



Dearest Sisters,

In the early hours of this morning, in the “Divine Providence” community in Rome, our good Father called our sister to contemplate his face forever:

BRANCA MARIA TERESA Sr. M. ROSALBA
born in Tissi (Sassari) on January 31, 1935

Sr. M. Rosalba had four younger brothers whom she greatly loved and admired. She enjoyed spending time with her family and at her parish, where she played the organ at liturgical celebrations accompanied by her beautiful voice.

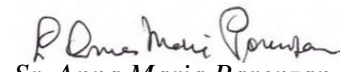
She entered the congregation in the house of Rome DP on October 11, 1954, where she spent her formative years and made her novitiate. Sr. Rosalba professed first vows on June 30, 1958, at the end of the year dedicated by the Founder to the Apostle Paul.

During her juniorate, she enthusiastically spread the Gospel in the dioceses of Campobasso and L'Aquila. She made her perpetual profession on June 30, 1963, and a month later, Sr. Rosalba was sent to the community of Palermo, where she helped bring the Gospel to families, offices, and institutions. Her communicative nature and constant openness to friendship favored apostolic relationships with everyone she met. Beginning in 1968, she spent many years assisting in the book centers of Treviso, Ferrara, Verona, Sassari, Rome, Livorno, Salerno, and Palermo. While stationed in Palermo, she went to Rome to participate in a ten-week course on the Pauline Charism. That Christmas, she thanked the superior general for this experience. Sr. Rosalba wrote: “This great gift [of the charism course] urges me to live and communicate what I have received. This Christmas, I want to be a *temple* that welcomes, cherishes, celebrates, and gives Jesus Master to those I meet; I want to become a *home* to the Word, imitating the Virgin who said ‘Yes.’ I feel enthused and always more in love with the Pauline vocation, and I will try to live this by witnessing joy...”

In 1997, she was assigned first to the Queen of Apostles community in Rome, and then, for the next twenty-six years, she was a member of the Divine Providence community, where she carried out various tasks that little by little were entrusted of her. These included helping in the Italian province’s administration office, launching a new book center at the “Three Fountains” complex, creating a database and spreadsheets for the distribution office, and assisting in the documentation office. She was a driver for many years, available whenever she was needed. Sr. Rosalba was a hard-working, loquacious, lively sister, faithful to the Pauline vocation which she lovingly lived to the full day after day. She cultivated her prayer life and was committed to her spiritual journey. She loved life in all its expressions. Sr. M. Rosalba is also remembered for her always very dignified appearance. Because of her beautiful voice, she was often a soloist at liturgical celebrations in the nearby Queen of Apostles Sanctuary, a church she visited frequently.

For the last five years, she was part of the infirmary wing of the community, but she would often *escape* to the Queen of Apostles Sanctuary: it was her refuge, the center of her life, where she could always find refreshment. About two years ago, Sr. Rosalba contracted *covid-19* which left her bedridden and led to her deteriorating physical condition. A stroke was the immediate cause of death. Today, on the anniversary of the dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, the oldest Marian shrine in the world, Sr. M. Rosalba was called to unite her beautiful voice with that of the choir of angels who adore the glory of the Lord's face in eternity.

With affection.


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, August 5, 2024