



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



Today, 12 August 2020 at 12 midday  
in the hospital of Negrar (VR), our sister  
**GIUSTINA SR MAURIZIA FLAIM**  
returned to the Father's House.  
She was 78 years old and 57 years of Religious Life

The Collect from today's liturgy, *O God, source of all communion (...), give us your Spirit, bond of perfect unity, that it may transform us into the new humanity*, expresses Sr Maurizia's sense of belonging to Jesus Good Shepherd. Also, the value of the community as a place of fraternity and communion where she faced her illness with serenity and courage, allowing Grace to transform her and be clothed with the new humanity.

Giustina, the second of seven children, including a priest, was born on 27 November 1941, in Colle Isarco, a small village of the Municipality of Brennero (BZ) and baptized on 3 December 1941 in the Parish of Colle Isarco of the Diocese of Bressanone.

In Albano Laziale-Mother House: she entered the Congregation on 19 April 1960, the novitiate on 2 September 1961 and she made her first profession on 3 September 1962, taking the name of Sr Maurizia. She made her perpetual profession on 3 September 1967.

In her letter of application for admission to the "vestition" she wrote, *I have found here a very welcoming environment and a formation that is just the right nourishment for me to become a saint*. And, in her letter requesting admission to the first profession, she manifested the following motivation: *To belong to the Congregation, consecrating my whole life to God for my sanctification and that of my neighbour, humbly helping the Pastors of souls*.

Maurizia is described as a faith-filled sister, prayerful and of great generosity in the pastoral ministry. She was a strong believer in the "street" apostolate and showed sensitivity especially towards situations of suffering and was easy to empathize with the weakest.

She faced her illness with courage and trust, always eager to know everything and to give meaning to her time of suffering which she lived with serenity and without ever withdrawing into herself. She cultivated a sense of humor and never gave up the will and the inquisitiveness to update herself on the pastoral options and situations of families in difficulty.

Straight after her profession, Sr Maurizia was sent to Bevazzana (UD) as a cook. She returned to Albano Laziale-Mother House in 1968 to devote herself to study. She carried out her ministry in kindergarten teaching in various places: from 1969 in Vicenza-Immaculate Heart; in 1978 in Bettola di Peschiera Borromeo (MI); from 1979 in Milano-Viale Lazio; from 1984 in Vicenza-"Fiorasi"; from 1988 in Torino-San Giulio.

She had two sabbatical years: one in 1987 in Tor San Lorenzo (RM) and one in 1995 in Negrar (VR). She was involved in the pastoral care of families from 1996 at Castel D'Azzano (VR) and from 2005 at Verona-Borgo Milano. She served as superior in three communities: in Vicenza from 1976, in Castel D'Azzano (VR) from 1996 and in Verona-Borgo Milano from 2008. From 2010, she made herself available for the various needs of the Provincial community of Verona. In 2013 she resumed her pastoral ministry dedicating herself to the elderly and the sick in Borgaretto (TO) and from 2017 in Mantova-Frassino.

We thank all the sisters and in particular the communities of Mantova and Verona who took loving care of Sr Maurizia during her time of sickness.

Dear Sr Maurizia, you left us for the Father's House just as the Church prayed the Angelus, and the Congregation is preparing to celebrate the feast of Mary Mother of the Good Shepherd. As we commend you to the Father's mercy, we thank him for the gift of your vocation. We entrust to you the journey of the Church and of the Congregation, so that like the Mother of the Good Shepherd we too may respond to the cries of suffering humanity with a generous and faithful yes.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes  
Superior General

Rome, 12 August 2020  
*Saint* Herculanus, Bishop