



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



Yesterday 15 July 2018 at 1.45pm  
at the Regina Apostolorum Hospital in Albano Laziale (RM),  
our sister **ADDOLORATA SR MARIA ROSA PALMA**  
returned to the Father’s House.  
She was 86 years old and 68 years of Religious Life

In this XV Sunday of Ordinary Time, while invoking with the psalmist the Lord’s mercy, our sister Maria Rosa has returned to the Father’s House.

Addolorata, third of seven siblings, was born in Veroli, in the province of Frosinone, on 2 November 1931, and in the same year, on the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, she was baptized at Sant’Angelo in Villa (FR) in San Michele Arcangelo’s parish. She entered the Congregation on 16 November 1945 at Genzano (RM) and after five years, on 14 August, she entered the novitiate at San Pietro alle Acque (PG).

In the following year, she was sent to Lusia (RO) as an embroidery teacher, manifesting a definite talent for it. On 7 October 1953 at Massa Martana, after a course of spiritual exercises, Sr Maria Rosa, together with a group of the first Pastorelle sisters, made her simple and public vows - remaining valid the date of the first private vows made on 15 August 1951 - at San Pietro alle Acque in the hands of Blessed Alberione. On 10 August 1956, she made her perpetual profession at Albano Laziale, in the Mother House. From the first years of her formation, Sr Maria Rosa showed her love for the Institute and for the pastoral apostolate which she performed with particular closeness to people and a care for relationships. She was someone with a good and gentle heart; smiling and welcoming and gifted in music.

From 1956 to 1966 she carried out her pastoral ministry in the communities of Cassina De’ Pecchi (MI), Medolla (MO), Longa (VI) and Avellino as a kindergarten teacher. In 1965 and in 1975 she returned to Albano Laziale – Mother House, as a student to train as a teacher and then to obtain a diploma in general nursing. From 1967, she served as superior in the community of Rossano Calabro (CS). And from 1978 to 1994, she was engaged both in kindergarten teaching and in the pastoral care of families in various places: Cittaducale (RI), Capoliveri (LI) and Castellammare (NA).

For more than twenty years, Sr Maria Rosa suffered from chronic hepatitis which developed into cirrhosis of the liver, but despite her poor health, she continued to carry out her apostolic ministry in Pannarano (BN), Pieve di Campo (PG), Napoli and Pescara. In the recent past, due to a worsening of her physical condition, Sr Maria Rosa had to leave the community of Pescara and transfer to the community of Mary Mother of the Divine Shepherd, in Albano Laziale, where she would be well cared. Due to the advanced state of cirrhosis of the liver, combined with other serious issues, it became necessary to have her admitted. However, a kidney failure aggravated her situation and slowly caused her death. Aware of the seriousness of her condition, but still serene, before going into hospital to prepare herself for her definitive encounter with the Lord, Sr Maria Rosa requested the anointing of the sick.

We thank the Lord for the life of our sister Maria Rosa and to her we entrust the journey of the Church, our Congregation and the Pauline Family, which she has loved and served with joy. We also wish to thank the sisters from Albano for the loving care shown towards Sr Maria Rosa.

*Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes*  
Superior General

Sung Yang – China 16 July 2018