



*"Faith in the resurrection
opens us to fraternal communion
beyond the threshold of death (RoL 24)*



Yesterday 1 July 2013 at 7:30 p.m.
at S. Pietro Fatebenefratelli Hospital of Rome,
Jesus Good Shepherd has handed over to the Father
DOMENICANGELA SR FRANCESCA SCANU
85 years old and 51 years of religious life

"Bless the Lord my soul, all my being bless his holy Name" (Psalm 103).

The words of this Psalm, which characterized the life of Sr. Francesca, express synthetically the simplicity of this Sister who lived for the Lord and his people.

Domenicangela was born on 18 August 1927 in Cabras (CA). Fourth of six children, she was baptized on August 28 of that same year. She was active in the parish where she matured the choice of religious life and entered the Congregation August 13, 1958 at Albano Laziale (RM) – Casa madre.

After the usual time of formation, Domenicangela was admitted to first profession, which she made on 3 September 1961 at Albano, taking the name of Sr. Francesca.

From 1961 she carried out the pastoral mission in Fonni (NU) until 1974. During her stay in this parish, she went back for a short period at Albano where she celebrated her perpetual on 3 September 1966.

After the experience of Fonni, she spent two years at Casa madre and obtained the Diploma in Kindergarten Education. In the school year 1976-1977 she had her period of apprenticeship in the parish kindergarten school of Gizzeria (CZ). Then she went back to Fonni as a kindergarten teacher, where she dedicated herself to the education of young girls and visiting the families, until 1980.

In that year, responding to the questionnaire sent to all the Sisters in preparation for the 3rd General Chapter, she wrote: *"I desire to live the apostolate in the parish where my superiors want to send me. I like to work in the kindergarten school and in the various parish activities, I love in particular teaching catechism, being with children and young people, and visiting the sick."*

With this availability, from 1980-2004, Sr. Francesca carried out her ministry in various parishes: S. Prospero sul Secchia (MO), Massa Martana (PG), Bussi sul Tirino (PE), Oristano, Doria (CS), Pannarano (BN), Collemaggiore (RI) and Samassi (CA).

In Massa Martana, she was also called to animate the community as Local superior for two terms. Always happy and smiling, Sr. Francesca was more inclined in practical matters, and she stood out for her loving commitment to the children and the poor. She had also special attention toward the sick and the elderly.

She lived with fidelity the pastoral charism through constant prayer and care in the fraternal life. She loved poverty and she consumed her life for the glory of God and the good of souls, actualizing with love the smallest daily acts. In joyful awareness that she received everything from the Lord, she expressed it this way in a letter to the Superior General: *"I have nothing to say but to thank you not only with words, but with all my heart and I desire to persevere in the good, spending all my life, giving my whole self with generosity."*

In 2004, some health problems forced her to retire at Albano casa madre for the necessary treatment. After an accurate diagnosis, it was found out that she had cardiac problems which weakened her progressively until limiting her physical autonomy.

In these last days, she was admitted in the hospital for medical tests in order to have a peace-maker. Unfortunately shortly before the surgery, her health condition suddenly worsened and the seriousness of the situation did not make possible the intended surgery.

She calmly prepared to meet the Lord and after receiving the Anointing of the Sick in full consciousness, she fell asleep in Him.

To the Sisters of Casa madre, who have been close to Sr. Francesca in her last illness, our gratitude for having accompanied her lovingly.

Sr. Francesca, now that you're part of the community of Heaven, remember us before the Father in this 75th year of our congregational history and in this time of preparation for the Centenary of the Pauline Family, so that we may all live a creative fidelity to the charism that the Blessed Alberione has passed on to us.

Sr Marta Finotelli
Superior general

Rome, 2 July 2013
Holy Martyrs of Cartagine