



Dearest Sisters,

At 1:25 p.m. yesterday, the Third Sunday of Easter, the Risen Christ visited Evangélico Mackenzie Hospital in Curitiba, Brazil, to gently call to himself our sister:

**PEROTTO CANDIDA – SR. ESCOLASTICA**  
**born in Barra do Ouro (Osorio, RS), Brazil on 5 August 1931.**

*She was a simple woman with a welcoming smile:* this is how the sisters who lived with Sr. Escolastica over the years describe her. She completed only elementary school but had acquired the wisdom of a true apostle by devoting herself heart and soul to spreading the Word of God, from which she received abundant light.

Sr. Escolastica entered the Congregation on 26 March 1948, in the house in Porto Alegre, Brazil, blazing a trail for her two sisters, Sr. Cecilia and Sr. Irene, who followed in her footsteps. On 19 March 1951, she made her first profession in the São Paulo DM community and was then sent to Belo Horizonte, where she worked in our FSP book center and also carried out the mission of itinerant propaganda. She made her perpetual profession on the Feast of St. Joseph 1956. For about 20 years, except for a few interludes in the book centers of Recife and Curitiba, she devoted herself to the technological aspects of the Pauline apostolate, especially the composition and printing of books and magazines—a mission she accompanied with abundant prayer, asking the Lord that through those pages his Word might touch every heart.

In 1975, Sr. Escolastica began a decades-long service in our FSP book centers: Maringa, Recife, São Paulo CR and Rio de Janeiro were the cities that had the grace to experience her apostolic expertise, helpfulness and great ability to establish warm relations with every category of people. Her joyful face, lit by a perpetual smile, made every customer feel at ease. No one who entered the book center ever left without benefitting from her wise words, particularly if they needed comfort or guidance. Our sister was truly a living Gospel. During her many years in the Cidade Regina book center, she was able to transfuse her enthusiasm into the novices who were sent there for a time of apostolic experience. From her, they learned the secret of how to carry out the Pauline mission effectively.

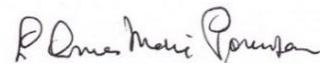
Sr. Escolastica spent and overspent herself in the apostolate. In 1975, as she was preparing to celebrate her silver jubilee of profession, she wrote to the Superior General:

“I said my first *yes* to God with great enthusiasm and commitment, even though I did not fully understand what I was doing. I cannot say that I have lived my *yes* to him completely, but I am sure that I was never unfaithful to him, even if I did not correspond to my vocation as fully as I could have. What I *do* know is that I tried to be a Daughter of St. Paul *always*... In this Jubilee Year, I feel him at work in me with particular strength and light. I am living my *yes* in a spirit of littleness and I can only thank God for everything. Now it is his ‘hour’—a time for me to live in deeper faith, to pray, to grow, to surrender myself to him wholeheartedly.”

Sr. Escolastica was called by the diminutive *Escolinha*, which translated into Italian means “little school.” She was truly a “school” for all the sisters—a small school of love, faith and sisterly closeness to them, a “school” of communion and communication.

In recent years, *Sr. Escolinha* was no longer able to carry out the book center mission, but she continued to serve her community through countless small services, radiating around her peace, serenity and love for her vocation. A few days ago, she fell and had to undergo surgery, leading to several age-related problems that complicated her situation. And today she was called to touch the hands and feet of the Risen One, to open herself totally to him and rejoice in his presence forever. Affectionately,

Rome, 15 April 2024



sr Anna Maria Parenzan