



Dearest Sisters,

At 8:30 p.m. (local time) on December 15 at the University Hospital in São Paulo, Brazil, the merciful Father called to Himself a tireless Pauline apostle

**BORDEGHINI NELSA Sr. MARIA da GLORIA
born in Sarandi RS (Brazil) on December 25, 1934**

Sr. Gloria was a passionate and dynamic sister who poured into the mission all the enthusiasm, vitality, and joy she carried in her heart. She fostered the growth of evangelization and strengthened apostolic collaboration among Paulines across different continents. Everything about her radiated the Gospel—creativity, lightness of spirit, and a deep sense of urgency to proclaim the Good News to all peoples.

She entered the congregation in Porto Alegre, Brazil, on May 1, 1947, at just thirteen years of age. Sr. Gloria soon became skilled in book production and later went to São Paulo for her novitiate, making her first profession on March 19, 1955. As a young professed sister, she completed her cultural formation by earning a Bachelor's degree in journalism, while at the same time collaborating in the production of radio programs in Curitiba at the diocesan station *The Catholic Voice of Paraná*, a true pulpit of evangelization.

In 1960 Sr. Gloria made her perpetual profession in São Paulo. Then, because of her intense involvement in radio, she was soon called to help realize Maestra Thecla's dream: to preserve valuable audio materials by producing them as vinyl records, improving their quality for wider distribution, and initiating large-scale production. Together with Sr. Maria Nogueira, she inaugurated the recording studio in São Paulo, which became a center for the production and distribution of catechetical and musical recordings throughout Brazil, helping to launch many local composers, including Fr. Zezinho.

In 1967 she earned a diploma in catechetics and was then assigned to assist in the Diocese of Santurce, Puerto Rico, to share her considerable skills at the National Secretariat for Social Communications. In 1972 she was asked to go to Santiago, Chile, to collaborate once again with the local Church in the field of communication. While in Chile, she was also appointed local superior of the delegation house and a member of the delegation council.

In 1977 she returned to Brazil where she served in the book centers of Belo Horizonte and Porto Alegre and later worked in the province's creative sectors. By 1980 she was again engaged at the Church level, serving on the Episcopal Commission for Social Communications (CECOM) in Brasília. There she worked with the media and press and helped organize communication ministry initiatives throughout all the states of Brazil.

In 1985, at the invitation of the Superior General, Sr. Gloria was called to serve at the Generalate, opening for her new and broader horizons. This role involved collaborating in the beginnings of the International Secretariat of Apostolate (SIA), whose responsibilities included organizing continental meetings for the "Rinnovato Slancio Apostolico" (Renewed Apostolic Thurst) promoting the formation of sisters and lay collaborators. This work also included discerning and initiating new pathways for the mission by valuing every form of communication, so that the Gospel might speed on and touch hearts.

Upon Sr. Gloria's return to Brazil in 1989, she became the director for COMEP, the audiovisual sector located in São Paulo. In 1992 she was assigned to Bogotá, Colombia, where she was asked to

accompany the early development of SAL (Secretariat for the Latin American Apostolate), supporting this initiative in its mission of animation, formation, and promotion, and fostering collaboration among the sisters throughout the American continent.

In the year 2000, upon returning to São Paulo, Brazil, she became the coordinator of COMEP. Later, Sr. Gloria was called to the service of superior and book center director, first in São Luis and later in the centers of Rio de Janeiro and Curitiba.

In 2018 Sr. Gloria embraced a new experience as director of the Cidade Regina House of Prayer, a ministry of welcome, availability, and loving care that suited her well. She took joy in attending to every detail of hospitality for the superiors during the most recent Interchapter. Afterward, she returned to São Paulo and spent about a year in the Divin Maestro community, where she enjoyed good health and willingly collaborated in the community's various services.

Illness came suddenly. In November, Sr. Gloria suffered a stroke caused by a blood clot and was hospitalized. Although she was later discharged, a subsequent illness led to her final encounter with the Lord at the University Hospital of São Paulo.

The words of the Apostle Paul, the great inspirer of Sr. Maria da Gloria's entire life, placed on her lips today takes on a very special meaning: "The time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished *my race*, I have kept the faith. Now only the crown of righteousness remains for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day" (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

We think of Sr. Gloria having finally reached the finish line, resting on the Lord's bosom and trusting Him with the wonders of the experience of a long, endless run.

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, December 16, 2025