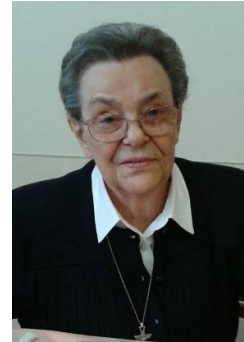




*“Faith in the resurrection
opens us to fraternal communion,
beyond the threshold of death”
(RdV 24)*



Today 12 July 2019 at 3.30 pm
at the Negrar hospital in Verona,
our sister **ANNA SR M. TIMOTEA BORCHIA**
returned to the Father’s House.

She was 88 years old and 62 years of Religious Life

The words of the psalmist proclaimed in today's liturgy: *Trust in the Lord and do good: then you will in the land and be secure* summarize the spirit of trust and abandonment to the Good Shepherd with which Sr Anna lived the vocation of Pastorella.

Anna, first of four sisters, was born in Gargagnago di Valpolicella (Verona) on 02 October 1930 and baptized in the parish of Santa Maria della Misericordia on 14 October of the same year. She entered the Congregation on 15 August 1953 in Albano Laziale - the Mother House, where she spent the first years of her formation and on 2 September 1956, she entered the novitiate. On 3 September of the following year, she made her first profession, taking the name of Sr M. Timotea and on 3 September 1962, she made her perpetual profession.

Sr Anna, mother Timotea as remembered by various people, was superior of the community for several years and was involved in pastoral ministry in the following parishes: from 1957 to 1960 in Corbola (RO). In 1960, she was in Alcamo (TP) and in 1962, she was in Lusina (RO). In 1967, she was sent back to Sicily, in Caltagirone (CT) where she remained until 1976.

From 1976 to 1984, she went to Todi (PG), to be involved especially in the pastoral care of families. In 1984, she had a sabbatical year in Tor san Lorenzo (RM) and resumed her pastoral activity the following year in Cittaducale (RI). From 1987 to 2004, Sr Anna made herself available for the service of reception in the former Generalate at Eur Mostacciano, Rome. In 2005, she ended her service in the Generalate and became part of the Community of Negrar (VR) where with great joy and generosity she carried out the service of dressmaking and reception up to yesterday, when due to a fall from the stairs she suffered a head injury, causing her death within hours.

A Pauline priest has described Sr Anna as follows: *A true Shepherdess, wise, serene, indeed joyful because she was in love with her vocation and mission. She had no other interest than to fully conform herself to his Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and to serve him with total dedication in the sisters, and in the specific work of tailoring. Her apostolate room was like a chapel for her, and she stayed there with the same spirit with which she spent long hours before Jesus in the Eucharist in church.* Sr Anna was assiduous in prayer, in allowing herself to be accompanied in a systematic way, in remembering the Primo Maestro and his indications to live our pastoral charism. In those parishes where she carried out her ministry, generally as superior of the community, she was highly esteemed because she was attentive to people and above all to the sisters of the community. Many remember mother Timotea precisely because of her maternal characteristic.

Her presence in the Generalate, in the service of hospitality and tailoring, conveyed a lifestyle of gratuitous and disinterested dedication, always giving a word of encouragement to those who approached her. There are many of us, Pastorelle, who wear uniforms sewn by Sr Anna with much love and care. We cherish with admiration the example she left to us of living simply, of poverty and assiduous in prayer, especially morning and afternoon prayer. Whoever arrived at the Generalate, from Italy and from overseas, received not only a warm welcome, but also the testimony of a woman who was happy with her vocation.

In 2005, a few months after her return to the Community in Negrar, she shared this with me: *From 7 October, I find myself in a community that is new for me, different, numerous. I have not been here long and what I do is a minimum thing: "dressmaker of the community". However, it is still sufficient to make the sisters happy and they show me great benevolence. I have time for myself, where I can read, pray, study, write, rest ... I have no difficulty occupying my time without wasting a single minute. Looking at things and people positively always helps me; I am grateful to the Lord for the many gifts he has given me and which he has reserved for me in this community.*

Let us entrust our Sister Anna to our Merciful Father and let us ask her intercession for the needs of the Church and, in particular, for fidelity for the vocations that the Good Shepherd has called to our Institute and for those who are on the path of vocational discernment. Thank you, Sister Anna, for your testimony of a joyful and motherly Pastorella.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes
Superior General

Rome, 12 July 2019