



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



Today 6 April 2018 at 10.20am

In the community of Albano Laziale (RM) – Mary Mother of the Divine Shepherd,

Our sister **RINA SAVINA SR ANTONIETTA COLTAMAI**

Returned to the Father's House.

She was 92 years old and 68 years of Religious life.

In this Easter Octave we entrust our sister Antonietta to the Father's Mercy with the words from the Sequence: "*Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining. Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!*" These words she prayed and witnessed in her daily surrender to the Good Shepherd, to his Mercy, and through her deep faith in the Resurrection.

Rina Savina was born on 30 March, 1926 at Tiser (Belluno) and was baptized the following day in the parish of St Bartholomew Apostle of Tiser. She was the seventh of eight children, three brothers and four sisters.

She entered the Congregation on 15 September 1944 at Puos D'Alpago (BL), in the middle of the World War II. In 1945 she was transferred to Massa Martana (PG) and subsequently to Marciana Alta (LI) and Bieno Valsugana (TN). She entered the novitiate on 6 January 1948 at Genzano (RM) and made her first profession on 26 September 1949 at San Pietro alle Acque (PG) taking the name of Sr Antonietta. She studied while at Genzano and in 1951 she was sent to Transacqua (TN) as superior of the community.

On 7 October 1953 at Massa Martana, after a course of Spiritual Exercises, Sr Antonietta, together with a group of the first Pastorelle sisters, professed the simple and public vows (while the date of the first private vows made in 1949 remained valid) at San Pietro alle Acque in the hands of our Founder, Blessed Alberione. The following year, exactly on 9 August 1954, she made her perpetual profession and in 1955 she was transferred to Verona - Borgo Milano, where she

remained until 1969 working as a kindergarten teacher. From 1969 to 1987 she carried out her pastoral ministry in Ancona, caring for families, and here she was also superior of the community.

In 1988 Sr Antonietta spent a year at Albano Laziale – Mother House, and in 1989 she was sent to Pannarano (BN) where she devoted herself to visiting families, especially the most needy. She returned to the Mother House in 1990 to perform various tasks. In 1994 she joined the community of Axa (RM) where, for twelve years, she devoted herself to family ministry, caring especially for people who lived alone. But she was most of all, a maternal and significant presence in the novitiate community that had been formed to serve the two Italian Provinces. Given her human and spiritual gifts, her docility and firmness, Sr Antonietta was able to form simple and profound relationships with the young women in formation.

From 2006 to this day this day, she was a member of the community "Mother Mary of the Divine Shepherd" at Albano Laziale, where she carried out various activities for as long as her health permitted. Throughout her apostolic life, Sr Antonietta, spread the perfume of meekness, simplicity and joy, together with love and discretion, patience and closeness. She was a sister of prayer, able to offer, serenely, the long period of sickness that saw her extinguish like a "candle consumed in God and for God".

The sisters who looked after her, described her as a sister who lived through the test peacefully. She was sensitive and docile and allowed herself to be taken care of without resistance and with a sense of gratitude towards those around her, simply wishing not to disturb anyone. Our gratitude to the sisters who over the years have looked after Sr Antonietta with generosity and love.

As we entrust our sister Antonietta to the Father's Mercy, the words of the psalmist in today's liturgy find an echo in our hearts: *"Give thanks to the Lord for the Lord is good, his love has no end"*. We give thanks to the Good Shepherd for the life given to our sister and for the love that he poured in her; a love that through her, spread also in many parishes and in many of our communities.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes
Superior General

Rome, 6 April 2018