



Dearest Sisters,

At 5:00 p.m. today, the gates of eternal life opened to receive one of the members of our James Alberione community, Albano, Italy:

TASSINARI ADELE – Sr. M. GIUDITTA
born in Pieve di Cento (Bologna), Italy, on 1 July 1934.

From her native region, Sr. M. Giuditta had inherited a strong temperament. She was by nature an energetic, decisive, resourceful and generous person. Her considerable physical strength, combined with appropriate professional training, enabled her to competently provide rehabilitative care to her sisters and other patients who frequently called upon her skill and expertise.

She entered the Congregation on 24 May 1954 in the house in Rome. After a time of formation and apostolic experience in the Via Castro Pretorio community (located in the same city), she began her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1957. In the course of spiritual exercises that preceded this memorable day, the Founder himself urged the young women to carry out the beautiful Catechetical Days, Marian Days, and Gospel Days/Weeks that were organized to disseminate the Word of God ever more widely and help it reach every family. Almost as if in response to this invitation, Sr. M. Giuditta enthusiastically devoted herself to itinerant outreach to Institutes, schools and offices, first in the big Roman capital and then in Massa Carrara.

After her perpetual profession on the Solemnity of the Apostle Paul in 1962, she was assigned to the book center apostolate in the cities of Ivrea, Milan, Mestre, and Reggio Emilia. In 1970, she began a new phase of her life—one oriented to the care and assistance of the sick, in view of which she made every effort to acquire the training she needed for this mission. She obtained her diploma as a registered nurse, with specializations in physiotherapy, acupuncture, and spinal manipulation. She also took a course in traditional Chinese medicine in order to be of more help to her sisters and others who turned to her for care. For about fifteen years she worked in the Albano community and Queen of Apostles Hospital as a physiotherapist, after which she was sent to Livorno and then to Alba. Everywhere she went, she continued her mission to relieve the joint pain of the sick and suffering.

In the year 2000, Sr. M. Giuditta joyfully welcomed the opportunity to undergo a period of theological updating. When the course concluded, she was asked to accept a transfer to the James Alberione community of Albano. She accepted the request and remained in this community for the rest of her life, except for a brief period of absence from the Congregation in order to take care of her father, who was gravely ill.

As she grew older and her strength decreased, Sr. M. Giuditta was no longer able to perform the muscle massages and other therapies that she had handled so competently in the past, but she was always ready to devote herself to a multitude of household services ranging from gardening to phone and door duties, from responsibilities in the sewing room to helping the many sick and disabled sisters around her, especially feeding them at mealtimes. In recent years, Sr. M. Giuditta herself was obliged to undergo medical treatment due to heart problems, hip surgery and finally the onset of dementia. Heart failure was the proximate cause of her definitive encounter with God the Father.

Consoled by the encouraging words of the Liturgy on this Fourth Sunday of Lent, we are confident that Sr. M. Giuditta already dwells in the presence of Christ, experiencing the bliss of his salvation and contemplating the extraordinary riches of his grace.

Affectionately,

Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, 9 March 2024