



*Dear Sisters,*

Today, March 30, 2023, from the Beato Timoteo Community (Rome), at 1:00 AM in the heart of the night, the call to the eternal Passover came for our sister

**SR. M. ROSANNA – ZAIRA BUTANI  
born on March 27, 1940 in Cingoli (MC).**

Barely two days after her birth, she received the gift of Baptism and thus became associated to the mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of Christ. Cingoli, the place of her birth and growth, is a hamlet surrounded by hills and mountains that face the sea, rich in natural and historic beauty. This certainly contributed to the increase in Zaira of a sense and taste for beauty, important for the apostolate she would be called to fulfill in the Church. The Butani Family was considered as part of the original nucleus of the population of the zone.

She grew up in a large family with deep Christian values in a rural setting that helped her to love nature and to live in thanksgiving to God for his wonderful works. From this family nucleus emerged three vocations to a special consecration: one brother, Fr. Pacifico, a diocesan priest and member of the Institute of Jesus Priest, who died in 2004, and another brother, Fr. Quinto, a Pauline priest, who died at the beginning of 2022.

Zaira undertook the journey of following the Divine Master as an adolescent. At thirteen years of age, she entered the Congregation in Alba (CN) on August 2, 1953. She entered the novitiate in 1957, made her first profession on March 25, 1958 in Rome, and her perpetual profession on March 25, 1963, also in Rome. Since her youth, it was clear that she had a great sense of responsibility for every task entrusted to her, a responsible use of time, ready for any sacrifice, sociable and serene. Her love for the Congregation and for her mission in the Church was evident.

For some years after her profession, she carried out her apostolate in a small internal typography. In 1965, for a year, she gave her collaboration at Nogent sur Marne in Paris, France. In 1966 she returned to Rome and was coordinator of the Liturgical Apostolate Center at St. Mary Major in Rome. In 1983 she was at the Regional House in Rome as a Regional Councilor, with a special focus on the apostolate. In 1987 she began some mandates as Local Superior: in Cagliari (1987); following a short period of collaboration at the Liturgical Apostolate Center in Florence, she was again appointed Local Superior: in Rimini (1991), in

Fabriano (1994), in Bologna (1997). She spent some time as the person responsible for the Liturgical Apostolate Center in Naples, and then in 2004 returned to the Center in Rome in the shadow of the Pontifical Basilica of Saint Mary Major. She remained there until 2021 when, for serious health reasons, she went to the Beato Timoteo Community for the necessary treatments and care. In 2019 she had undergone a mastectomy because of cancer in the left breast.

In her essential and brief correspondence, she manifested her gratitude and her desire to collaborate with the major superiors. In 2013, she accompanied the transfer of the Liturgical Apostolate Center of Rome from its place on Via Liberiana, to its new location at Largo Brancaccio 63. Naturally, this required adaptation, a spirit of collaboration, courage and trust.

In her long years of presence in the Liturgical Apostolate Center, Sr. M. Rosanna acquired a special competence in fabrics, in various metals, in the norms of the Church regarding liturgical furnishings. She was a sister who always demonstrated the ability to live with an active interest in learning, the specific formation reserved to the sisters dedicated to the Liturgical Apostolate Centers. She sought not only to make it bear fruit personally, but also to share this experience and competence with the younger sisters. Also very important to her were listening and dialogue with the clients of the Center for whom she needed to provide attention and suitable responses to their questions. Certainly, from the priority given to prayer, especially the adoration, she drew the light and the strength for the mission of giving witness and proclamation.

A long and suffered agony concluded the tested existence of Sr. M. Rosanna. In 2004, at the Sant'Eugenio Hospital in Roma, she was diagnosed with *Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (Leucemia Mieloide Cronica (LMC))*, for which she responsibly underwent treatment, without ever omitting her apostolic commitment. The illness and its associated treatments eroded her existence to the extent that, from 2019, her cardiac and pulmonary functions were increasingly compromised.

Accompanied by the caring and prayerful presence of the sisters and the external personnel, sustained by the nearness of her relatives, especially her nieces and nephews, she serenely went to meet the Bridegroom, comforted by the Sacrament of the Anointing of the sick, administered to her yesterday in the presence of the community.

Sr. M. Rosanna, now in the presence of God, remember us in our journey toward the 10th General Chapter and ask the Lord for each one of us that we may live what we propose to share and to deepen: *I have seen the Lord! The beauty of an encounter, the joy of a mandate!*

*Sr. M. Paolo Mancini*