



*“Faith in the resurrection  
opens up fraternal communion  
beyond the threshold of death ...”.*  
(RoL 24)



Today, 18 April 2021 at 09.30am (local time)  
in the community of Redenção/PA (Brazil), our sister

**Sr APARECIDA JOSEFA MÁCORIS**

returned to the Father’s House.

She was 77 years old and 50 years of Religious Life.

*May your people exult for ever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit, so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption, we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.* These words of the Collect of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter, reflect the joyful life and the renewed youthfulness of spirit with which Sr Aparecida lived her 50 years of life as a Pastorella, in love with Jesus Good Shepherd and tireless in the pastoral mission.

Aparecida, the youngest of six children, was born on 21 August 1943 in Santo Anastacio (São Paulo) and baptized in the Parish of Santo Anastacio on 25 October 1943. She joined the Congregation on 30 June 1966 in São Paulo-Jabaquara "Istituto Divina Pastora" and entered the novitiate on 01 February 1970 in Caxias do Sul-San Leopoldo. She made her first profession on 24 January 1971 in Caxias do Sul / RS together with 16 other novices, during the visit of Mother Celina Orsini to Brazil and her perpetual profession on 14 January 1979 in São Paulo in the community of Jardim.

Sr Aparecida is described as a simple, joyful sister with a practical intelligence and a great pastoral zeal. From the beginning of her initial formation, she distinguished herself for her skill in sewing and this she very quickly put to use in the apostolate. She was sincere and wise, compassionate towards everyone and had a great spirit of poverty and love for community life.

Sr Aparecida, a sister with a missionary heart, carried out her pastoral ministry through various activities. She privileged projects in favour of women and children, signs of her sensitivity. She was always available to be transferred and remained faithful to the resolution of "never saying no to the mission". This took her to various places: from 1971 in São Paul - Jabaquara "Istituto Divina Pastora", where she was engaged in teaching in kindergarten; from 1975 in Cazusa Ferreira/RS for the formation of pastoral workers, where she is especially

remembered for her fraternal spirit and generosity, dedication to the mission and love for the poor. In 1978, she was transferred to Porto Alegre-Murialdo to study. From 1979, she was in Centenário do Sul/PR; and from 1981 in São Paulo-Jardim where she was in charge of the pastoral care of families. From 1982, in Iepè, she was superior of the community and was involved in the formation of pastoral workers. From 1985 she was in Redenção /PA; from 1995, she was at first in São Paulo-Jardim and later in Eldorado, as superior of the community. In 2010, she returned to São Paulo-Jabaquara "Istituto Divina Pastora" to fulfill various tasks. In 2012, she was sent to Tupanatinga/PE and was superior of the community. It is in this period that Sr Aparecida held the office of vice-president and, for a time, that of president of the diocesan Caritas of Pesqueira, as well as working in the Parish Caritas of Santa Clara di Assis and being involved in the project "Crescendo com Cidadania" in Tupanatinga. In 2017, she was transferred to Mutuca / PE to continue working in the Diocesan Caritas.

From 2019, she was in São Paulo-Jardim in the community "Mary Mother of the Good Shepherd". While in 2020, she was in São Paulo-Casa San José to dedicate herself to the sick sisters. This is how she expressed herself upon being entrusted with this new service: *It is a great challenge for me, different from anything I have lived and done so far. I feel very limited but I trust in the Lord. If He is asking this service of me, He will give me all I need to carry it out in the best possible way. I will dedicate myself with great love and with all my strength.*

In February 2021, Sr. Aparecida was asked to be part of the community of Redenção again, a request that she accepted with great faith. However, not long after she was there, she contracted Covid-19 in a serious way. She got better thanks to the copious intercession of the people of God. But when she returned to the community and was gradually regaining her physical strength, she had a sudden cardiac arrest.

Dearest Sr Aparecida, we thank the Father for your 50 years of Religious Consecration lived with great goodness and generosity. We entrust to your intercession the people of Brazil so severely tested due to the pandemic.

*Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes*  
Superior General

Rome, 18 April 2021  
*III Sunday of Easter*