



Dear Sisters,

On May 3, the Fifth Sunday of Easter, at 7:30 a.m., in the infirmary of Alba, the Risen Christ called our sister to contemplate forever the Face of the Father:

**GANDOLFO Sr. PAOLA**  
**born in Cuneo on January 7, 1939**

She was a sister who lived her Pauline vocation with deep conviction, generosity, and a missionary spirit. She wrote to the superior general, in 1990: "... The desire has arisen in me to offer a period of my life in Africa so that the Gospel may be known by so many brothers and sisters... I recognize in me the grace of the Pauline vocation, I believe in the strength of our apostolate as the greatest means of proclamation and of human and Christian promotion... No one is so poor that she cannot offer from her own poverty..." Because of her rather frail health, Sr. Paola could not fulfill this deep missionary desire but her love for the proclamation of the Gospel filled her whole life.

Sr. Paola entered the congregation in Alba, July 30, 1960. After a time of formation and apostolic experience in Alexandria, she made her novitiate year in Milan, followed by first profession of vows on June 30, 1964. She was assigned to the Divine Providence community in Rome to collaborate in the shipping department where they prepared heavy packages of books to be sent to the various branch houses. She then returned to Alba to prepare for perpetual vows which she made on June 30, 1969.

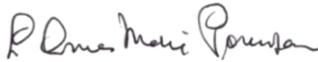
In the Dioceses of Pavia and Como, including the city of Sondrio, as well as the populous Archdiocese of Milan, Sr. Paola devoted herself very generously to the itinerant spreading of the Gospel. She was delighted when she met, especially in the alpine valleys, groups of young people at various school camps to whom she zealously offered books of cultural and Christian formation.

In Savona and Lodi, Sr. Paola learned the book center apostolate and was later given the opportunity for a period of renewal and updating in Alba. In Crotona, where she served from 1981 to 1988, she readily embraced the mission of evangelization, especially among the poor. The same was true in Potenza, Reggio Calabria, and Novara, where she served primarily in the book center.

After a time in the San Giuseppe community in Alba, Sr. Paola was assigned to Bologna (Mondo) in 1997 where she worked in the distribution sector of the *Agenzia Periodici* (magazine and subscription services), while in Trento and in the communities of Rome she served in various community roles. From 2004 to 2008, she was assigned to the then provincial house on Via Vivanti.

Sr. Paola next assisted in the large bindery at the Motherhouse in Alba for some time, but physical suffering soon knocked at her door. In 2016 she underwent surgery to remove an angioma (a benign growth) in her brain, and in 2020 she had stomach surgery after a serious form of cancer was diagnosed. She lived her final years in serene acceptance and with her customary liveliness, even as her strength declined and walking became more difficult due to a fractured femur. The Lord purified Sr. Paola through this long suffering and made her ever more beautiful, preparing her to hear words of joy and consolation and to be welcomed forever by him to the wedding banquet in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Affectionately,



Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, May 3, 2026