



Dearest Sisters,

At 12:45 a.m. last night, one of the members of our community of Alba, Italy, was called to contemplate the face of God the Father for all eternity:

PEZZATO SR. BRUNA
born in Casale sul Sile (Treviso), Italy, on 15 December 1939.

Sr. Bruna was the eldest daughter of a large and beautiful Venetian family in which she had learned a profound love for the Catholic Faith and a very hard-working spirit.

She entered the Congregation in the community of Alba on 2 September 1957. After a time of initial formation and a period of apostolic experience in Vercelli, she was sent to Rome for her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1961. During her Juniorate, she dedicated all her energies to performing innumerable services in the large FSP community of Rome, including helping out in the laundry and garden. Transferred to Belluno, she carried out itinerant outreach in the Alpine valleys of that part of the country, and then returned to Rome to make her perpetual profession on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul in 1967. On that occasion, she wrote to the superior general: "I want to work harder and harder on self-improvement in order to be a docile and fully available sister in the hands of my superiors. I am happy to belong to this Congregation whose authority you represent for me."

In that same year, she contracted lupus and had to spend some time in the Albano community in order to receive the specialized care she needed. The disease would remain with her for the rest of her life, and as a result her health was always rather fragile.

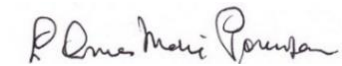
In 1968, Sr. Bruna was assigned to the Benevento book center, and following a brief interval in Rome was sent to Udine, where she worked in the St. Paul Film Agency, double-checking the films that returned every week from the parishes and institutes that had rented them. Afterward, she was once again called to Rome, this time to help out in the bindery. In 1974 she returned to Udine and from there went to Ancona, always busy with behind-the-scenes work in the film apostolate, primarily that of maintenance services for the films that passed through her hands. Sr. Bruna loved the Pauline vocation and was proud to be a Daughter of St. Paul, ready to devote every aspect of her religious life to ensuring that the Word of God would reach everyone.

In 1986, Sr. Bruna began a new chapter of her Pauline life in the St. Joseph community in Alba, where she was assigned to the bindery. But she was always available to lend a hand in carrying out the wide range of other services necessary to the maintenance of the huge Alba community. She was an avid reader and was always faithful to the times set aside for study because she felt it was very important to keep herself updated about the political and social issues in Italy and the world at large.

In 2004 she had to request a prolonged leave of absence from the Congregation in order to take care of her elderly mother, who was very ill. Upon her return to the Institute, she was sent to the community of Reggio Emilia, where she worked at the reception desk, in the laundry room and ran numerous errands. But her lupus condition was becoming increasingly severe, causing intense pain in her joints, and so, in 2016, she was transferred to Alba, where she could receive the care she needed. Sr. Bruna spent the last year of her life almost completely bedridden, her body rigid with inflammation. She could neither speak nor feed herself, maintaining contact with the outside world only through her gaze. In the past two days, her condition continued to worsen, prompting her to look forward with longing to the coming of her Lord and Master. He approached her bedside in the silence of the night, took her gently by the hand, and led her to heaven, where she can now revel in the peace, intimacy and joy of his presence forever.

Affectionately,

Roma, 12 February 2024



Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan