



“Faith in the resurrection
opens us to fraternal
communion, beyond the
threshold of death”
(RdV 24)



Today 12 November 2018 at 03.45
at Negrar (VR), our sister
AMELIA SR M. ANGELICA SPEZZANI
returned to the Father’s House.

She was 89 years old and 65 years of Religious Life.

While as a Church we were singing with the Psalmist: *Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord*, the Father called our sister Angelica to himself, she who had always sought his face and who now contemplates it!

Amelia, the fourth of nine siblings, was born at Formigine (MO) on 30 December 1928 and baptized the following day in the Church of S. Maria of Magreta (MO). On 16 October 1950, she entered the Congregation at Genzano (RM). On 7 October 1953 at Massa Martana, after a course of Spiritual Exercises, Amelia, together with a group of first Pastorelle Sisters, made simple and public vows in the hands of Blessed Alberione, while remaining valid the date of the first private vows she made at Lusia (RO) on 12 June 1953. At her Religious Profession, she took the name of Sr M. Angelica.

Sr Angelica has been described as a sister of faith and prayer, measured in her words, having a strong and frank character both with herself and with others; capable of forgiving and asking for forgiveness. She was joyful and had a sense of humour. She loved the Congregation and willingly shared her life and experience in community. She cultivated her spiritual reading and was attentive to world events. She had a particular sensitivity for the marginalized and people in need of social aid. In her pastoral ministry, she favoured the care of families, the elderly and the sick to whom she brought comfort and support.

After her profession, Sr Angelica was sent to Cive di Correzzola (PD) as a kindergarten teacher. From 1956 to 1965, she served as community superior first in Consandolo (FE), then

in Longa (VI) and again in Consandolo. In 1966, she went to Medolla (MO) where she was again engaged in the education of children.

From 1969 to 1973, she lived in Albano Laziale – Mother House – studying for a diploma as a Social Worker. She put this ministry in good use in social and charitable pastoral work, especially in the cities of Bari (1973-1977) and Vicenza (1977-1994). In 1995, she had a sabbatical year in the community of Negrar and then continued her ministry in the province of Turin, Borgaretto (1996-2013).

She then transferred to Verona - Borgo Nuovo (2013-2016) to be part of the formative community that welcomed the first three juniors from Mozambique. They said of her: *“Sr Angelica is a sister who has enriched our formative journey with her presence, a prayerful presence and a witness of a life given to God and to our neighbour, despite her illness. We have seen her as her a sister who remembered and transmitted with gratitude all that she had received from the Founder and from the Congregation. The joy of her vocation was infectious, accompanied by her good sense of humour.”*

In 2017, due to the deterioration of her health, she transferred to the community of Negrar. The sisters there looked after her with great care, offering her days of serenity and supporting her in her trusting abandonment to the Good Shepherd, whom she loved and served in so many brothers and sisters during her pastoral ministry. We thank each sister for the love she poured on Sr Angelica. And as we entrust her to the Father's mercy, and give thanks for the gift of her life and vocation, we ask Sr Angelica to intercede for each Pastorella of the Italian Provinces who are preparing to receive the canonical visitation, the gift of the Spirit.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes
Superior General

Rome, 12 November 2018
Saint Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr