

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

At 5:33 this morning, our merciful Father visited the Divine Providence community of Alba, Italy, to call to his eternal light our sister:

**MALZONE SR. MARIA ROSARIA**  
**born in Salerno, Italy on 21 June 1940.**

Sr. M. Rosaria entered the Congregation in Rome, Italy on 7 January 1963, after having earned a degree in teaching. As a postulant, she was sent to Massa for a period of apostolic experience and then was transferred to Alba to make her novitiate, which concluded with her first profession on 30 June 1966. As a young professed, she carried out capillary and collective diffusion in Milan and afterward was assigned to the Divine Providence community, Rome, to continue her studies and prepare to make her final vows—an event that took place on 29 June 1972. The following year, she finished her academic itinerary at the Regina Mundi Institute and obtained a degree in Religious Sciences.

In September 1973, Sr. M. Rosaria began a new stage of her life: she was sent as a missionary to Germany, where she was inserted into the Dusseldorf community to carry out the diffusion apostolate. In 1977 she was transferred to Nurnberg to carry out pastoral services for the Church's Italian Mission in this land. The years that followed were marked by intense work for Sr. M. Rosaria, who dedicated all her energies to the Italian migrants in Germany, for whom she organized Bible days and weeks, weekly courses on initiation to the Christian faith, cineforums and book forums, and courses for couples preparing for marriage. She also provided spiritual accompaniment for liturgical and catechetical groups. Among these many apostolic activities, we can mention in a special way her editorial work for the periodical "Open to Hope" and the radio programs she wrote for Radio Munich to disseminate religious thought among the Italian migrants in Bavaria, who at that time numbered more than 18,000.

When she was reassigned to Italy in 2009, the members of the Catholic Mission among Italian Immigrants in Germany all expressed their deep regret at losing Sr. M. Rosaria, not only because of her numerous apostolic initiatives but also because she had served as the spiritual guide of their group. They wrote: "For more than 35 years, Sr. M. Rosaria carried out an extraordinary service to the weakest and most marginalized immigrants in German society. It is enough to recall her weekly visits to the prisons, her love for young people, the long hours she spent here at our Mission headquarters sharing the Word of God with us and preparing music for the Liturgy.... We will all miss her very much: in fact our community is already losing the stability she gave it through her long years of hard work."

Sr. M. Rosaria combined her intense pastoral work with her active presence in our FSP German Delegation. She served as superior of the Nurnberg community for two mandates, and for six years as Vice-Superior of the Delegation and delegation councilor for the apostolate and spirituality. When she was reconfirmed as delegation councilor, she wrote: "I am truly very poor, but the Lord has bent down to my poverty to help me understand that it is only and always he who carries out this work."

In 2000, Sr. M. Rosaria participated with great enthusiasm in the Pauline Family's annual Course of Formation to the Pauline Charism, held in Rome. Her joy in the Pauline vocation radiated from her face, her writings and her conversations with everyone.

In September 2009, she was transferred to Alba to receive the care she needed for an especially aggressive form of Alzheimer's disease and we are sure that her intense sufferings during the last years of her life and especially in these last months served to crown her apostolic mission. Now Sr. M. Rosaria can join the Apostle Paul in exclaiming with absolute truth: "The time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. Now the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will give me on that day" (2 Tm. 4:6-8).

Affectionately,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "P. Anna Maria Parenzan".

*Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan*  
*Superior General*

Rome, 28 November 2017