



Dear Sisters,

Today, October 3, 2017, at 10:35 AM, in the Divine Master Community of Albano Laziale (RM), our Lord and Master found prepared for the eternal Passover our sister,

**SR. M. LORETTA - LORETA ROSETTA MARAN**

**BORN ON FEBRUARY 17, 1949, IN PIAZZOLA S/B (PD) - ITALY.**

Raised in a united and profoundly Christian family, Loreta entered the Congregation in Rome on June 27, 1970, at just over 20 years of age. She was a promising young woman with an intense experience of parochial life, Catholic Action, as a catechist and as a member of the pastoral council. From the age of 15, she had the experience of almost annual retreats of prayer and silence, and was accompanied in her vocational discernment by the pastor, who had the vocational booklet from the 1950's entitled "*Membra vive e operanti*" [*Living and active members*], presenting the Sister Disciples. From this Loreta understood the vivacity of the spirit of the Institute with its foundational freshness. She herself affirmed: "*The adoration has a universal breath as the source of grace and of light for the Church and her apostolic mission, Jesus present in the Eucharist, the love and service to the priesthood were apostolates I perceived from my first contact with a community of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master, and I was immediately attracted*" (*Santiago August 3, 1988*).

Upon completion of the initial formation, she made her religious profession in Rome on March 24, 1973, and her perpetual profession on March 24, 1979, also in Rome. After profession she spent some years in Cinisello Balsamo (MI), dedicated to studies in art. She then began her apostolic life at the Liturgical Apostolate Center in Florence, working in silkscreen in Rome, at the Society of Saint Paul in Rome, and as a collaborator in the Liturgical Apostolate Center in Trento. From 1983 to 1986 she studied Liturgy at the Lombardy Regional Institute and dedicated herself to vocational animation in the Diocese of Milan. In 1985 she was asked to broaden her horizons and was sent to Chile. There she was responsible for the formation and novice mistress for a small group of young women. In the apostolic field, she fostered the artistic-liturgical area and creativity. In 1993 she was elected General Secretary and returned to Italy. In 2003 she was the local superior in the Casa Gesu Maestro in Rome and then in the Casa Madre Scolastica. In 2006 she was asked to return to missionary activity as the delegate superior in Spain. She returned to Rome in 2009, where she assisted the General Secretary as a registrar.

In the story of her call to be a Sister Disciple, she wrote: "*My vocational story is the story of God's love for me, of his patience, his mercy, his tenderness, and of my response, my following in faith and love, of trust and abandonment, with all the positive and negative nuances of a created being. I can say that I never doubted my vocation as a Sister Disciple, which I have always loved, and given thanks to God for this great gift. However, I have had fears and resistances, but the Lord, in his love, has always been stronger and overcame all of my fears and resistances*". In her life, Sr. M. Loretta had gradually developed a profound attitude of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord, which she also expressed in her correspondence: "*My entire being rests in peace and joy: in peace because everything comes from Him who has always designed and guided my journey. This I feel, and this I believe, because I have sought to live every step of my life with Him. And in joy, because I feel that the Lord is with me, because I love the Congregation and desire to serve where he has placed me*" (*Santiago, April 27, 1993*). She felt that the Magnificat became her prayer and she desired to repeat it with Mary for the wonders the Lord had done in her life. She concludes her vocational story: "*I do not know the journey that lies ahead, but I know that every moment, every breath of my life, is and will be for the Lord and for the mission he has entrusted to me and to bear witness that the Lord is good and great in love, that he never disappoints, but always fulfills his promise and every work beyond our plans and expectations. I ask him to keep me in fidelity, in joy, and in the total gift of life in the mission and then...continue to live with him for all eternity!*" (*February 10, 2014*).

In March of 2016 she was diagnosed with an aggressive abdominal tumor. The treatments did not have the desired results, and today brought her to the peaceful fulfillment of her earthly life, comforted by the Sacraments, by prayer, and the presence of the community. The life of Sr. M. Loretta, oriented toward that which is essential and open to the mission, bears witness to evangelical discipleship in the spirit of the 9<sup>th</sup> General Chapter. The sisters from the various nations who encountered her expressed their emotional participation, promising prayers of suffrage. To her intercession we entrust the journey of our Family of Disciples and the discernment of the Province of Italy for the new government.

*S. H. Paolo Haucium.*