



In the heart of the night, on September 11, 2023, at 3:00 AM, in the community of Sanfré (CN), Jesus Master came to meet our sister and called her to the fullness of life

SR. M. TECLA – MICHELINA MANCOSU
born on June 24, 1943, in Lunamatrona (CA).

The day after her birth, on Sunday June 25, she was brought to the baptismal font. On November 21, 1961, she entered the Congregation in Rome as an aspirant, following the example of her sister Celina. The following year, another sister, Giovanna, or Sr. M. Maurizia (+ 27.10.1982), began the same journey of consecrated life.

At the conclusion of the novitiate, she made religious profession on March 25, 1964 in Rome, and the perpetual profession on September 12, 1969, in the Sanctuary of Nostra Signora di Bonaria in Cagliari.

From the first years of religious life, she was sent for studies until, in 1966, she received her diploma as a professional nurse from the Scuola Convitto Professionale “S. Carlo” in Bologna. She continued her professional formation and, in 1980, obtained the Certificate of Competency in administration of the Nursing Assistance in the School for Professional Nurses “Suore della Misericordia” at the hospital of S. Giovanni in Laterano in Rome.

She spent her entire life in the infirmaries of the Pauline communities, at the Society of Saint Paul in Cinisello Balsamo and in our communities: in Rome *Regina Apostolorum*, Albano Laziale, Cinisello Balsamo, Sanfré. In particular, we recall that from 1980 until 2005, she offered her services as head nurse at the hospital *Regina Apostolorum* in Albano Laziale where she worked actively in the department reserved for the care of priests and religious. In 2006 she was transferred to the community infirmary at Cinisello Balsamo, and in 2015, to the community of Sanfré where she continued to care for the infirm sisters, with generous charity, until she was forced to accept the fraternal care of the sisters due to her own declining health.

She was esteemed for her service and professional competence that transmitted security and serenity to the patients and their family members. A strong personality, she was very precise and demanding, but kind and very delicate toward the sick. She placed the needs of the frail and sick patients above everything else, including her own fragility; she was capable of applying techniques of proximity, even physically, to avoid frightening or

stiffening the sick. She was also able to joke about her own illness, playing down many situations and taking on the needs of the others without omitting the small daily gratuitous actions.

Afflicted by a rare degenerative disease, progressive supranuclear palsy, which caused progressive muscular stiffening, also affecting the voluntary eye movements, she spent these last months surrounded by the care and the prayers of the sisters who, in every possible way, sought to alleviate her suffering. Although in silence caused by the sickness, she continued to communicate with the sisters and the persons who cared for her with small gestures and a vivid look, well aware that she was approaching the final moment of her encounter with the Bridegroom.

She received the consolation of the Sacraments and consigned herself to the God of life who, in the heart of the night, as the Bridegroom went to meet her and recognized her as one of the virgins ready to enter the wedding feast (cf Mt 25:1-13).

Sr. M. Tecla, you completed your earthly journey and you presented yourself in the House of God with your hands filled with corporal works of mercy, pray for us, for your family, for all those who love you and those whom you loved. Invoke for us the gift of caring for each other and patience in accepting the fragility of life as an opportunity for sanctification and apostolate, as Jesus Master said: «Whatever you did for the least of my brothers, you did for me» (cfr. Mt 25:31).

Sr. M. Tecla Monetti