



Dear Sisters,

We are experiencing the preparedness and vigilance of the Gospel, as Jesus instructs us: *“Let your belts be fastened around your waists and your lamps be burning ready”* (Lk 12:35). Yesterday, October 20, 2014, at 6:10 PM (local time), in San Camilo Clinic (Buenos Aires), the Bridegroom arrived for our sister

**Sr. M. Fiorangela Mercedes Goto,  
born on April 20, 1938, in Misiones (Argentina).**

A mature and conscientious young woman, Mercedes entered the Congregation in Buenos Aires on March 15, 1962. In a letter to M. M. Lucia Ricci, Superior General at that time, she said: *“I am Argentinean, but because my parents are Japanese, I feel that their country is part of my life and, therefore, when I heard that you were in Japan I experienced great joy. My mission is to pray for Japan and on an occasion like this I pray in a special way that you may be able to fulfill all the good desired by Jesus Master...Greetings to all the Japanese sisters”* (to Sr. M. Lucia Ricci, Buenos Aires, July 5, 1970). Mother M. Scholastica Rivata, the superior in Argentina when Mercedes entered as an aspirant, described her as: a young woman who is *“serene, reflective, sociable, intelligent, responsible, capable of initiative and one who truly loves the Congregation.”*

She was sent to Rome for her novitiate, at the conclusion of which she made her first profession on March 25, 1965. Upon her return to Argentina she worked in the sewing ministry. She made her perpetual profession in the Cathedral Church of Posadas (Misiones) on August 15, 1971. In her request for admission she manifested her desire to rely upon the Lord’s grace. Sr. M. Redenta Alessi, the superior in Argentina at that time, wrote in her report prepared for the admission of Mercedes to the perpetual vows: *“She is active, generous, silent, responsible in the fulfillment of her duties in the apostolate, trustworthy in everything. She understands well her vocation and mission, loves the Congregation, and is docile to every disposition. She is very faithful to the practices of piety, content to take her turn in adoration at any hour, loves the community life and seeks to make it sociable and joyful. She willingly renounces to her own desires in order to please her neighbor. She would be a good mother”* (January 13, 1971). Throughout her journey as a Sister Disciple these vocational values were confirmed by her daily choices. She was entrusted with various positions of responsibility, to which she corresponded well. In 1972 she is Postulant Mistress; then her services were requested in the government as Secretary and Regional Councilor (1974). She was local superior at Buenos Aires for 2 terms (1977, 1981), where she spent most of her life. From 1982, with some breaks in other general services, she was the regional or provincial treasurer, always with that characteristic scrupulosity that she manifested since the beginning of her religious life and always ready for the most hidden tasks. From 1992 to 2000 she served 2 terms as local superior in Cordoba.

Her love for the Congregation is also evident in the news which emerge from her correspondence: *“The Divine Master has blessed us with two perpetual professed and, on March 25, a novice will make her first profession: we are also hopeful that two young women will request to enter with us”* (to M. M. Lucia Ricci, Cordoba, January 31, 1995). Her interest in the apostolate lead her to promote and sustain the apostolic initiatives: *“With Sr. M. Margarita F. I am sending the first-fruits of our productions in onyx. The craftsman who works for us listens to our*

*suggestions; this is a person with whom we can dialogue” (to Sr. M. Rosalia Rossetti, April 21, 1988).*

Sr. M. Fiorangela was the victim of a terrible traffic accident which led to irreversible brain damage which caused brain death. Her two sisters and her brother were soon present and edifying for their faith, peace, and dignity in the face of her dramatic passage to eternal life.

Sr. M. Regina Cesarato, Superior General, sent her condolences from Camaldoli, on behalf of all of us.

*“Dear Sr. M. Josefina and sisters of the Delegation of Argentina, I am in Camaldoli with the Juniors participating in the trimester in preparation for the perpetual profession. It is here that I received the news of the serious accident and the passage of Sr. M. Fiorangela Goto to eternity. I want to assure you of my and our prayer in this time of trial. Do not be afraid. Jesus Master is present with the strength of his Resurrection. We are in the novena of his solemnity and this mysterious passage of his Visit will assist you in becoming his disciples and apostles with greater depth and totality in your offering. Together let us renew our faith, without doubting.*

*I give thanks to the Lord for the gift of the life of Sr. M. Fiorangela in Argentina and for the gift of the life and offering of each one of you. Let us offer suffrages for this sister and she will intercede before God for your needs for vocations, holiness and apostolate. I greet you affectionately on behalf of all. Encourage one another in charity and sustain one another with words of faith. Greetings for the coming Solemnity of Jesus Master!”.*

Sr. M. Fiorangela has left us the gift of her smile and her capacity to find the positive aspects of each person.

May the Divine Master, the fullness of your life as a Disciple, fill you with the gift of his countenance!

*S. H. Paolo Mancini*