

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

At 3:10 a.m. last night, the Virgin Mary, Queen of Apostles, visited the James Alberione community, Albano, Italy, to lead to the kingdom of heaven our sister:

**NOTA DOMENICA – SR. ANGELA MARIA
born in Pralormo (Turin), Italy on 22 May 1920.**

Sr. Angela Maria entered the Congregation in Alba on 16 March 1944, together with her sister, Sr. Lorenzina. The young women were members of a beautiful Piedmontese family of 7 children: two boys and 5 girls. Four of the girls “infected” one another with the Pauline vocation. Two of the four (Sr. Rosalba and Sr. M. Regina) have already passed to eternity, while Sr. M. Lorenzina is currently a member of our Singapore community. They were all inspired by a truly gifted “vocationist,” Sr. Andreina Nota, the head of a “tribe of girl cousins” (9 in all) who in the decade of the 1940’s entered the Pauline religious life.

On 29 June 1946 Sr. Angela concluded her novitiate with her first profession in Alba and was then assigned to carry out capillary diffusion in Turin. Immediately after her perpetual profession in 1951, she began a long *curriculum* as superior (more than 35 years almost without interruption) in Italy and Spain. Her model in carrying out this service was Prima Maestra Thecla, whom she deeply admired for the way in which she combined holiness of life and profound humanity. By following her example, Sr. Angela (who was an *angel* not only in name but also in concrete action) was loved from the very outset of her itinerary as a superior in the communities of Pavia, Salerno, Bologna and Brescia.

In 1965 she was sent as a missionary to Spain, where she remained for 10 years. She served as superior in Madrid for two mandates and then dedicated herself to the cinema apostolate in Barcelona.

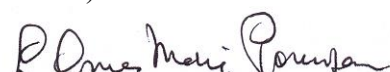
When she returned to Italy in 1976, she was appointed superior of the Turin community, and after a short parenthesis in the Generalate, was once again made superior of the Divine Master community (Via A. Pio), Rome. When that term of office ended, she was asked to serve as superior in Genoa. Sr. Angela never took any specialized courses but her service was animated by innate common sense and a profound love for God and for every sister entrusted to her care. She said with gratitude and awe that every step she took was marked out for her by the Lord, who guided and supported her in all things.

In 1987, Sr. Angela was transferred to the Thecla Merlo community, Albano, which had been set up to assist FSPs with serious health problems. In that community, she carried out the office of bur-sar with great generosity, a big heart and a deep desire to do good. She was a splendid sister, who was always ready to be of help wherever needed—from the reception desk to the sacristy, from the kitchen to the sewing room. When she celebrated her 50th anniversary of profession in 1996, she wrote: “I want to resume my Pauline journey not in a lackluster way but with reinvigorated fervor. The Lord always guides me. On my part, I am striving to cling to him and to lovingly follow the path he has traced out for me. The ‘season of prolific flowering’ is over but autumn is the time of fruit. It’s not important how visible these are. What is essential is that they be pleasing to God and for his greater glory.”

And for Sr. Angela this “time of fruitfulness” intensified in 2005, when illness knocked on her door. First in the Thecla Merlo community, Albano, and then, from 2009 onward, in the James Alberione community in the same town, Sr. Angela continued to offer her sufferings for all the needs of the Congregation, accepting in silence and a true spirit of self-offering all the therapies prescribe for the stroke she had suffered, together with the burden of many other illnesses. In the last few months of her life, she was bed-bound as a result of a broken leg that was unfortunately inoperable. A few days ago, she came down with a severe case of pneumonia, which hastened her meeting with the Lord.

We ask Sr. Angela, a woman of peace and mercy, to intercede to God for peace in the world, asking that it will “always be kindled by the flame of hope and so that, through patient perseverance, choices in favor of dialogue and reconciliation will be made” (Pope Francis).

Affectionately,


Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan
Superior General

Rome, 12 August 2017