



*“Faith in the resurrection opens up fraternal communion beyond the threshold of death ...”. (RoL 24)*



Yesterday, 23 March 2015, at 1:15 pm  
in the community of di Albano Casa Madre  
**ANGELACHIARA SR LUIGINA FERRERI**

returned to the Father’s House;  
she was 87 years old and 67 years of religious life.

The liturgy of Monday of the Fifth week of Lent made us pray Psalm 23 with this invocation: *“Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side”*, and Sr. Luigina also certainly prayed it with trusting surrender, when Jesus Good Shepherd came to take her to the Father. On the whole, Sr. Luigina was well, she was a bit weak in the early morning, but nothing predicted a collapse due to cardiac arrest.

Angelachiara born on 14 May 1927 in Corvaro (RI) and was baptized on the same day. Hers is a beautiful family of devout Christians, enriched by six children, two boys and four girls, three of which are consecrated to the Lord as Pastorelle. The older sister, Benedetta, sr Vincenza in profession, entered the Congregation in January 1942 and Angelachiara followed after a few months, on 1° November 1942, in Genzano. In 1947 Giuseppina, sr Pasquina, followed the two sisters.

After the clothing ceremony, Angelachiara as a young postulant, was sent first to Farfa (RI) and then in Lavena Ponte Tresa (VA). They were the heroic years of our history that coincided with the Second World War, in which even the Pastorelle had to flee from Genzano to take refuge in the North, in Puos d'Alpago (BL), a thousand adventures and a lot of faith.

When the war was over, the group of Pastorelle went back to Genzano and Angelachiara was admitted to the novitiate on 5 January 1947 and still in Genzano, made her first profession on 6 January 1948, taking the name of Sr. Luigina. Immediately after profession she was entrusted with the pastoral mission in the community of Transacqua (TN), where she devoted herself to the care of the Catholic Action Group, catechesis and liturgy. In the pastoral year 1950/1951 she was back to Genzano as a student in order to qualify herself as teacher in the preparatory schools. The following year she was called by the Founder to open, along with three sisters, the community of Cinte Tesino (TN), which she was the superior. In September 1952 the community of Verona Borgo Milano was opened and Sr. Luigina remained there for three years as superior while doing also her apostolate especially in the parish Kindergarten.

At Borgo Milano, she was admitted to perpetual profession, which she celebrated on 6 January 1953 in Albano, in Via della Stella, where the Mother House was transferred from Genzano a few months earlier.

In 1955, she went back to the community of Transacqua where she served for ten years devoting herself, with her usual zeal, in the kindergarten and pastoral apostolate. In 1964 she was part of the community of Avellino and stayed there three years. After a break at Albano, Casa madre, in 1970 she was sent to Sestri Levante (GE) as superior and teacher in the parish Kindergarten.

In 1974 she was superior in Rieti Terminillo where she devoted herself to direct pastoral: catechesis, liturgical animation, visiting families. Sr. Luigina remained in Rieti Terminillo for 20 years until 1994, when she was sent to the community of Cittaducale, always in Rieti, where she carried out her apostolate in various forms of ministry. She remained there until 2005, when she returned to Albano casa madre, until yesterday morning, when the Lord called her to Himself.

Sr Luigina has a strong and determined character, passionate for the pastoral charism, which she breathed in contact with the Founder himself. Hers is a commanding presence, committed to communicate the spirit of the origins. Her long experience in the Congregation, especially in the beginning renders her a witness to the enthusiasm and hard work that have marked the journey of the Pastorelle.

In 1963, she wrote: *"Looking back, I reflect on many things, synonymous with sacrifice, but then I did with such enthusiasm and dedication. Praise the Lord because he is generous in grace. After more than twenty years since my entry Congregation, I can say still feel that enthusiasm of the beginnings and an increasingly strong attachment to the Institute."*

And in 2012, recalling the 70<sup>th</sup> year of her entry in the Congregation, she said: *"Obedience to the Charism led me to work in various parishes of Italy in the North and in the South. I prayed, worked and suffered, but always and all for the Lord. I was accompanied everywhere by the directives of the Founder whom I love as a father, because this has been for me. God of mercy, lead me on the path of holiness, and may I always seek what is true, good and just in order to be conformed to the image of your Son, Jesus Good Shepherd."*

Dear Sr. Luigina, thank you. We entrust you to the good, meek and humble heart of the Good Shepherd, and we ask you to pray for our Congregation, especially in this year dedicated to the Consecrated Life proclaimed by Pope Francis, so that we may be credible prophets of the infinite mercy of God.

Sr Marta Finotelli  
*Superior general*

Tirana, 24 March 2015

*Vigil of the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord*