



Dearest sisters,

We received the news that this morning at 7:21 a.m. (local time) at the *Nakai Fujishiro-En* Retirement Home in Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan, the Divine Master gently called to Himself, our sister

**INAGAKI KAZUKO SR. MARY REGINA**  
**born in Ghifu-Ken (Nagoya, Japan) on October 10, 1931**

Sr. M. Regina would remember with emotion her vocation story when, during her youth, she sensed the Father's strong and gentle hand drawing her lovingly to Himself. She was a young bank clerk when she became fascinated by the fervent prayer of a community of monks, especially when they chanted the Magnificat, because it filled her with such peace. She was baptized at the age of twenty-one. Then, through study and an intense prayer life, she understood the beauty of following Jesus and devoting herself to the proclamation of the Gospel. Her vocation to the Pauline life was closely intertwined with the providential founding of the house in Nagoya in January 1954 by Sr. Lorenzina Nota and Sr. Enrica Paloschi. On March 25 of the same year, she became the first young woman to enter the Daughters of St. Paul in Nagoya. On May 1, 1955, on the feast of the Queen of Apostles, with thirteen other aspirants, she received the religious habit from the hands of M. Thecla in a celebration presided over by the Founder, during their visit to the communities in Japan. It was an unforgettable experience for her that marked her whole life.

On July 1, 1958, Sr. M. Regina made her first profession in Tokyo and, five years later, her perpetual profession. From the beginning of her juniorate, she learned about running a book center and spent almost her entire life carrying out this apostolate in Osaka, Tokyo, Nagoya, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki. For about ten years, she oversaw the religious article center in Tokyo and assisted in the diocesan offices in Osaka.

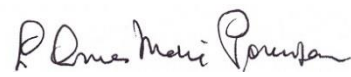
From 1999 until 2014, she was entrusted with promoting and mailing the monthly magazine *Akebono*. Sr. M. Regina's life was illuminated by the apostle Paul's words, which became her life's beacon: "Always be glad, pray unceasingly, in everything give thanks" (1 Thess. 5:16-18). Always cheerful and smiling, she continued to contribute in every way she could, even as her health diminished, especially at the switchboard for the large community in Tokyo.

Sr. M. Regina consciously prepared herself for her final encounter with the Master. She confided to the provincial superior her desire to be ready for His final call: "Every morning, when I make the Sign of the Cross, I thank the Lord for the gift of life and ask Him for the strength to endure the sufferings of the last moments." The Eucharist and the Word were her daily nourishment. Her prayer was: "Jesus, I welcome you who live in me, and I too live in you and with you."

In the year 2019, she was diagnosed with *Alzheimer's* disease, which required ongoing care. She was transferred to the *Nakai Fujishiro-En* nursing home near Tokyo, where she passed away peacefully. Now, the deep yearning of her life will certainly be fulfilled; now, she will live forever in joy and peace, *in Jesus and together with Jesus*.

Affectionately,

Rome, September 26, 2024



sr Anna Maria Parenzan