



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



Today, 12 June 2021 at 05.00am,  
at Negrar di Valpolicella (VR) hospital, our sister

**ANGELINA, Sr FRANCA ORRO**

ended her life on earth.

She was 81 years old and 58 years of Religious Life.

*Bless the Lord, my soul and never forget all his benefits.* Together with the psalmist, let us raise our thanksgiving to the Good Shepherd for the gift of the life and vocation of Pastorella of Sr Franca; a life fully given in pastoral care and consumed to the end in the gift of self, even in this last period of her illness.

Angelina, the third of five children, was born on 02 February 1940 in Siamaggiore (OR) and baptized on 11 February of the same year in the parish of San Costantino in her native town.

She entered the Congregation on 07 November 1960 in Albano Laziale – Mother House; she began her novitiate on 02 September 1961 and made her first profession on 03 September 1962, taking the name of Sr Franca. After her profession, she spent a year in Transacqua (TN) and returned to Albano Laziale to devote herself to study, and again to Transacqua from 1965 to 1966 as a kindergarten trainee and then as a teacher.

After making her perpetual profession in Albano Laziale – Mother House on 03 September 1967, she went to Farra di Feltre (BL), also taking on the service of superior of the community. She went back to Albano Laziale in 1976 for further studies.

From 1978, she was mainly involved in the ministry of education in the community of Albiano (TN). In 1986, she was in Tor San Lorenzo for a sabbatical year after which she returned to Albiano, where in 1992 she was appointed superior. The sisters who lived with her in Albiano have left us this testimony: *Our community cannot forget your work, your dedication to our children. Our children have grown up with you by their side; you followed them in kindergarten, then in catechesis, in school camps, and in daily life. You have been with us for over twenty years and you once you told us that you spent more years in Albiano than in your home; we hope and believe that you felt truly at home here. You were always available; with delicacy and simplicity, you knew how to respond to every request for help, whether it was*

*that of a child, an adult or an elderly person. Furthermore, we cannot forget that for many years you were the soul, the fulcrum of the missionary group; you accompanied it with passion, you made it grow and you collaborated with all our missionaries.*

*Sr Franca is also described as a sister of prayer and a generous sister. She performed with a great spirit of sacrifice any task entrusted to her. She was simple, diligent, sociable, a lover of community life and always happy. She was frank, courageous and firm. She was a person of few words but she knew how to savour all that was beautiful and great. She was intelligent and creative and knew how to give life and do everything well. In prayer, she found her strength. She loved the Word of God which she meditated at length and in silence. She knew how to welcome, listen and counsel every person.*

In 2003, Sr Franca was transferred to Bettola di Peschiera Borromeo (MI) engaging in the pastoral care of families and in 2010 in Trento. In this latter community, she also fulfilled the role of superior starting from 2018. Since July 2019, she was part of the community of Verona, but in this period, having had some tests, she was diagnosed with a tumor and due to the deterioration of her situation, she had to transfer to the community of Negrar.

*Sr Franca revealed her heart of Pastorella in writing during a fraternal visit: The Good Shepherd has always been the guide and support of my life, in times of enthusiasm and in times of difficulties. The daily encounter with the Lord in the Word and in the Eucharist leads me to communicate with my brothers and sisters, in different ways and circumstances, his love for each of us. It is only as a community that it is possible to express the charism and the belonging to Jesus Good Shepherd, to the Congregation and together to live in faith and charity, always sustained by his grace.*

Dearest Sr Franca, you have gone to contemplate face to face the countenance of the Good Shepherd whom you loved throughout your almost sixty years of religious consecration. As we entrust you to the Father's mercy, we commend to your intercession, during this year dedicated to "Family Amoris Laetitia", the families of the world, that they may be supported in safeguarding life.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes  
Superior General

Rome, 12 June 2021  
The Immaculate Heart of Mary