



Dearest Sisters,

On October 16, at 11:30 a.m. in the community of Curitiba, Brazil, the Divine Master united to his paschal mystery our sister

DE CARVALHO IRACY Sr. JOSEFINA
born in Presidente Prudente, Brazil, on October 10, 1935

Sr. Josefina was motivated by great apostolic zeal, a true inner fire that she shared with everyone she met. The sisters testify that Sr. Josefina radiated the joy of the Gospel in everything she did. Her very presence was welcoming, warm, and open to communication. She was truly an apostle of the Word, which she wanted to bring to everyone, with respect for each one's culture and circumstances. For love of the Gospel, she left her native country and, for several years, supported the growth of the young communities in Madagascar, Mozambique, and Angola.

Sr. Josefina entered the congregation in the São Paulo Divine Master (DM) community on March 6, 1948, at the age of twelve. After an extended period of formation, she made her first profession in the same house on March 19, 1956, and her perpetual profession there six years later. As a young professed sister, she learned the book center apostolate in Curitiba. In 1966, she was appointed superior in Recife, a responsibility she would later assume at different times in São Paulo DM, Fortaleza, Maringá, and Rio de Janeiro. Sr. Josefina then managed the magazine administration office at São Paulo DM. Later, in Maringá and Rio de Janeiro, she devoted herself primarily to pastoral work on the archdiocesan level, training catechists and sharing with young people her passion for the Gospel and every expression of beauty.

After spending some time in Lyon, France, studying the language, Sr. Josefina served again in the archdiocesan offices of Rio de Janeiro, especially in communications. She was then entrusted with editorial work for audiovisual materials at the Alberione Institute in São Paulo and she later prepared radio programs in Recife. In Porto Alegre, she is remembered for her enthusiasm in organizing parish Bible weeks, helping participants encounter the Word in unforgettable ways and deepen their understanding of the biblical world. Sr. Josefina lived an intense Pauline life, filled with fervor, attentiveness to people, and to social and cultural challenges.

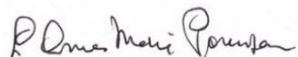
In 1989, she began a period of mission *ad gentes*. Sr. Josefina first served in the community of Antananarivo, Madagascar, serving especially in the book center and as community bursar. In 1994, after a brief stay in Brazil, she went to Maputo, Mozambique, with the same responsibilities and finally, she spent a short time in Luanda, Angola. Sr. Josefina rejoiced to see the African sisters growing in their Pauline vocation and wanted to share with them the fervor that still burned in her heart, but she was beginning to feel tired and to experience health problems. In 2002, she returned to Brazil, where she was still able to put her inexhaustible apostolic creativity to use in producing television programs, serving as superior in Rio de Janeiro, and contributing to the work of the apostolic center in Salvador and the central administrative offices in São Paulo.

For about a year, Sr. Josefina had been living in the community of Curitiba, where she helped with small tasks, always serene and smiling as she encouraged the sick sisters and spent much time keeping them company. She continued to follow Church and political news, which provided intentions for her prayer and daily offering.

Sr. Josefina was hospitalized on September 26 with pneumonia which soon developed into a generalized infection, soon bringing her into the embrace of her Lord and Master. To this "teacher of the apostolate," as she was affectionately called, we entrust the great challenges of today, so that through new forms of apostolate we may continue to be *channels of light and blessing for humanity*.

Affectionately,

Rome, October 16, 2026


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan