



*"Faith in the resurrection  
Opens us to fraternal communion  
beyond the threshold of death..."  
(RoL 24)*



Today, 26 October 2017 at 10.00am  
in the community of Negrar (VR),  
our sister **MARIA SR IGNAZIA POMARO**  
returned to our Father's House.  
She was 87 years old and 60 years of Religious Life.

In the 60th year of her Religious Profession, and on this day, as we proclaimed with the psalmist: *"Blessed is the person who trusts in the Lord"* and listened to St Paul's exhortation: *"you get a reward leading to your sanctification and ending in eternal life"*, our Father called our sister Ignazia to the fullness of this reward. To contemplate forever the face of the Good Shepherd.

Maria was born on 23 October 1930 in Cavazzana-Lusia (RO) and baptized on 9 November of the same year in Cavazzana, in the parish of San Lorenzo, deacon and martyr. Maria came from a large family. She was the fifth of ten children, six brothers and three sisters.

She entered the Congregation on 11 February 1953 at the Stella, the place where our religious family moved from Genzano to Albano Laziale from 1952 until the spring of 1953, before the definitive transfer to the present Mother House of Albano where Maria did her initial formation.

She entered the novitiate on 3 September 1956 and on Christmas of the same year, she expressed her gratitude for the wonderful grace of entering the novitiate and her wish: *"I would love to go to the missions"*. At the end of the novitiate, she made her first profession on 3 September 1957 and took the name of Ignazia. Her formators described her as a "generous person who loved

sacrifice and loved the Congregation. She was gifted with a practical intelligence and a strong character and was resourceful”.

After the first profession, she joined the apostolic communities of Conche of Codevigo (PD) and Gizzeria (CZ). At the end of her temporary vows, Sr Ignazia asked admission to her perpetual profession. She wrote, *“I am aware of my fragility, but I trust in God’s help and in his grace. I long with great joy for the 3 September when I shall consecrate myself totally to God”*. She made her perpetual profession on 3 September 1962.

From 1965 to 1979, she was involved in pastoral ministry in the community of St Nicola da Crissa (VV) where she taught in kindergarten and held the position of superior for two consecutive terms. In 1979, she moved to Lignano Sabbiadoro (UD), where she continued her preschool teaching. In 1983 she lived a sabbatical year in the house of Tor San Lorenzo (RM) and subsequently remained there performing various tasks. In 1989, she moved to Medolla (MO) and in 1994, she went to Verona at the Provincialate.

Though apparently still strong, Sr Ignazia began to accuse serious bone problems and in particular a form of arthritis that progressively restricted her movements and caused her constant pain. Consequently, in 1996 she transferred to Negrar, the home for the care of our elderly and sick sisters. In the early years, when her health still permitted, she taught catechism, was lively and kept updated even through the reading of the daily newspaper.

In recent days, Sr Ignazia suffered a drastic diminishing of strength and a febrile state, a condition that gradually led her to a serene abandonment of herself in the arms of our merciful Father.

We thank the sisters who with so much patience and love cared for Sr Ignazia during her long time of infirmity.

As we commend our sister Ignazia to the mercy of God, let us ask for her intercession for the needs of the Church and of our Congregation, and in particular pray for a creative fidelity in living today our pastoral ministry.

*Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes*  
Superior General

Rome, 26 October 2017  
St Evaristus, Pope & martyr