



Dear Sisters,

Early this morning, Saturday, July 14, 2012, at 5:15 AM, Mary Queen of the Apostles accompanied our sister

**Sr. M. Benigna - Angiolina Pezza**  
**Born in Monte S. Biagio (LT) on October 15, 1914**

In her paschal journey toward eternity, from our community in Albano Laziale (RM).

The Lord granted her a long life which, until her death this morning due to cardiac arrest, she spent entirely at the service of the Kingdom. Sr. M. Benigna went in peace, entering into the sleep of death as she awaits the final Resurrection. For over a month, her general health was gradually declining. As usual, the sisters of the infirmary and of the community in Albano, in which she has resided since 2006, were at her side.

Angiolina entered our Congregation in Rome on January 1, 1934, at the age of twenty. After receiving the religious habit on September 8, 1935, she was sent in propaganda. Having completed the year of Novitiate in Alba, she made her first profession on January 15, 1939. In her request for admission she asked for *“the grace to make the holy vows”* to unite herself *“more intimately and irrevocably to the Lord”* and to become a member of the Sister Disciples. Given the particular canonical situation of the time, during the period of temporary vows she was sent to the bookstores and propaganda in Genoa, Turin, and Massa Carrara.

The desire of dedicating herself completely matured in Sr. M. Benigna through the total commitment of herself. Noteworthy is the comment written by Blessed Timothy Giaccardo in the personal profile of Sr. M. Benigna in reference to the admission to perpetual profession (February 10, 1945): *“She is always content and willing to accept whatever comes. Good with the Superiors, in the houses and here. Her gaze is on God”*.

These words contain the synthesis of the existence of this Sister Disciple, who was silent, delicate of character, precise, dedicated to prayer and the Eucharistic, priestly and liturgical apostolate. Her interior work and vigilance over her character assisted her in serenely accepting, even though with deep interior suffering, the natural decline of her energies.

Her ability in tailoring characterized the apostolic life of Sr. M. Benigna, for as long as her strength and vision allowed. In fact, she served and “dressed” thousands of clerics, priests and bishops: in Argentina (Florida – Cordoba) from 1948 to 1957; in Spain (Zalla and Madrid) from 1957 to 1961; and in Italy (Pescara, Catania, Bordighera, Milan, Genoa).

She was aware and lived intensely the recommendation of the Founder, who taught them to transform everything into apostolate, including suffering and sickness. Sr. M. Benigna was not lacking in intentions for sacrifice, and entrusted to God her natural family, the Congregation and the Pauline Family, with special emphasis on vocations and the perseverance in the vocation received. Now, from Eternity, she intercedes for all, and especially for the Province of Italy.

The Divine Master has accepted the desire of his disciple and has called her to the fullness of life on a Saturday. Millions of times Sr. M. Benigna had invoked Mary, the Mother of God, that she might accompany her at the hour of death. We would like to think that the Madonna took her by the hand to introduce her to the presence of the Lord, in the festal assembly of the Saints.

Rest in peace, Sr. M. Benigna, after the burdens of your long existence as a disciple and apostle of Jesus Master. Thank you for the word of God you are for us, still journeying in this passing world. Enter, Bride of Christ, into the joy of your Lord, whom you have loved and sought for a long time!

*Sr. M. Regina Cesarato*

Sr. M. Regina Cesarato, Superiora generale