



Dear Sisters,

We received news that on September 2, at 4:00 p.m., in the infirmary of the Nazca community in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the good Father called our sister *to cross to the other shore*:

TIBALDO CARMEN GUADALUPE SR. MARIA ELENA
born in Llambi Campbell, Santa Fe, Argentina on March 31, 1935

Sr. M. Elena belonged to a deeply religious family and grew up in an environment rich in vocations, including the Paulines, Fr. Domingo, and her cousins Sr. Paulina, Sr. Fidelis, and Sr. Ines. She entered the congregation at the Buenos Aires on December 27, 1947, at twelve years of age. In that same community, she made her postulancy and novitiate, making her first profession on March 19, 1953. She was then assigned to the itinerant apostolate in the regions of Buenos Aires and Mendoza. After making her perpetual profession on March 19, 1958, she continued her ministry of bringing the Gospel to people everywhere with great enthusiasm.

By 1963, Sr. M. Elena became the superior of the Corrientes community. Soon afterward, she began her long and joyful service in the province's various book centers. Over the years, she had the joy and honor of animating the apostolic centers in Mendoza, La Plata, Resistencia, Tucuman and Montevideo, Uruguay. The center in Anatuya, in Argentina's poorest region, remained especially close to her heart. There she was also proclaimed the Word through Radio Solidariedad, a diocesan station that reached the most remote areas of the province of Santiago del Estero.

Sr. M. Elena felt at ease among the people and was happy whenever she could introduce them to salvation history through the pages of the Bible. In the large, well-stocked book centers, she fostered an atmosphere of simplicity and welcome. However, she preferred to serve quietly, taking on the less visible tasks. Even when she was called, for several terms, to serve as superior in the communities of Tucuman, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, and Anatuya, she stood out for her spirit of welcome and service. She loved to wash and iron, prepare meals, and offer hospitality. She had a particular fondness for flowers, especially the cyclamen she cultivated with devotion and reserved for her Jesus. When certain community situations caused her suffering, she overcame the difficulties by singing and praising the Lord. She had a special concern for the poorest and for those who knocked at the door asking for something to eat. For everyone, she had a word of consolation and a bowl of soup.

Sr. M. Elena had a rather independent character, but little by little the Lord molded her, rendering her more docile to himself and to the sisters. She was inspired by a particular devotion to St. Paul and the Queen of Apostles, without neglecting St. Joseph, whom she regarded as the saint who made difficult things easy. She read the Word of God faithfully and took great delight in the Pauline prayers.

Sr. M. Elena lived in the Nazca community in Buenos Aires since 2018 to care for her health, while continuing to help in the kitchen and refectory. Gradually, as her physical condition worsened, her life became increasingly centered on eternal values and on the person of Jesus, her Master and Savior. She used a wheelchair for several months, but remained clear-minded until the end, able to rejoice in the Lord's final visit through the sacraments of the Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick. She was truly ready to go forth to meet the Father and set out upon the infinite sea of his love.

Affectionately,

Rome, September 3, 2026


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan