She was 12 years old at the time and paved the way for her sister (Sr. Myriam) to also enter the religious life. In the Motherhouse, she continued her academic education and enthusiastically carried out the technical apostolate. She recalled with emotion the stained glass window of the crucifix in the Church of the Divine Master and the words of Jesus, “*I thirst,*” saying that his words gave her the strength she needed to persevere in the Pauline life, even though she was still very young. In fact, she was not yet 20 years old when she made her first profession in Rome on 19 March 1948. Soon after this, she had the opportunity to attend courses in philosophy and theology conducted within the Institute. After her perpetual profession in 1953, she was sent as a missionary to Spain, thus fulfilling her dream to embrace the universal dimension of the Pauline vocation, which until then she had only glimpsed in all its geographical, historical and doctrinal breadth.

When Sr. Bianca Rosa arrived in Barcelona in 1954, she was appointed vocation mistress of the circumscription’s young candidates, and later, in Madrid, of its novices and juniors. She also served as local superior of the Madrid community. In 1965 she was transferred to Argentina. In Buenos Aires, she devoted herself to formation work and the editorial apostolate, where she served as publisher of the local edition of *The Family Magazine*. She recalled with joy the intensive commitment of the sisters to ensuring that more than a hundred thousand families received their subscriptions to this periodical. Afterward, she was assigned to Lima, Peru, where she arrived in 1974 to carry out the responsibilities of vocation directress and bursar.

Returning to Italy in 1976, she worked for a few years in the offices of *Ut Unum Sint* while simultaneously carrying out the role of group animator in our large Roman community. After the Institute’s Fourth General Chapter, she accepted the request to join the commission established to “rediscover and re-assimilate the charism,” during which she animated several international meetings. Following this, she served as superior of the communities of Verona and Bologna for about 10 years.

A new stage of her Pauline life opened in 1991 when she became editor of the periodical *Consecration and Service*, published by the International Union of Women Superiors General (USMI), based in Italy—a service she carried out with great competence for the next 12 years. She recalled with nostalgia: “From my modest little office, I could expand my horizons not only to all of Italy but also far beyond. I kept in mind the tens of thousands of women religious who would read the magazine in which I expressed my thoughts from a Pauline perspective.” Up until 2017, she continued her work at USMI through its Press Office website and Library. Sr. Bianca Rosa led a very rich Pauline life—one open to the Church, the world and the great challenges of the Pauline mission.

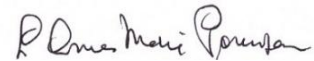
As we prepare to celebrate the anniversary of Prima Maestra's birth to heaven, let us allow Sr. Bianca Rosa to sketch out for us the image of M. Thecla that she carried in her heart:

“She was a wise and prudent woman, a woman fortified by powerful faith; a woman open to the world, which at that time was beginning to take on a global vision of things in ways never before experienced. She was a woman of great simplicity, who did not hesitate to offer ‘work and a hot meal’ to the young soldiers whom she invited to our house just before the Easter holidays during the grueling years of World War II. One of those young men was from my hometown, and many years later he came back to our house and grounds in Rome to refresh his memories of the place, especially the vegetable garden in which he had done so much hoeing! Prima Maestra was truly ‘prima’ (*the first*) in everything: first in love of God and neighbor; first in selfless service; first in upright and straightforward encouragement of others. Today I want to say to her once again, with even more force and conviction: ‘Thank you, Prima Maestra. Thank you for everything, big and small, including the walk you and I took together in Alba one day, just the two of us, side by side.’”

We too want to thank Sr. Bianca Rosa for living her Pauline life so intensively, for leaving us the precious witness of her life, and for never laying down her pen—the evangelization instrument she used so effectively.

Affectionately,

Rome, 4 February 2023



Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan