

ISTITUTO PIA SOCIETÀ
FIGLIE DI S. PAOLO
CASA GENERALIZIA
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Dearest Sisters,

At about 3:45 a.m. last night, one of our sisters of the James Alberione community of Albano, Italy, flew home to heaven with a smile on her lips:

DE SANTIS GIACINTA – SR. GIULIANA
born in Naples, Italy on 8 August 1923.

Sr. Giuliana left her sisters and caregivers the memory of her great discretion, peace and surrender to God. Her sufferings in the last days of her life were acute due to abdominal cancer in its final stages but she never complained, saying simply that she wanted to “go to Jesus.” And her meeting with him took place while the sisters were praying the fifth glorious mystery of the rosary, contemplating the exaltation of Mary.

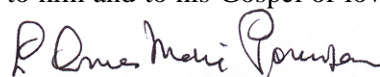
Throughout her life, Sr. Giuliana was known for her kindness, considerate speech and charity toward everyone. She entered the Congregation in Naples on 18 August 1942. After a short period in that community, she was sent to Rome for her initial formation, followed by a year of novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 19 March 1946. Immediately afterward, she was assigned to the diffusion apostolate. With great love and a bag overflowing with books, she brought the Word of God to the families of Naples, Cosenza, Ancona, Grottaferrata and Foggia. A person rich in faith, she wanted to carry out her diffusion ministry as effectively as possible. In Cosenza, where she was stationed for about 10 years, she collaborated with lay women who helped her gain access to banks, schools, offices and factories. She was filled with joy whenever she was able to renew subscriptions to Pauline periodicals, set up family libraries on the occasions of birthdays, feast days, etc., and find benefactors to help diffuse books to prisons, hospitals, orphanages and sanatoriums. She helped to organize many Gospel, Catechetical and Marian Days, and also saw to it that diocesan seminaries were well stocked with the most recent and most suitable Pauline publications.

In 1969, in response to a letter from the provincial superior asking her if she wanted to continue her studies, Sr. Giuliana replied: “With the help of divine grace, my life is very serene. I don’t think I have any ‘holes’ that need to be ‘plugged up.’ I thank the Lord thousands and thousands of times for the apostolic activities he has enabled me to carry out for the past 25 years in the form of uninterrupted diffusion of the Word of God to the families. Study is an essential part of our life and we examine our conscience on this ‘wheel’ every day. Realizing that my formal education covers only the basics, I ask the Holy Spirit every day to anoint my mind so that I will be able to understand what I need to do to become holy and carry out the Pauline mission of evangelization.”

Although Sr. Giuliana never received a diploma, she had deeply assimilated the Pauline spirit and the thought of the Founder concerning the teaching mission of the Pauline Family and the Daughters of St. Paul in particular. She once wrote to her provincial superior: “I always wanted to pursue ‘specialized studies’ and I have channeled a lot of energy in that direction. However, by ‘specialized studies’ I mean the effort to learn how to carry out propaganda in ways most appropriate to the times. Above all, I have always tried—with the help of God—to develop within myself the pedagogical and psychological aspects of study so as to place them at the service of my brothers and sisters. In doing this, the book that has helped me the most is the Holy Gospel.... What is more, souls themselves are the key that continually open new horizons to me. They help me to read human history and see the amazing things God brings about in each person.”

After serving as cook in the Foggia community for about 10 years, in 1996 Sr. Giuliana joyfully returned to her beloved Naples/Capodimonte community, where she dedicated herself to the apostolate of making hosts and carried out other services compatible with her advancing age. She felt a deep sense of belonging to the Congregation and wrote with great sincerity: “I want to remain in this Family, which I love very much and which I will continue to love till the day I die.” When she lost her self-sufficiency last year due to the advance of cancer, she was transferred to the James Alberione community (Albano), where she was an edifying example to everyone.

Today, the Feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr of the Church, we ask the Lord to throw wide the gates of heaven to our dear sister, who also witnessed to him and to his Gospel of love through her life and deeds. Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Vicar General

Rome, 26 December 2011