



Dear Sisters,

Today, March 16, 2016, at 2:00 AM (local time), at the University Hospital of *Mayor - Méderi*, Bogotá (Columbia), the Divine Master found prepared for his coming, our sister,

SR. M. TARCISIA – ARACELI PACHECO CAMARGO
born on April 27, 1943, Combita, Boyaca (Columbia).

Araceli entered the Congregation in Bogotá on February 10, 1959, with the enthusiasm and freshness of a sixteen-year-old. Following the novitiate she made her first profession on March 25, 1963, and her perpetual profession on March 25, 1968, both in Bogotá. In her request for admission to the various stages, there is a notable emphasis on her great spirit of sacrifice, her love for the apostolate and for the Congregation.

She was a sister especially zealous in the apostolate: at various times she was engaged in the Liturgical Apostolate Center, or responsible for the apostolate at the regional level. She was local superior for various mandates: in 1975 she was the local superior for the community at the Society of St. Paul in Bogotá, accepting with faith the difficulties of that mission. The Pauline priests remember her with gratitude and affection for her great dedication and kindness. She always went to meet their needs, especially for the newest arrivals. In 1982 she was the superior at Medellín; in 1988 she was in Bogotá; in 1991 she was regional councilor and in 1994, Superior in Quito (Ecuador). In 2001 she was responsible for CRAL and in 2004 she was also regional councilor. In 2005 she was in the community of Cali, and in 2011 at the Liturgical Apostolate Center in Medellín. She was then assigned to Quito, until it became necessary for her to return to Bogotá for health reasons.

Sr. M. Tarcisia was sensitive to beauty: a point of pride for her was that the Liturgical Apostolate Centers privileged and offered primarily “our things”, that is, our own productions characterized by beauty and prayer. She fostered the liturgical area and was friendly toward the people. She had special attention for the priests who were “clients”, and directed the people to the chapel; where the adoration was taking place, and which was accessible from the Centers. She, together with other sisters, is credited with the promotion of drawing attention to the native culture, channeling for the apostolate the weaving skills of the native Indians. This gave origin to stoles and chasubles in a variety of lively colors, that are characteristic of the culture, brought to the dignity of liturgical vestments, especially in Ecuador where she was assigned as a missionary for various mandates.

Enthusiastic for the initiatives of the Congregation, she had a special gift for believing and fulfilling the projects of the Province, with trust in Divine Providence and especially in the assiduous work of the sisters, which she helped organize. She collaborated in fostering within the Province the positive aspect of poverty, as intended by Blessed James Alberione. As one of the first Columbian vocations, she appreciated all of the occasions for doing good that the Lord in his

Providence offered to the communities. She had a special eye for locating areas suitable for the Liturgical Centers and houses, for the new constructions. With extraordinary energy, she gave her qualified support, facing with hope the inevitable sacrifices, for the construction of the new houses of Cali and Medellín. Sr. M. Tarcisia leaves us in the heart of the novena to St. Joseph: in this coincidence, we recall the words of consolation that God spoke for the Province of Columbia/Ecuador. Sr. M. Esperanza, the Provincial Superior, wrote: “*See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In the desert I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers*” (Is 43:19). With this biblical verse we can summarize the vocational journey of Sr. M. Tarcisia, who was always enterprising, and promoting creativity and novelty in the area of the apostolate, as well as being attentive to the newness of God in her life. She integrated the sorrow and struggles of the journey of discipleship with courage and in silent offering. We wish to express our gratitude to Sr. M. Tarcisia for her dedication, her commitment, and her apostolic energy throughout her life and for her fortitude in this month of particular suffering. We are grateful to her family who remained near her during the time of her illness. Lately she was required to face several surgical interventions: for a brain tumor; then for an intestinal hemorrhage; and then renal complications. Sr. M. Tarcisia, aware of the gravity of her condition, willingly accepted the will of God for her. We entrust to her intercession the vocations and apostolic energy of the Columbia/Ecuador Province”.

Live, Sister, in joy and communion with God, filled with Mercy!

Sr. M. Paola Mancini

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