



*Faith in the Resurrection
opens us to fraternal communion
Beyond the threshold of death.*

(RoL 24)



Today, 08 February 2023 at 5.45 am,
in the community of Negrar di Valpolicella (VR),
our sister ended her earthly life

ELIDE, Sr GIUSEPPINA SQUARZON

She was 80 years old and 57 years of religious life.

Bless the Lord, my soul! With the words of the psalmist in today's liturgy, we thank the Good Shepherd for the gift of Sr Giuseppina's life that left the mark of a Pastorella faithful to the gift received and attentive in the pastoral ministry lived in joy.

Elide was born on 30 October 1942 in Longa (VI) and was baptized on 8 November 1942 in the parish dedicated to St. John the Baptist. She entered the Congregation on 17 October 1963 at Albano Laziale – Casa Madre and was admitted to the novitiate on 29 June 1964. She made her first profession on 3 September 1965, assuming the name of Sr Giuseppina and on 3 September 1970 she made her perpetual vows, always in the Casa Madre in Albano Laziale. In her request for admission to perpetual profession she expressed herself as follows: *I will always try to love the Congregation where I feel I have found my family and be faithful to our spirit.*

Sr Giuseppina is described as a sister who has always witnessed, in different ways, her love for the Good Shepherd, for the Congregation and for the pastoral mission. She had a good, open character, who knew how to be joyful. A sister with a sense of humor, welcoming, generous, resourceful, courageous, serene, joyful with whom one enjoyed being together with. Of great generosity to everyone, especially to people in need of material and spiritual care. Sr Giuseppina liked to pray even while singing and, even when she was ill, she knew how to stop and contemplate nature and enjoy the beauty of creation.

After her first profession, she remained in the Mother House for study reasons and in 1966 she was sent to the community of Adria (RO), where she was engaged in her internship for the nursery school. In 1967 she was transferred to the Community of Villimpenta (MN), where she devoted

herself mainly to teaching in the nursery school and in 1976 she also served as superior of the community. In 1982 she was assigned to the community of Lignano Sabbiadoro (UD) and in 1983 she had a sabbatical year in the Community of Tor San Lorenzo (RM). In 1984 she resumed her pastoral activity in Florence - Novoli (FI) in the area of parish catechesis and in the charitable field.

In 1989, following her appointment as Provincial Councilor for the four-year period 1989-1993, she resided in Verona - the provincial seat. She then continued her pastoral ministry in various communities: in 1993 in Axa-Rome, in the formative community; in 1994 in Borgaretto (TO) where she was engaged in catechetical ministry; in 1999 in Fiorenzuola D'Arda (PC) where she also served as the superior of the community and in 2008 she was transferred to the Community of Negrar (VR), where she carried out various tasks, as long as her health permits. Since 2021 her health conditions have deteriorated considerably, but she retains her usual smile and serenity.

We thank the sisters and health workers who generously offered Sr Giuseppina medical care and above all their affection and support during these years of illness.

Dearest Sr Giuseppina, as we entrust you to the Mercy of the Father, to whom the Good Shepherd has entrusted you, we thank you for your witness to the people entrusted to your pastoral care and ask you to intercede for the populations of Turkey and Syria affected by the earthquake in these days.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes
Superiora Generale

Rome, 08 February 2023
St. Giuseppina Bakhita