



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



Today, 10 July 2020 at 3.00pm  
in the community of Negrar (VR)  
our sister, **TERESA SR MADDALENA FLORIS**  
returned to the Father’s House.  
She was 84 years old and 60 years of Religious Life

As we entrust our Sister Teresa to the Father's Mercy, we hear the words of the refrain of the psalm from today's liturgy resound on her lips: *My mouth, Lord, will proclaim your praise.* A praise that manifests the spirit of prayer that has characterized her.

Teresa was born on 05 April 1936 in Villasimius (CA) and baptized on 19 April of the same year in the parish of St Raphael Archangel of her native town. She entered the Congregation in Albano Laziale–Casa Madre (RM) on 11 September 1956 and started her novitiate on 02 September 1958. She made her first profession on 03 September 1959, taking the name of Sr Maddalena and five years later, on the same date of the first profession, made her perpetual profession.

Straight after the first profession she was sent to different locations in Italy where she mainly carried out the educational ministry in kindergarten: 1959 in Fonnì (NU) as a teacher; 1960 in Ferrere d'Asti (AT) where she fulfilled various tasks; from 1961 in Capoliveri (LI) as a cook; from 1974 in Albano Laziale–Casa Madre to devote herself to study; 1976 in Todi (PG) for a year of training in kindergarten; in 1977 in Bettola di Peschiera Borromeo (MI) as a teacher; 1979 in Camparada (MB) where she performed various activities; from 1980 in Corbola (RO) as a teacher; 1983 in Tor San Lorenzo (RM) for a sabbatical year; 1984 in Sestri Levante (GE) still dedicated to teaching; in 1995 in Negrar (VR) where she performed various tasks at the service of the community; from 1997 in Verona-Borgo Milano and in 2006 in Trento-Tambosi engaged in family ministry. In 2009, she returned to the community of Negrar where she stayed until today.

Sr Teresa is described as a simple and generous Pastorella who loved the apostolate with families and especially with those most in need. She participated in personal and community

prayer punctually, leaving us a testimony of daily fidelity. In recent times, despite the precariousness of her health, she tried to be present especially at the recitation of the Rosary that gathered the community at noon to pray for all the intentions of the Congregation, the Church and the whole world. She also gladly took part in those times when the sick sisters met with the other sisters in the community for some relaxing and spiritual moments. Sr Teresa was a significant presence in the community and as far as she could and her health allowed it, she was available for small daily services. She was grateful and thankful whenever she received some help, reciprocating with small crocheted or knitted handicrafts.

In the year 2000, she was diagnosed with a tumour, but Sr Teresa fought with great strength though at times human frailty became more manifest. We thank the sisters who, with great generosity and love, have looked after and supported her, especially in these last days of her illness. We thank the Good Shepherd for the gift of the vocation of Sr Teresa and we entrust to her intercession the Congregational journey that sees us intent *on welcoming from the Spirit and, like Mary, living the gift of the prophecy of pastoral motherhood, encountering suffering humanity* tested by the pandemic.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes  
*Superior General*

Rome, 10 July 2020