

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

The Lord has once again visited our community of Albano, Italy. Yesterday, at 5:10 p.m., one of the members of the community's San Raffaele sector unexpectedly passed away as a result of cardiac arrest:

MONTAGNINO MADDALENA – SR. M. EMMANUELLA
born in Lercara Fiddi (Palermo), Italy, on 1 January 1941.

Everything happened very quickly: yesterday morning Sr. M. Emmanuella was admitted as a patient to Queen of Apostles Hospital due to respiratory failure, but the crisis was surmounted. However, late in the afternoon, while speaking with her caregiver in the same medical ward that she herself had been in charge of for more than 35 years, she abruptly took her last breath and passed to eternity. Thanks to her kindness and solicitude toward everyone and her ability to make their sufferings her own, Sr. M. Emmanuella, a straightforward and good-hearted person, had always been highly esteemed by both the patients and the caregiving staff during her decades-long tenure in the hospital.

She entered the Congregation in the house in Rome on 28 September 1961. After a period of initial formation and apostolic experience in Piacenza, she made her novitiate in Alba, concluding this stage of her Pauline journey with her first profession on 15 August 1966. The sisters admired her wonderful ability to communicate and recognized in her the traits of an authentic Pauline apostle. During her Juniorate, she was stationed for a time in Naples, where she carried out itinerant outreach and also worked in the St. Paul Film Agency. In 1967, she was invited to study nursing, probably because of her well-balanced character and keen intelligence, and was assigned to our Albano community. Since then, except for her period of preparation for perpetual vows, the Albano community had been Sr. M. Emmanuella's home, the place of her daily self-offering and human, spiritual and professional growth.

In 1971 she obtained the nursing degree required to hold management positions in the caregiving sphere, especially in the general wards of Queen of Apostles Hospital, where she served for years as head nurse. For some time she was also the Director and a teacher in the Hospital's private nursing school. But the burden of her heavy hospital responsibilities did not prevent Sr. M. Emmanuella from being fully involved in the life of the Congregation and her community—a very large community that for several years had the distinction of being a Delegation. Her open and transparent personality was greatly appreciated by the sisters, who on several occasions elected her as their delegate to the General Chapter and to other congregational events. Sr. M. Emmanuella recalled with pleasure her participation in the Interchapter Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, in which she served as substitute for her Delegation Superior, saying it was an occasion that had given her the chance to make unexpected acquaintances that she deeply appreciated. She was elected delegation councilor 6 times and was also appointed as the community's representative on the Board of Directors of Queen of Apostles Hospital. As a councilor, she was often asked to carry out the role of group leader in the community—a service that allowed her to demonstrate in a thousand ways the generosity that filled her heart. She was always ready to brighten the atmosphere of the house by organizing celebrations for feast days and other joyful community events. Attentive to the needs of each sister, she was capable of listening to them, of maintaining secrecy, and of extending great cordiality to their guests. But in spite of her numerous activities, Sr. M. Emmanuella managed to carve out time for study and reading. How many books she read! She would then recommend these texts to the sisters, thus helping them cultivate a love for study and improving their intellectual preparation more and more.

She had been living for the past year in the San Raffaele wing (the special-assistance sector) of the Albano community, after a fall that had fractured her leg. While serenely accepting this sudden change in her lifestyle, she never missed an opportunity to think of others, frequently visiting the bedridden to offer them a smile and a piece of candy. Now that she has closed her eyes to the light of this world, may she find herself immersed in the radiant light of God, contemplating his beloved Face in all its splendor. Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan".

Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 5 October 2023