



Dearest Sisters,

As we remember today our Founder's birth into heaven, at 11 a.m., in the Giacomo Alberione community in Albano, the Divine Master accompanied to her eternal dwelling, our sister

LA MENDOLA Sr. GIUSEPPINA
born in Alia (Palermo, Italy) August 13, 1928

Sr. Giuseppina lived a long life marked by gratitude, the joy of her vocation, and an always deepening desire to do the will of her Lord and Master. On March 7, 1949, she entered the Daughters of St. Paul in Rome. Because of her maturity, she was soon given the opportunity to experience the Pauline mission in the dioceses of Cosenza and Lecce. She later returned to Rome for her novitiate and made her first profession there on March 19, 1952. At the time, the congregation was experiencing significant growth and development, continually urged by the Founder to live the congregation's *founding spirit* and to advance in holiness, for "the congregation must be a factory of saints" (FSP 50, p. 79).

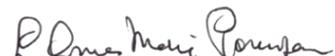
With these strong aspirations in her heart, Sr. Giuseppina spent her juniorate carrying out itinerant outreach in Lecce. She prepared for perpetual profession in Rome which she made there on March 19, 1957. She then continued the mission in the book center in Lecce, which she came to consider as *the pulpit* from which to proclaim the Good News. After another apostolic experience in Treviso, she was appointed superior of the Caltanissetta community in 1966. It was the beginning of a long time of service as superior and in leadership. In 1970 she was appointed councilor of the Province of Southern Italy and later reconfirmed as councilor of the Province of Naples. Sr. Giuseppina deeply felt her own inadequacy. In 1969 she wrote to the provincial superior: "... In response to your circular letter, I would like to say that I have no preference for any community or assignment. Up to now I have tried to live whatever obedience has asked of me, and I have always found peace in it. The Lord has allowed me to carry out everything with joy and enthusiasm (even though it has required much personal effort and sacrifices because of my limitations.) Therefore, my only desire is to love and serve the Lord in the place and in the apostolate He chooses for me. In this way, I hope to do what is pleasing to Him and to be of service to the congregation. The only task that is truly difficult for me is that of superior... so if you can exclude me from this responsibility, I would be very grateful."

Because of her amiability, meekness, hospitality, kindness, and attention to every person, Sr. Giuseppina was never relieved of this office. In 1971 she was again appointed superior, this time to the community of Salerno and after a few years, as superior of the house in Palermo and later of Catanzaro and Reggio Calabria. She then spent about fifteen years in Palermo, working at the check-out counter in the book center. In 2017, after a heart attack and the onset of serious heart problems, she moved to the Giacomo Alberione community in Albano to receive proper care. Almost until her last day she continued to radiate peace, benevolence, serenity, and a deep spirit of prayer. She was often found with folded hands, in deep recollection, in uninterrupted dialogue with her Lord.

We thank the Father for the life of Sr. Giuseppina and so many sisters who enrich the Pauline Family from heaven and savor forever those "abundant riches of grace" that we have already begun to experience on earth.

Affectionately,

Rome, November 26, 2025


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan