



Dear Sisters,

On June 20, 2023, at 9:00 PM, the Divine Master passed by our community in Albano Laziale (Rome) and invited our sister to follow him into eternal life

**SR. M. CLEMENTINA – ASSUNTA MANCA
born on October 3, 1936 in Ollastra Simaxis (OR).**

On October 25 of the same year, she received the Sacrament of Baptism and was joined to the Body of Christ, in the mystery that is his Church, by which she was enriched with divine life.

An active participant in her parish, aware and mature, Assunta left her family to follow the Divine Master radically as a consecrated religious among the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master on April 7, 1959.

She entered in Alba, then Casa Madre, and went to Rome for the novitiate. She made her religious profession on March 25, 1962, and her perpetual profession, also in Rome, on March 25, 1967.

From the first years of religious life, she was characterized as a person who is meek, humble, sociable, serene and generous, with a sense of responsibility and love for prayer. Referring to herself, she wrote to the superiors: *«I am willing to accept any task or place to which I am assigned by obedience. I will voluntarily fulfill any task, even the most humble in relation to the specific aim of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master»* (Rome March 24, 1962).

After the profession she spent a year in the tailoring workshop in Rome, San Paolo, then at Vicenza DM in tailoring, and after the perpetual profession she was in the community of Saint Mary Major in tailoring, when she received the call to offer her collaboration in various communities in France, where she would remain for about twenty years.

She departed from Rome on March 7, 1968, and after a journey of 18 hours by train, she arrived in Paris, where she was welcomed at the station by Sr. M. Lorenzia Piumatti and marveled at everything. She recounted: *«The community of Nogent was very welcoming. I must say that I felt at home. There was the problem of the language: they prayed in French, I suffered a great deal, but the enthusiasm and the zeal for the Congregation helped me to*

overcome it. There was a spirit of faith, of simplicity and of offering in all of the sisters. The Divine Master, Way and Truth and Life, nourished my life in the Eucharist, in the Adorations and in fraternal collaboration with my sisters in every form of service. The priestly service, at the Bishop's Residence in Nice, then at Arpajon and at Nogent, I sought to fulfill with a spirit of faith and joy, believing in the mission of the Sister Disciples to be like the Madonna and I invoked her every day that she might always assist me with her maternal kindness in fulfilling the will of God wherever he wanted me. I loved France, and I love it still. I lived and remember with joy that experience for the proclamation of the Gospel with the Pauline Brothers. I was able to know the story, the places, and hear about the sacrifices made» (September 7, 1996).

In 1989 she returned to Italy and fulfilled the apostolate principally in the St. Paul communities: Milan, Alba Famiglia Cristiana where she was also local superior for a three-year term (1997-2000), in Bari, working primarily in the laundry and wardrobe. In 2008 she was in Florence DM as cook and then as Vice-Superior.

The community of Albano Divin Maestro received her in 2015. Soon after the symptoms appeared that indicated the slow progression of Alzheimer's disease. This last period was one of particular suffering and offering, sustained and accompanied by the sisters and the professional nurses. She brought to completion her sacrifice precisely at the time in which the Chapter Assembly is in discernment for the election of the Superior General and her council.

We trust that with her presence in the community of Heaven, she can intercede for the continuity of this spiritual process for the benefit of the entire Congregation. Sr. M. Clementina translated within herself the littleness and evangelical simplicity and she makes us proclaim with Jesus Master: *«I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned, you have revealed them to the little ones»* (Mt 11:25).

Sr. M. Clementina, from Heaven, intercede for the Congregation in its one hundred years of history, that it may be entirely conformed to the plan of God!

S. H. Paolo Mancini