



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



Today, 26 March 2024 at 3.15 pm
in the Mother House – Albano Laziale, our sister

ULIANA, Sr MARIA ROSARIA DI VIRGILIO

has parted this earthly life.

She was 84 years old and 57 years of religious life.

While we celebrate Holy Tuesday, and with the psalmist proclaim: *In you, Lord, I have taken refuge*, Sr Rosaria sealed her abandonment in the Lord after long days of suffering and at the culmination of a life entirely given in the pastoral ministry.

Uliana was born on 30 March 1939 in Cittaducale (RI) and was baptized on 30 April of the same year in her hometown parish dedicated to Santa Maria del Popolo. She entered the Congregation in Albano Laziale – Mother House on 3 September 1964 and the novitiate on 2 September 1965. She made her first profession on 3 September 1966, taking the name of Sr Maria Rosaria. After her first profession, she was sent to the community of Corinaldo (AN) and, after five years, she returned to Albano Laziale – Mother House, where she made her final profession on 3 September 1971.

Sr Rosaria is described, right from her initial formation, as a person of prayer and assiduous spiritual work; she was responsible, attentive to everyone, simple, objective, and balanced. She knew how to be in a community, and was sociable and kind to everyone. She was creative and zealous in the pastoral apostolate and before her final profession she expressed the desire to go to the missions. After her final profession, she stopped in Albano Laziale–Mother House for a study period. Sr Rosaria served as superior in some communities and lived her pastoral ministry mainly in catechesis, in the formation of pastoral workers and pastoral care of families in different realities: 1973 Medolla (MO); 1974 Castellamare - S. Antonio (NA); 1982 Pescara (PE); 1994 Axa – Novitiate Community (RM); 1998 Pescara (PE) and in 2022 she returned to Albano Laziale – Mother House, where she carried out various services until recently when she was suddenly struck by a cerebral hemorrhage, which from the beginning proved to be very serious.

The sisters testify: *Sr Rosaria was very welcoming towards everyone, even those who expressed different ideas to hers. She had a strong pastoral sensitivity, available to share and collaborate with priests, sisters, and lay people. She loved the beauty and harmony of liturgical signs, flowers, and the decorum of every setting. She liked to discuss pastoral care and learn about different experiences. Even though she remained in the same parish for many years, she could adapt to changes, making herself available to new ways of expressing herself in the apostolate, to take a step back to make room for others. She was good and delicate of soul, strong-willed, she loved prayer and community prayer, and to remain in deep listening to the Word.*

We thank the sisters of the community of Albano, and the staff for the loving, generous, and patient care they offered to Sr Rosaria in what was a difficult time for her, in need of constant and demanding care.

We entrust Sr Rosaria to the Father's Mercy and thank him for the gift of her life as a zealous and creative Pastorella in the pastoral ministry. We ask you, dearest Sr Rosaria, to intercede for the gift of Peace and vocations.

*Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes
Superior General*

Rome, 26 March 2024
Tuesday of Holy Week