



Dear Sisters,

On Friday, March 7, 2025, from the Divine Master Community in Prarthanalayam, Calicut (India), at 2:00PM, Jesus Master called to eternity his disciple

SR. M. APOSTOLINA - ROSA MEZHUKANAL
born on January 19, 1938, in Karimanoor, Kerala (India).

The little girl, the third of eight children, was brought to the baptismal font on January 27, thus receiving, together with the gift of faith, the filial adoption that makes us members of God's family and enables us to enjoy his gifts of grace. Four daughters of the Mezhukanal family responded to the call to religious life: two became Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, one joined the Poor Clares, and Rosa, the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master. In fact, on August 13, 1961, she left home to enter the Divine Master Community in Bombay, where she made her entire initial formation for the religious life of the Institute.

Upon completion of the novitiate, she made her religious profession on September 8, 1965, in Bombay, and after six years, her perpetual profession on September 8, 1971, in the same community.

Diligent and silent, a woman of peace and spiritual motivations, rooted in the prayer of Eucharistic Adoration, Sr. M. Apostolina spent her energies for many years in the priestly apostolate in the communities of the Society of Saint Paul: in Mumbai, at the seminary in Allahabad, and in Bangalore.

She received the mandate as local superior in Bellary (1987-1996). In the communities of Mumbai DM (1969-1971), Bangalore DM (1977-1979), and Nellore DM (1996-1997), she offered her service as a cook. From 1983 until 1987, she was in Kohima, in Nagaland, in the diocesan house of prayer.

She managed well in the sewing workroom, and in 2015 was sent to Mysore to sustain the workroom of the Liturgical Apostolate Center.

Sr. M. Apostolina was a noble soul, with tender love, a maternal heart, very devout, always ready to serve the others, generous, a silent worker, who adapted herself to every reality in a spirit of sacrifice. Joyful, humble, kind, simple, silent, dedicated, she never complained about anything. She was a constant reader, informed about daily events and on the life of the Church; she was a competent person. She had a small radio that she would use to listen



to the news and share it with the community. She was friendly by nature, anyone could freely approach her, very industrious, with a sweet voice, a compassionate heart toward the persons who were sad and needy. She loved to stay with the novices, with the young women, sharing in their joys and laughter.

In an interview released in 2020, Sr. M. Apostolina said: «My motto is “*Padre, perdonali*” [*“Father, forgive them”*]. This motto reinforced my vocation. If something goes wrong in a community, I first pray to God, then I take the first step to approach the person and seek reconciliation; then I am filled with peace and happiness».

When she was asked what message she would give to the young sisters, she said: «We are free to accept or to refuse God’s call. I was convinced that God called me for some purpose. With this strong conviction, I remained firm in the time of difficulty; the reason for which I did not become discouraged in my vocation, but was strengthened to assume everything in prayer. In my life, I gave priority to prayer. I clung to Jesus in order to be strong in my religious life. When I was discouraged, I could overcome it by prayer. We must have faith in God’s grace. Remaining with the Lord bears witness that we are convinced that he is with us and we can express our feelings to him. When we are not content in the specific apostolate entrusted to us, let us think that God has entrusted it to us through those in authority. When it is done in obedience, God gives us the courage and strength. Whatever work we are doing is an apostolate. If we find difficulties in our religious life, bring them to Jesus in prayer and he will give the solution to our problems because it is better to be secure in the hands of God than to seek answers and security in the world. Always ask the Lord for the grace to do his will in daily life».

We assemble this witness of consecrated life and, praying for Sr. M. Apostolina, we are confident that she continues to intercede for our Congregation and for new and holy vocations for the Church.

Rome, March 9, 2025

Sr. M. Micaela Monetti
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