



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



Today, 22 March 2025 at 02.35 am,  
in the community of Verona, our sister  
**LUISA, Sr M. ALBA GARIBOLDI,**  
has parted this earthly life.  
She was 76 years old and 57 years of religious life.

The words of the psalmist in today's liturgy: "*Bless the Lord, my soul, do not forget all his benefits*", summarize Sr Luisa's spirit of gratitude and blessing during the long trial of her illness, and her trusting abandonment in the hands of the Merciful Father.

Luisa was born in Piacenza (PC) on 7 July 1948 and was baptized in the parish of San Pietro Apostolo on 11 July 1948. She entered the Congregation on 22 July 1965 in Albano Laziale-Mother House and the novitiate on 2 September 1966. She made her first profession on 3 September 1967, taking the name of Sr M. Alba, and her perpetual profession on 3 September 1972.

In the request for admission to the perpetual profession, she expressed herself as follows: *after the period of temporary profession and after having meditated on the Constitutions and the beauty of our vocation as Pastorella, I ask to be admitted to the perpetual profession. I do not count on my own strength, convinced that I am very limited, but I count on the grace of God which I will try to make fruitful with all my good will.*

Sr Luisa is described as a person of prayer, objective, sincere, frank, with a strong character, capable of sacrifice, willing to take on any office, and gifted with practical intelligence and great love for the Congregation and the pastoral mission.

Following her first profession, she was sent to the apostolate in Paderno D'Adda (LC) as a kindergarten teacher, where she remained until 1976 after which she returned to Albano Laziale-Mother House, for a period of studies.

Subsequently, Sr Luisa carried out the pastoral mission especially in education and in some communities also in the pastoral care of the elderly and the sick: 1979 Bettola di Peschiera Borromeo (MI); 1980 Sestri Levante (GE); 1982 Albano Laziale - Casa Madre (sabbatical year); 1983 Corbola (RO); 1984 Milan (MI); 1985 Vicenza - Immaculate Heart (VI); 1986 Vicenza - S. Agostino (VI); 1991 Sestri Levante (GE); 1993 Negrar (VR); 1996 Grugliasco (TO); 1998 Negrar

(VR); 2002 Sestri Levante (GE); 2006 Verona – Provincial House (VR); 2007 Fiorenzuola D'Arda (PC) where she remained until 2024 when her illness worsened and she was transferred to the community of Verona to receive demanding treatments, which she accepted with courage and great faith.

We thank the community of Fiorenzuola D'Arda who offered Sr Luisa the care and support she needed during her long illness, and we also thank her family who was always present at every moment of our sister's medical journey. Our gratitude to the medical and nursing staff and to the sisters of the community of Verona who accompanied Sr Luisa with gentleness and great dedication during her time of great trial.

*The sisters testify: Sr Luisa lived her illness, with great dignity, with a spirit of acceptance in faith that kept away any complaint. She inserted herself in the community of Verona naturally, trusting and entrusting herself as if she had been here for a long time, in the sober but prompt remembrance of the sisters of Fiorenzuola, whom she wanted to keep informed about her state of health and to whom she was very grateful. When the illness also manifested itself externally, right on her face, she said: this, too, I accept. And to those who asked her: how are you? her answer was: I feel that I am in the Lord's hands. Her last words: 'I pray with my pain', words that we saw imprinted on her body and in the look with which she communicated in the end. Thank you, Luisa, for the good that you have sown among us too.*

We thank the Good Shepherd for the gift of Sr Luisa's life and vocation as a Pastorella and while we entrust her to the Father's mercy, we ask her to intercede for Pope Francis' health and Peace in the world.

*Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes*  
Superior General

Rome, 22 March 2025  
Saturday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent  
Saint Lea