



Dear Sisters,

Yesterday, August 4, 2014, at 3:20 PM local time, in our community of Mexico City, D.F., the Lord called to eternal life our sister:

**Sr. M. Juanita Petra Quiroz Robledo,
born on June 17, 1936, in Juchitepec, State of Mexico.**

The name Petra, which she received at Baptism, always made her aware of being a living stone in the building of the Kingdom of God. She entered the Congregation in Mexico City on May 13, 1956, and after the novitiate, she made her first religious profession on January 6, 1960. Always in Mexico City, she consecrated her life to God with the perpetual profession on January 6, 1965.

In the first years of her religious life she was particularly impressed by Mother M. Oliva Cattapan and the other missionary sisters in Mexico as models of the love for Jesus Christ and for the Congregation. She saw them as persons from whom she could learn to know God better and to love him and neighbor. They lead her to the imitation of Mary and of the saints venerated by the Pauline Family, through the fulfillment of the mission.

Sr. M. Juanita carried out her apostolate as a Sister Disciple primarily through the priestly ministry in the Pauline houses in Guadalajara and in Mexico City. She also collaborated in the Liturgical Apostolate Center of Guadalajara and in various ministries. She also spent some years with her family, with the regular permission for exlaustration, as she assisted her elderly mother until her death in 1998; at which time she returned to the community. During this time she wrote that she prayed many rosaries together with her mother for the needs of the entire world. She committed herself to bring the Eucharist to 7 persons who were ill and offered her service of liturgical animation in the parish, especially through singing.

On behalf of the sisters in Mexico, the provincial superior remembers her in this way: "During her religious life, Sr. M. Juanita lived the spirit of the Beatitudes: with simplicity of spirit, purity of heart, a joyful heart, with hunger and thirst for God which she transmitted to those around her. She had the gift of establishing friendships and cultivating them for the growth of the person in the faith and confidence in Jesus Master. Her love for the Eucharist, the priesthood and the liturgy, sprang from her intimate relationship with God in prayer. She was always faithful to the daily Eucharistic adoration. She loved to compose and sing hymns to her Master and creatively and joyfully guided the adoration for the community on some Thursdays dedicated to prayer for vocations. She distinguished herself by her great love for the brothers of the Society of St. Paul, and her spiritual maternity was clearly evident. She exercised the priestly ministry by living it with joy and happiness for this great gift, even if this entailed many sacrifices and mortifications that Sr. M. Juanita assumed with courage, greatness of heart and a growing love for her vocation. Filled with gratitude for God's loving design in her life, she never forgot the persons who assisted her in various ways. She was always content that she had consecrated her life to God from an early age so that she could offer it completely to the Divine Master. In her last days, Sr. M. Juanita, who had been suffering from adenocarcinoma of the thyroid for 9 years, prepared herself for the final meeting with the Divine Master by detaching herself from everything. She received the Sacraments of the Anointing of the Sick, Reconciliation and Viaticum, and succumbing to a heart attack, she concluded her earthly pilgrimage in serenity and peace. We give thanks for the gift of this sister's life to the Congregation."

Let us receive these words of Sr. M. Juanita as a synthesis of her journey of Christification: "*You, Jesus, are the miracle of my story, you conquered me on the journey just as you conquered Paul on the road to Damascus*". Together with the sisters of Mexico, we present her to God that she may contemplate his face. On the vigil of the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, may she also be clothed in light, and may Mary, the Virgin of Guadalupe, whom she had greatly loved during her life, accompany her to the joyful banquet of the eternal wedding feast. Sr. M. Juanita intercede for new vocations for the Pauline Family, especially in Mexico and in the Americas! Live in God!

S. H. Paolo Mancini