



Dearest Sisters,

We received news that at 6 a.m., in the community of Mumbai, India, our good Father drew to Himself our sister, to offer her the fullness of life:

POTTANANIYIL Sr. MARY PATRICIA
born in Thidanadu (Palai) India on August 22, 1947

Sr. M. Patricia gave her whole self with generosity, love, and a spirit of belonging in the thousands of daily services she carried out throughout her Pauline life. She made her perpetual profession on December 8, 1974, and at that time she wrote to the provincial superior, “I can say that this is the life to which I am called ... by living the Pauline religious life I will be able to achieve that greater union and love to which the Lord has called me. I will try to make myself available to Him so that I may not only live in the congregation but *be* the congregation.”

The firstborn of ten children, Sr. M. Patricia entered the congregation in Mumbai on June 11, 1964. She made her postulancy in Kolkata and returned to Mumbai for her novitiate where she pronounced her first vows on December 8, 1968. As a young professed she devoted herself to the itinerant spreading of the Gospel and for several years, she assisted in the printing and book binding departments in Mumbai. She was also the postulant formator for a time. In 1983, she became a missionary to Africa. In Kampala, Uganda, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, she experienced the joy of bringing the Gospel to people thirsting for truth, through the book center, itinerant outreach, and vocation ministry.

In 1989 Sr. M. Patricia returned to India to continue her life of service as superior of the communities in Mumbai, Trivandrum and the provincial house, and as bursar in Secunderabad and Mumbai. She also assisted in the book center and was in charge of evangelization outreach. The sisters remember her smile, her attention to every person, the friendly rapport she had with everyone, the faithfulness to prayer, her practical sense and her effort to embrace always new initiatives to bring the gospel of joy to all. She did not speak much but she was very concrete. She had a beautiful capacity to form the young woman, giving them trust and encouraging them to carry out new experiences.


In 2003, the superior general granted her request to devote herself in service to the sisters in the Generalate and those throughout the world who stayed there for a time. She carried out her various responsibilities, especially in the refectory and kitchen, with quiet dedication and a beautiful attentiveness to everyone’s needs. Before returning to India in 2012 she participated in the month-long spiritual exercises based on *Donec Formetur*.

From her return to India until 2018 Sr. M. Patricia spent herself in the Kolkata community helping in the book center and community services despite frail health, caused by chronic cardiovascular disease and diabetes. She eventually returned to Mumbai due to dementia. In recent weeks she experienced increased difficulty breathing and was placed on oxygen. This morning, around 4 a.m., a sister found her weaker than usual. In the last hours of her life, she continued to give thanks for every kindness and care and to entrust her life to Jesus, Mary and Joseph, patrons of a good death.

Sr M. Patricia finished her race, reached the *greatest love* for which she had yearned her entire life, and now lives that intimacy forever with Christ the Bridegroom, for whom she ardently longed.

Affectionately,

Rome, September 25, 2025



Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan