



Dearest sisters,

As 2024 ended, at 7 p.m. (local time) in the community of Albano, our sister was called to live in the joy of the kingdom of heaven:

**STREVA MARIA ROSA Sr. CATERINA MARIA**  
**born in Corleone (Palermo) on February 22, 1927**

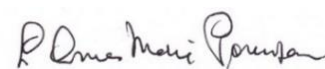
Sr. Caterina recounted with vivid delight the miraculous story of her survival during childbirth. The midwife, who believed the baby to be dead, had set her aside so she could attend to her critically ill mother. Indeed, Sr. Caterina's very existence from those earliest moments was nothing short of a miracle of grace.

She entered the congregation in Rome on March 26, 1949. The following year she joined the community of Foggia and with bags full of books the sisters spread the Gospel in families, schools, and factories. Sr. Caterina made her novitiate in Rome followed by her first profession, on March 19, 1952. Soon afterwards she was asked to continue the itinerant apostolate in Rovigo, Trapani, and Perugia. In 1962 she was assigned to Albano to help in the sewing room and to be the sacristan. With profound gratitude, she reminisced about selecting the appropriate silk for M. Thecla's coffin upon her passing in 1964. In 1970, M. Paola Cordero invited her to the United States to help in the sewing room and to be a driver for the propaganda outreach apostolate. But the following year she was back in Albano, in what would be her forever home. Sr. Caterina was serene, docile, and ready to perform those services the community needed most: tending the switchboard and reception desk, working in the sewing room where she also made medical gowns for the doctors, and driving her small car to perform many errands, including the transportation of blood.

Then for more than forty years, Sr. Caterina devoted herself to distributing laboratory test reports. She was tireless, did not care about schedules and used her small office to always manifest the beautiful and welcoming face of the hospital. Through her simplicity and gentle smile, she conveyed a deep and unwavering faith, expressing her "creed" with remarkable conviction. From the reception counter, she not only delivered lab reports but also built meaningful relationships and carried out true evangelization. One story Sr. Caterina often shared that had profoundly shaped her life, was about a pregnant woman who had decided to have an abortion. Sr. Catherine devoted all her energy to dissuade her, resulting in the birth of a beautiful baby girl—a child in whose life Sr. Catherine took immense pride.

In 2020, *Covid-19* caused her to retire from the small office that had opened her to the needs of all. The following year, she fell and broke her femur that resulted in her transfer to the skilled nursing ward. With great clarity, she decided not to undergo surgery due to her age and health condition. She offered up her suffering daily as preparation for the coming of the bridegroom. She loved to contemplate the crucifix, imagining herself as the good thief, repeating in her heart the words of the Master, "Today you will be with me in paradise." Sr. Caterina confided that in these very last years she had discovered the depth of the meaning of the Trinity and was happy knowing that her whole life had become a song of praise to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. She wrote this heartfelt letter, a true song of praise, to the Superior General and all the sisters scattered around the world: "God has chosen me to be part of the Pauline Family. The joy of having spent my life for the Divine Master is immense. I have received a hundredfold and now I await the prize in the Kingdom of Heaven. From heaven, I will intercede for vocations for the Pauline Family and for the whole Church. I will always be with you for the salvation of the entire world..." Through the offering and the witness of her life, may the Lord allow his face to shine upon all the peoples of the world and grant peace to all.

Affectionately,



Sr. Anna Maria Parenzan

Rome, December 31, 2024