



Dearest Sisters,

At 7:00 p.m. yesterday (local time), God our merciful Father visited our community of Capri, Mexico City to call home to heaven one of its suffering members, who was surrounded by the loving support of her family and fellow sisters:

## BASURTO MACIEL SR. JOSEFINA born in El Bordo Guadalupe (Zacatecas), Mexico, on 23 October 1966.

It seems that on Maestra Thecla's birthday, she wants to relaunch a message very dear to her, namely: "Always look to heaven! That is our true homeland. That is where our place is—the place to which we must aspire... In heaven, we will be united to the Lord forever!" (cf. VPC 39) These are very consoling words also for Sr. Josefina's relatives, who accompanied the last stage of her earthly journey, which was marked by acute suffering due to a severe tumor, aggravated by pneumonia.

Sr Josefina entered the Congregation in the house of Capri, Mexico City on 26 August 1987, opening a vocational path for her older sister, Claudia, to follow. Sr. Josefina made her formation and novitiate there, concluding this period of her Pauline life with her first profession on 30 June 1991. In the communities of León and Mexico-Amatista she carried out the diffusion apostolate and served the people of God in the book center located in the enclosure of the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In the Capri house, she devoted herself to book promotion and the stockroom. She wrote at that time that the missionary dimension of the Pauline mission excited her greatly and so she poured her heart and soul into the apostolate. On 22 February 1997, Sr. Josefina made her perpetual profession in the Capri community, following a formative period at Torvaianica as part of an international group of Juniors. In her letter asking to be admitted to profession, she wrote: "During these years of formation I have been able to get to know, experience and live all the aspects of the Pauline life more deeply. This has strengthened my commitment to the Lord and to the Congregation, and it has also confirmed my desire to follow Jesus in this form of consecrated life."

Sr. Josefina was a kind, simple, responsible and very tidy sister. Her precision and skill in administration was quickly recognized and deeply appreciated. By 1998 she was already the bursar of our Mexico City community and the following year she was made provincial councilor for administration. In the year 2000, she obtained her license in economics and business, and the following year she was reconfirmed as provincial councilor. In the communities of Puebla and Capri, she served as local bursar for several terms, and in Tijuana she was appointed local superior. In the publishing sector she was in charge of editing and proofreading manuscripts, making good use of her keen intelligence and capacities for insight, reflection, and internalization. Over the past two decades her health had been deteriorating despite the accompaniment and care of experienced doctors. Last June it was discovered that she had cancer but neither chemotherapy nor various transfusions improved her condition. She accepted this difficult situation with serenity, patience, and surrender to God's will.

Along with Sr. Josefina's family and all the sisters of our Mexican province, we adore the inscrutable ways of the Lord and reaffirm the certainty that had always accompanied our sister's vocational story: "Do not be afraid. I am with you." May many young people follow her example so that the light of the Gospel will continue to shine with ever-greater brilliance and yield abundant fruit.

Affectionately,

P One Mari Poursa