



Dear Sisters,

Today, July 20, 2014, at 7:30 AM, as the community of Sanfre (CN) began the Eucharistic Celebration on the Lord's Day, the Divine Master called to himself our sister

**SR. M. DOLORES CALIGIURI – MARIA ANTONIETTA**  
**born in Bocchigliero (Cosenza) on November 25, 1920.**

Barely more than twenty years of age, Antonietta entered the Congregation of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master on August 25, 1942, during the Second World War. The youngest of seven children, she did not allow herself to be intimidated by the difficulties the nation at war was experiencing. She left her family and her land to follow the call of the Divine Master. She went to Rome, to the community with the Society of St. Paul, where she found the Sister Disciples and joined the others in formation. She immediately demonstrated that she was decided, with a strong will, and for her behavior was singled out as an example for the group of postulants. In his introduction, the pastor affirmed that this young woman had always shown solid piety, great zeal and irreproachable moral conduct, distinguishing herself and excelling among the youth in the Catholic Action group to which she belonged.

On March 24, 1944, at the Mother House in Alba (CN), she entered the novitiate and the following year, on March 25, 1945, she made her religious profession. In 1950, at the conclusion of her period of temporary vows, she made her perpetual profession in Alba on March 25.

Her religious life developed in manner that was simple and linear, in the silence and service that characterized her exercise of the various apostolic forms: with the Pauline communities of Turn (1946), in Carenno (Lecco) in 1948, in Rome (1950), in Modena (1951). In 1955 she is at the Society of St. Paul in the touching up department.

She was diligent in the distribution of the good press, as were all the first generations of Sister Disciples: in Alba, immediately after her first profession, and in Milan in 1945.

When, thanks to the guidance of Mother Scholastica and Mother M. Lucia Ricci, the liturgical apostolate with its workrooms and liturgical apostolate centers spread, there was Sr. M. Dolores, ready in obedience to offer her service: in 1954 at the Center in Bologna, then in the workrooms for sewing in the Mother House of Alba.

Her versatility enabled her to step over the threshold: in 1961 she was sent to France, where she remained until 2006, when she was forced to return to Italy for health reasons and welcomed in the community of Sanfre. Her years of missionary service in France were spent in various communities: Nogent Sur Marne and Toulouse, in prayer and in service, conscious of her specific vocation that placed her at the roots of the plant that the great tree of the Pauline Family might bear life-giving fruit.

On the vigil of the profession she was asked: "Why do you want to make profession?"

"Because I want to become holy, and the elevator for holiness is the profession: this is what I desire so much", she replied. In the simplicity of her life she cultivated this high ideal of the Christian life wherever she went.

When she was diagnosed with cancer of the stomach and her health declined, it was necessary to transfer from Nogent Sur Marne to the infirmary in Sanfre. She prepared herself to accept this transfer in obedience, although with great suffering for the detachment this required.

She was aware that the time had come for her to prepare for “the final journey”. She wrote to the Superior General: “My health is discreet. I live in community and when possible give a hand to those who are unable to do so, I do this willingly”. “I try to remain alert and vigilant for the hour in which the one who is to come will arrive. Yes, I remain alert and faithful in prayer...”

This is the attitude that characterized her also in this final period, even with the decline in her health: alert and faithful. This is witnessed also by the sisters of the community who went to visit her this morning at the first light of dawn. She was aware that she was at the threshold and participated with a weak but clear voice in the prayer of those who were beside her, keeping vigil with her in this final passage.

Sr. M. Dolores, now that you have been received into eternal life, intercede for us, for the new generations of Disciples of Jesus Master, for the Juniors preparing for perpetual profession, that they may cultivate the desire for holiness that sustained you, and which you lived in fidelity to your vocation.

*Sr. M. Michaela Roneth'*