



Dear Sisters,

Today, July 9, 2026, at 10:00 AM, from the community of Sanfrè, Jesus Master called to the eternal wedding banquet our sister,

SR. M. OSANNA – LAURA MARIA OSTELLI
born on June 4, 1928, in Gonzaga - Mantova (Italy).

The little Laura Maria was born into a Christian family in the land of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, located in the Province of Mantova, in the Po Valley. This rural center takes its name and is historically linked to the events of the Duchy of Gonzaga, one of the most illustrious and powerful families of the Italian and European Renaissance.

Maria received baptism 20 days after her birth, was educated in a Christian family together with her brothers and sisters and, on October 30, 1938, received the Sacrament of Confirmation. A year later, at the threshold of adolescence, she encountered Sr. M. Ermenegilda Pasqualini, the sister of one of her sisters-in-law, to whom she expressed her desire to consecrate her life to God. In response, this Sister Disciple told her: “for now, you are too young, I will come to call you when you are old enough”. But in 1941, the family received the news that Sr. M. Ermenegilda had died (September 21, 1941). Maria and the entire family remained deeply saddened.

Later, Sr. M. Osanna wrote in her *vocational story*: «We are in 1943. One night I dreamt Sr. M. Ermenegilda. She was very beautiful. Her scapular was so radiant that I was struck by it... she looked at me and said: “When you are 17, I will call you. Then she disappeared”. In 1945, I was 17 years old and Sr. M. Marcellina (Brentali), a close friend of my sister-in-law, came to the town for a visit and we went to see her. I told her: “You know, I want to be a sister”. She responded: “I know already, Ermenegilda told me. If you wait for two days, I will go with you”». The narration continues by recounting how the seventeen year old managed a kind of flight... it was an adventure that had a happy ending, but not without resistance and suffering on the part of her family, and anxiety, since it was during the war.

Maria reached Alba (CN), with Sr. M. Marcellina, on July 26, 1945. Welcoming her with great joy was Mother Scholastica Rivata, who reassured her by saying: “Everything will work out well and your relatives will also be content”.

In Alba, following the Postulancy, Maria entered the Novitiate, after which she made her First Profession on April 4, 1948, during the year of the Pontifical Approval of our Congregation. Together with all the sisters, she had experienced the turbulent years of the



“great trial”, and she was now able to continue to live and grow in her vocation as a Sister Disciple.

In fact, the new name: “Osanna” was a song of praise each day of her life that was extended from the Eucharistic Celebration to the Adoration and the apostolate, which was primarily exercised in various ministries at the houses of the Society of St. Paul for her first years of consecrated life (1948-1959).

On April 4, 1953, she made her perpetual profession in Alba, and in 1959 she was assigned by obedience to ecclesiastical tailoring.

Sr. M. Osanna, who was specialized in this area and in sewing, fulfilled this ecclesial ministry with great competence for many years during her long life.

Now, in the Heavenly Jerusalem, she will be met by many priests, bishops, deacons and lay persons who frequented our Liturgical Apostolate Centers in Bologna, Turin, Genoa and Milan to whom she offered her assurance of prayer that sustained also her journey of return to the Father’s House.

A tenacious and determined woman, she offered her service, even in the little things, for as long as she could in the community of Sanfrè. She had her turn of Eucharistic adoration each day at 3:00 PM. Since December of last year, she accepted to remain in the infirmary and allow herself to be assisted by the loving care of the sisters and staff members. She demonstrated a great capacity for adapting to her new situation and docility.

Despite the gradual cognitive decline, she prayed unceasingly for the many needs of the Church, the world, the Congregation, and other special intentions. Toward 11:00 AM yesterday, she entered into a deep sleep and, this morning at 8:00 AM, she received the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and, in a deep sleep, she crossed the threshold of death to enter into the Day without end.

Rest in peace, Sr. M. Osanna, and intercede for us before the Father who made you a faithful disciple of his Son, in the transformative Love of the Holy Spirit! We give thanks to God for you. Amen!

Rome, July 9, 2026

Sr. M. Regina Cesarato

Sr. M. Regina Cesarato