



Dearest Sisters,

We received the news that yesterday that at 11 a.m. (local time) at the emergency department of the Boa Vista Hospital in Curitiba, Brazil, the merciful Father called to himself our sister

HEINECK Sr. M. DULCE
born in Travesseiro (Santa Cruz do Sul, Brazil) on November 24, 1937.

The name of this sister, *Dulce*, which means “sweet,” truly embodied her way of life. Gentleness was her hallmark. She moved among us like a quiet presence, spreading the fragrance of love: a love that was sincere and welcoming, joyful, and contagious, bringing peace and harmony wherever she went.

Sr. M. Dulce entered the congregation in Porto Alegre, Brazil, on October 2, 1951, at the age of fourteen. After a long period of formation and study, she continued her journey in the Divine Master community in São Paulo, where she completed her novitiate and made her first profession on June 30, 1958. She then dedicated herself to our itinerant Pauline mission in the vast dioceses of Rio de Janeiro and Porto Alegre. On June 30, 1963 she professed her perpetual vows and continued her proclamation of the Gospel in the dioceses of Lins and Brasília.

Sr. M. Dulce was a woman of authenticity, deeply committed to living the Pauline vocation with fullness and radical dedication. In 1975, she wrote to then-Superior General M. Ignazia Balla: “I have reflected deeply on my *yes*... I want to renew it with the same enthusiasm and fervor as on the day of my first profession. I love my vocation, the congregation, and the apostolate. I feel good, happy, and deeply fulfilled. I want to promise the congregation, just as I have already promised God, that I will use all my energy and the gifts that the Lord, in His goodness, has given me, for my spiritual growth, the good of the community, and our mission.”

That same year, Sr. M. Dulce began to take on significant responsibilities, particularly as local superior and bursar. She served six non-consecutive terms as superior of the large community in Cidade Regina (São Paulo) and also held the same role in the communities of Brasília and Porto Alegre. She had a special gift for leadership—marked by simplicity, gentleness, and attentive care for each sister—blending wisdom, kindness, and firmness in a way that made even difficult matters seem manageable. Her calm presence radiated peace, and her natural goodness made her a much-appreciated superior. Sr. M. Dulce embraced this service wholeheartedly, convinced that communion of life is the key to fidelity and the cement that holds everything together. Constantly seeking new ways to better support the sisters, she desired to study nursing. It was a role she carried out with great dedication, especially in the Cidade Regina community, home to the elderly and infirm sisters. Sr. M. Dulce alternated her service as superior with that of local bursar, a service she carried out with generosity in various communities, including São Paulo DM, Rio de Janeiro, Fortaleza, Porto Alegre, Maringá, and Curitiba.

In 2012, Sr. M. Dulce was transferred to Curitiba, where she assisted in the book center and dedicated herself primarily maintaining the house. In her final years, aware of her increasingly fragile health, she embraced a quiet rhythm of life, marked by silence and prayer. On July 29, she was admitted to the emergency department of Boa Vista Hospital, where she was diagnosed with a severe, generalized infection. Within a few hours, she peacefully entered into the long-awaited embrace of the Father whom she had loved and longed for throughout her life.

We thank Sr. M. Dulce because she truly *passed among us doing good*, all the good possible. We now entrust her to the Father's mercy so that he may welcome her into his arms so as to contemplate his face of love for all eternity.

Affectionately,



Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, July 31, 2025