



Dear Sisters,

Today, December 10, 2015, Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto, at 5:30 PM in the hospital of Bra (CN), the Lord called to eternity our sister,

**SR. M. ADELE CONCETTA VITALE**  
**born on July 16, 1927, in Centuripe (EN).**

Concetta is the eldest of 4 sisters. Having lost her mother at an early age, she assumed responsibility for her younger sisters. This enabled her to grow in the spirit of sacrifice and concern for others. When Concetta entered the Congregation in Alba (CN) on July 13, 1951, at the age of 24, she brought as a dowry this experience of suffering which was an efficacious lesson for attaining maturity. This would be a treasure in offering herself out of love, motivated by an intense apostolic spirit.

Following the novitiate, she made her first profession in Alba (CN) on March 25, 1954. Her first ministry was assisting the infirm sisters of the community in Sanfré for a few years. In 1958 she was transferred to Alba for one year. In her request for admission to the perpetual profession, she manifested humility and gratitude: *“In the light of the Divine Master, recognizing my nothingness and with ever greater awareness, I thank Jesus for the gift of the vocation. Deepest gratitude to the Mother General, and the superiors for the immense good they have given to me. Confident, and with profound humility, I ask to be admitted to the perpetual profession”* (Alba, January 4, 1959). She made her final vows in Rome on March 25, 1959.

After the perpetual profession she ministered in the priestly apostolate in Bari, but soon thereafter, in September of 1959, she was offered the gift of rendering her apostolic collaboration in Madrid (Spain), and remained there for some years. She would always maintain a special affection for Spain, for the Spanish language, and for the sisters of that delegation. Upon her return to Italy in 1963, she went to Rome, Genoa, Catania, Vicenza, Bari always as an apostle with the apostles in the Pauline houses. Her principal duties were in the laundry, the wardrobe, or the refectory. In 1985 she was sent to the House of Prayer in Camaldoli as an assistant to the cook. In 1992 she returned to Rome, in the Regional House. After a period of time in the St. Paul community in Alba, she was once again in Rome with the Pauline brothers until 1998, when she was transferred to the Blessed Timothy Community. In 1999 she was in Cinisello Balsamo, offering her services in various duties, then at Bordighera, and recently in the community of Sanfré, as an infirm sister. The long duration of her ministry in the Pauline houses engraved upon her soul a great love for priests, and greater refinement of a spirit that was already sensitive toward the needs of others: *“Every day I offer and pray for priests, for those who are most in need, sick, or persecuted. Also for all the babies in the world who are suffering”* (Bordighera, May 13, 2010).

Sr. M. Adele was an emotionally rich and sensitive person. She willingly communicated the spirit animating her through her smile. Her cultivation of the interior life rendered her attentive and vigilant to the Lord. Her writings frequently contain the expression: *“I seek to do God’s will every day”*. On the occasion of the passage to eternal life of a sister, she wrote: *“It is a reminder to us again this year to remain vigilant as we await his call”*. The Lord drew her ever more intimately to himself. On May 4, 2014, she wrote to Sr. M. Regina Cesarato: *“I find myself well in Sanfré. I am content and serene, without moral preoccupations. The spirit is healthy: I pray, I pray and I feel lighter; I find joy, even if I cannot manifest it exteriorly. I pray for priests, for vocations, for my superiors, for the entire Pauline Family”*.

She was admitted to the hospital following a heart attack, from which she was gradually recovering. Shortly thereafter, she contracted an intestinal infection and was returned to the hospital, where she concluded her earthly life as a result of ulterior complications.

In this *Holy Year* that has barely begun, Sr. M. Adele is the first sister to cross the threshold of the definitive Door of mercy, which leads to eternal life. Rest in God, Sr. M. Adele, and intercede for us!

*S. H. Paolo Mancini*