



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



Today, 06 September 2022 at 12.30pm,
in the community of Negrar di Valpolicella (VR), our sister

FLORA, Sr M. EDOARDA SLONGO

concluded her earthly life.

She was 87 years of age and 60 of Religious Life.

I have chosen you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last. With the words of today's Gospel acclamation, we entrust to the Father's mercy our sister Flora who, chosen by Jesus Good Shepherd to follow him as a Pastorella, responded faithfully, bearing fruit everywhere in these sixty years of religious consecration.

Flora, the youngest of 10 children, was born on 14 November 1934 in Camino di Oderzo (TV) and baptized on 20 November 1934 in the parish church of San Bartolomeo in her hometown. She entered the Congregation in Albano Laziale-Casa Madre on 15 March 1960, where she made her first profession on 03 September 1962 and her perpetual profession five years later.

She remained in the Mother House until 1973, when she was sent to Sestri Levante (GE) as a kindergarten teacher. She returned to Albano Laziale-Casa Madre in 1974 to study. The following year she left for Rossano (CS), where she was particularly involved in catechesis. In 1976, she returned to Albano Laziale-Casa Madre for more study. In 1978, she went to Consandolo (FE) to take on mainly educational ministry as a kindergarten teacher. She was superior of the community starting from 1980 in Capoliveri (LI). While from 1985, she was in Transacqua (TN) involved in the pastoral care of families; in 1987, she was in Cornacervina (FE) as superior of the community and from 1991, she was in Firenze engaged in social and charitable ministries.

From the year 1993, she was in the community of Negrar as a nurse, giving herself with great zeal and generosity to all the sisters in need of care. In addition, during these years, she dedicated herself to assisting members of her family. And, it is precisely in the community of Negrar that Sr Flora received the affection and the care she needed from the sisters and health personnel in this last period of her illness.

Sr Flora is described as a joyful person, accomplishing everything with a luminous smile on her face. She was attentive to both the sisters in need of assistance and to the things of the house, managing to fix with genius any object that broke. She constantly cultivated a life of prayer, nurturing a particular affection for

the *Primo Maestro*, as she invoked and remembered him with gratitude and reverence. Sr Flora was tireless in fulfilling the responsibilities and jobs assigned to her. She was joyful in serving. The sisters testify that on 02 September, on the eve of her 60th anniversary of religious profession, she watchfully spent a moment of prayer pronouncing her Amen. She later entered precoma.

It is nice to remember how Sr Flora was an instrument of divine Providence in meeting the Bishop of Pemba, Mons. Tomé Makleliha, a Dehonian father, who she had assisted in Italy during a time of his illness. Subsequently, thanks to this meeting, Don Tomé asked for the presence of the Pastorelle sisters in Pemba.

We thank the community of Negrar and the health personnel who cared for Sr Flora with love and patience during the time that she was ill, in particular the sisters who accompanied her with affection, prayer and closeness.

To you Sr Flora, in thanking you for the gift you have been for us, we ask you to intercede for peace in the world and for vocations.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes
Superior General

São Paulo, 06 September 2022
St Zachary