



Dearest sisters,

This evening at 5 p.m. (local time), in the "Tecla Merlo" community in Albano, the merciful Father welcomed into his abode of light and peace our sister

PRANDINI SILVIA sr M. CLARA born in Gavardo Sopraponte (Brescia) on May 27, 1929

Sr. M. Clara was an enthusiastic and dynamic Pauline, eager to spend herself totally in our mission using the abundant talents given to her by the Lord. She articulated her deep yearning for growth in four verbs: to live, to dream, to work, to love. These expressive words capture all of Sr. M. Clara's vitality, her exuberance, and her desire to always be journeying towards new horizons.

She entered the congregation in Alba, on May 28, 1951 and made her first profession in the Motherhouse on March 19, 1954. On that memorable day, Fr. Alberione addressed words of great hope to the newly professed: "You will remember this day at the point of death, when you are about to pass into eternity and make your final eternal profession. The priest will no longer say to you, Centuplum accipietis, et vitam aeternam possidebitis (You will receive the hundredfold and inherit eternal life) but in some way, he will introduce you into it. At that moment you will remember that during life you received a hundredfold of grace and bless the Lord for it. Then you will make your eternal profession...."

As a young professed, Sr. M. Clara traveled the valleys of the Dolomites in Italy with bags full of books to promote the cultural and Christian formation of the people she met. After her perpetual profession in Rome on March 19, 1959, she continued her itinerant apostolate in the great metropolis of Rome and in the Diocese of Como. In Milan, Sr. M. Clara helped at the distribution center for religious articles. In 1970 she began a ten-year assignment at the "Ut Unum Sint" Center in Rome. During this time, she was deeply involved in and committed to fostering the biblical formation of God's people. Sr. M. Clara, together with other sisters, devoted herself to the organization of various initiatives aimed at spreading knowledge of Sacred Scripture, especially through correspondence courses. The sisters prepared and mailed study guides that reached more than three thousand subscribers, maintained relations with the dioceses and developed ecumenical initiatives. This active participation in the Church's mission filled Sr. M. Clara's heart with joy.

In 1982 she was assigned to the Pauline Catechetical Center and then to the promotion and marketing office for the publishing house in Rome. Sr. M. Clara sensed the depth of our "teaching" vocation and nurtured a great desire to put her pen at the service of the Gospel. She worked on various editorial projects, particularly anthologies of papal thought and those of other authors. Among all of them, we remember the text "Tardi ti ho amato" ("Late Have I Loved You") which includes excerpts from the works of St. Augustine.

In 2015 Sr. M. Clara was transferred to the "Tecla Merlo" community in Albano to receive the appropriate care for her increasing needs due to age. May the Divine Master now hold her close in His tender embrace. As he admits her to her "eternal profession," may she enjoy those new things that God's creativity continually reveals. P Ome Mari Poursa

Affectionately,

Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, September 11, 2024