



Dearest Sisters,

Last night we received news that at 8:25 p.m. (local time) in the community of Bogotá-Las Orquideas (Colombia) the Divine Master called to Himself our sister

**ARBELÁEZ MUÑOZ LUCILA Sr. MARIA AMALIA
born in Sevilla-Valle (Colombia) on October 19, 1937**

Sr. M. Amalia was a strong and courageous woman—upright, deeply responsible, and generous—who shared the richness of her heart with the Colombian province through the many roles she carried out over the years.

She entered the congregation at the house in Bogotá on October 3, 1961. After her initial years of formation, during which she also learned book center management skills, she traveled to Alba for her novitiate and made her first profession there on June 30, 1965. She then had the opportunity to continue her studies and prepare for perpetual profession, which she made in Bogotá on June 30, 1971. On that occasion, fully aware of her decision, she wrote: *“Religious life, when lived well, requires more sacrifices today than in the past—but with God's grace, which is always with me, I hope to become a true Daughter of St. Paul. I place my trust in God's mercy and in the mercy of the sisters with whom I will live.”* Throughout her vocational journey, she entrusted herself to the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Apostles, St. Paul the Apostle, and St. Joseph, whom she loved with special devotion.

Considering her preparation and maturity, Sr. M. Amalia was soon called to serve in roles of great responsibility: Provincial Councilor for two consecutive terms, superior in Cali and Bogota Centro, Provincial Bursar and Provincial Superior. In this capacity, she participated in the Fifth General Chapter, contributing her insights to the drafting of the Constitutions in her area of expertise. At the end of her term as Provincial Superior, she had the opportunity for two years of theological and spiritual deepening in Rome while residing at the Generalate.

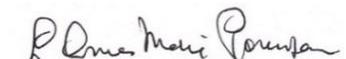
Upon her return to Colombia, Sr. M. Amalia continued to serve in leadership roles: twice as superior in Cali, as Vice Provincial, and as Councilor for the Apostolate for another six years. These assignments amounted to nearly twenty-five continuous years in the service of authority and management.

In 1999, she was entrusted with coordinating the technical apostolate, particularly overseeing the large printing department in Bogotá, where many lay employees worked. Later, Sr. M. Amalia was given responsibility for managing the book warehouse and the packaging department for mini media. She carried out all these responsibilities despite her fragile health. From a young age, she had suffered from progressive, deforming arthritis that caused intense pain in her limbs and often made walking difficult. But Sr. Amalia never gave up. She was passionate about the mission and the gift of Pauline spirituality. In 2003, she joyfully participated in the month-long spiritual exercises based on Alberione's *Donec Formetur*. A woman of deep prayer and strong community spirit, she loved the Pauline charism with all her heart and offered her suffering for the growth of the Pauline mission around the world.

Sr. M. Amalia's physical condition had been very delicate for some time, but the immediate cause of her death was a kidney infection. Like the Apostle Paul, Sr. M. Amalia endured everything for the salvation of many. She worked, toiled, and suffered so that the Word of God would not be chained but reach more people. And now she too, like the Apostle to the Gentiles, will reach the salvation and eternal glory that is in Christ Jesus (cf. 2 Tim. 2:8-13).

Affectionately,

Rome, October 12, 2025


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan