



Dear Sisters,

On Monday, November 25, 2024, from the infirmary of the Congregation of the *Sisters of Notre Dame* in Montréal, at 5:52 AM, the Divine Master called to eternity our sister

SR. M. ROSE - FERNANDE MONTOUR
born on March 2, 1934, in Sherbrooke (Québec) – Canada

Born into a large family, the eighth of nine children, she was brought to the baptismal font in the Parish of *St. Jeane-Baptiste* on March 4, the Sunday following her birth. Together with the gift of the Christian faith, she received the name Fernande. Her father, Antonio Montour, a painter and artist, transmitted to her a particular sensitivity for simple and essential beauty. From her family, four sisters responded to the call to consecrated life in different religious congregations: their example is a living witness of what it means to dedicate one's life entirely and exclusively to Christ and to the Church.

In her personal search, she came to know the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master and was struck by their lifestyle in Canada, by their testimony of poverty, simplicity and joy.

On October 16, 1956, she entered the Congregation and, at the conclusion of the regular novitiate, on March 25, 1959, she made the religious profession in the chapel of the Divine Master Community in Montréal. Five years later, at the conclusion of the Juniorate, she made her perpetual profession on March 25, 1964, also in the Divine Master Community in Montréal.

She was a simple and generous young woman who was both intelligent and practical. Animated by a profound Pauline spirituality, she understood the value of intercessory prayer, especially in the daily Eucharistic adoration. She spent these first years of religious life offering her service in the communities of the Society of St. Paul in Montréal and Sherbrooke. From 1962 until 1964 she worked for the diffusion of the liturgical magazine «La Vie», the French edition of «La Vita in Cristo e nella Chiesa».

She had a great love for the specific apostolate of the Congregation at the service of the Eucharist, the priesthood and the liturgy. From her initial formation, she loved to pray with the prayers of the Pauline Family, which led her toward universal and missionary prayer. From 1966 until 1969 she was a member of the Divine Master community in Boston (U.S.A.) where she spent her physical and spiritual energies in giving an account for her consecration in the specific mission of the community. Upon her return to the Delegation of Canada, she was entrusted with the role of local treasurer in Montréal (1969 – 1972), and then as treasurer for



the Delegation for various mandates (1973 – 1987). She had the ability to touch the hearts of the benefactors, despite her small and humble stature. She always showed interest and attention to the persons, to the religious family, and presented herself on behalf of the community with our Eucharistic Mission, for the priests and the liturgy.

Sr. M. Rose was always orderly and precise. During the years she worked in the Liturgical Center in Montréal, she was greatly appreciated by the diocesan clergy and the Bishops who came purposely, also from other Provinces, knowing that they would find welcome, competence and precision in her.

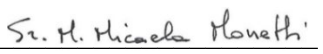
She participated intensely in the suffering of some priests, who requested the support of her prayers in facing trials. She was always faithful to the adoration, despite the weariness or drowsiness that overcame her at times. She remained there, before the Lord, to ask for light and grace for priests. Her motto was “Duc in altum”: Which expressed very well her fundamental attitude of life!

Possessing a strong and frank character, she suffered for the less pleasant aspects of her character. With the passage of time, however, she allowed herself to be transformed interiorly and exteriorly. Especially through the purification of a long illness, she became more mellow and tranquil. The nurses, who cared for her on a daily basis, testify that she was always smiling until her last days: “*She always had a beautiful smile, even if she did not speak*”.

Since 2015, she was hospitalized in the infirmary of the Congregation of the *Sisters of Notre Dame* in Montréal, where she concluded her earthly pilgrimage, leaving a witness of peace and serenity on the vigil of the Feast of our Blessed James Alberione, on the 53rd anniversary of his eternal Passover.

Sr. M. Rose, now that you contemplate the face of our Master and Lord Jesus, of Mary Queen of Apostles, to whom you often prayed, intercede from heaven for our small Delegation of Canada and for the vocations of the Pauline Family.

Rome, November 27, 2024


Sr. M. Micaela Monetti