



Dear Sisters,

Today, August 30, 2021, as the Congregation celebrates the anniversary of its definitive approval by the Church, from the community of Sanfrè at 2:30 PM, the Divine Master invited our sister to the heavenly feast

SR. M. EUROSIA – FRANCESCA MANDUCHI
born on December 28, 1936 in Sant’Arcangelo di Romagna (FO).

Her older sister, Sr. M. Angioletta, deceased in 2010, and also a Sister Disciple, preceded her into the house of the Lord. Francesca entered the Congregation at the age of eighteen on January 7, 1954. The pastor, Fr. Serafino Tamagnini, remembered even today for his zeal and promotion of religious vocations - in fact, there are numerous Sister Disciples coming from the same area – presented her: *«Francesca has always maintained excellent moral and religious conduct. Her family is a good example for honesty and industriousness».*

Following the regular novitiate, Francesca made her religious profession on March 25, 1956 and her perpetual profession on March 25, 1961. She spent an initial period in Rome RA where she tended the garden. She then went to Casa Madre in Alba for various services and in 1958 to the community at the Society of St. Paul in Albano. In 1959 she went to Cinisello Balsamo for the diffusion of the magazine *La Vita in Cristo e nella Chiesa*. After a period of time in the sewing workroom in Florence, she was sent to France: first to the workroom in Toulouse (1963), then as the cook in the Bishop's House in Nice (1964 – 1967) where she gladly learned the French language as a useful inheritance for her future mission. She returned to Milan for a year, always in the sewing workroom, and then returned to the Bishop's House in Nice (1968 – 1975). She was then asked to offer her contribution as a driver in the community of Sanfrè and then in Rimini, at the Liturgical Apostolate Center (1977 – 1981), also to be near her father who was gravely ill. She was then sent to the Liturgical Apostolate Center at Nogent sur Marne in France (1981 – 1988).

Then, for 14 years (1988 – 2002), she was called to the mission in Africa in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Here she joyfully placed all of her talents in service, with a profoundly missionary spirit, desiring to contribute to the coming of Jesus Master and to support the growth of the promising Congolese youth. After an initial period dedicated to various services, she was appointed Treasurer and Councilor for

the Delegation (1994 – 1997) and then re-appointed as Treasurer for a second term; then she was Local Superior in the community of Lubumbashi. She returned to Rome in 2002 and for one year offered her service at the Souvenir Shop at St. Peter's. She was then appointed Local Superior of the Casa Gesù Maestro - Rome (2003 – 2006) and in 2006 as Local Superior in the DM community of Nice, in the house for priests. In 2010 she spent a period of time in Albano for health reasons; in 2011 she was in Alba for the coordination of the small Nazareth community. In 2015 she was in the community of Florence SMF for a year to offer her services wherever needed. In 2019, due to health problems, she was transferred to the community of Sanfrè. She incarnated the spirit of recollection and of silence that had characterized her life so intensely that the sisters said of her: “*you did not see her, nor did you hear her*”.

What gift does Sr. M. Eurosia leave us in this important day for our Congregation? United to Jesus, who tells us today: «*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor*» (Lk 4:18), she incarnated the project of being living and active members in the Church wherever she was sent.

From her own family, she drew a sense of practical industriousness by which she did not exempt herself from any service, with a spirit of giving that animated her life. Every type of work permitted her to offer a concrete expression of her love for Jesus Master, the profound reason for the offering of herself; she was also characterized by her constancy in the struggle. Her sense of humor helped her to play down even complex situations and foster joy within the community.

Suffering from various health issues, including severe diabetes, she concluded her earthly pilgrimage as a result of an intestinal tumor. She went to meet the Bridegroom in great peace, abandonment, accompanied by the prayers and charity of the sisters.

Let us entrust to her intercession the formation of our young African sisters, the gift of new vocations - especially in Africa, in France and throughout the Congregation.

S. M. Paolo Mancini