



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



Today, 20 June 2026 at 5.50 pm (local time)
in the community of Casa Madre-Albano Laziale, our sister,
ASSUNTA ROSA, Sr M. DOLORES COSTA
has parted this earthly life.
She was 106 years old and 74 years of religious life.

The goodness of the Lord endures forever. This antiphon, to today's Responsorial Psalm, expresses the goodness of the Good Shepherd which Sister Dolores lived during her seventy-four years of joyful and faithful consecration.

Assunta Rosa was born in Marciana Alta (LI) on 26 November 1919, and was baptized the same day in the Parish of Santa Caterina – Marciana. She entered the Congregation on 9 March 1947, in Marciana Marina, and entered the novitiate on 14 August 1950, in San Pietro alle Acque (PG). She made her first profession on 15 August 1951, in Genzano (RM), taking the name Sister M. Dolores. After her first profession, she was sent to Bussi sul Tirino (PE), where she dedicated herself to family ministry. She made her perpetual profession on 10 August 1956, in Albano Laziale – Mother House.

Sister Dolores is described as a sister who loved the Congregation, nurturing the spirit of poverty, putting her skills as a seamstress and her practical intelligence at the service of every apostolate and giving her whole self. She had a strong and straightforward character; she was very active in living the mission entrusted to her with responsibility and generosity.

After her perpetual profession, she was sent to Bevilacqua (VR) and in 1957 to Borgorose (RI), where she dedicated herself primarily to family ministry with great joy and generosity. In 1982, she returned to Albano Laziale – Mother House, taking on various roles until her health allowed.

The sisters testify: Sister Dolores, frail in stature but strong and decisive in character, stood out among us all for her ability to grasp detail. I never heard Sister Dolores speak during group conversations or community meetings, but then, when I listened to her alone, she expressed her thoughts with a lively and precise critical sense.

It was a pleasure to be around her, especially during the colorful moments of "Rainbow," as the group of sisters who met weekly for manual or cultural activities was called; her hands, and especially her fingers, so affected by arthritis, were busy painting, drawing, and making small objects to donate to her fellow sisters.

In her final years, and especially in the final months of her life, I had the opportunity to appreciate her dedication to the Lord more deeply, especially in her gaze, in her prayer, in her silence, in her extraordinary gentleness in caressing and kissing the hands of those around her, in showing small signs of affection that will never be easily forgotten. Thank you, Dolores, may the gift of your life, so full of years, help us to make our lives beautiful too.

We bless the Lord for the life, vocation, and witness of Sister Dolores. We remember her with gratitude for having had the gift of hearing many times, the voice of the "Primo Maestro" when he used to visit the Mother House. We thank the Sisters of the Mother House and the staff who provided her with the necessary care, supporting her with dedication and love.

We entrust Sister Dolores to the Father's mercy. We ask her to intercede for the Pauline Family, in this time of preparation for the solemnity of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, the gift of serving the Church with generosity and joy, and the courage to discern ever more appropriate forms of pastoral ministry.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes
Superior General

Rome, 20 June 2026
St John of Matera, Abbot