

Dear Sisters,

On May 13, 2024, in the community of Sanfré, at 8:30 AM, Jesus Master definitively called to himself our sister

SR. M. CARLA – GIULIA REDAELLI

born on December 26, 1934 in Montesiro di Besana in Brianza (MB - Italy).

Brought to the baptismal font on the day of her birth, Giulia was raised in a Christian family and, from a very early age, actively participated in the parochial initiatives of Catholic Action.

On the vigil of the Immaculate Conception, December 7, 1957, just over twenty-two years of age, she left her native land and her family to respond to the vocation of the religious life among the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master and entered at Alba, in Casa Madre. In the letter, in which she asked to be admitted among the young women in formation to join the Institute, she wrote with conscious enthusiasm: «Jesus wants me as his own and I am happy to love Him who is Love. I ask the Queen of the Apostles to make me generous in my total offering. I am content, very content! May Jesus place the cross on my shoulders, this is how I want to follow him» (February 24,1957).

Upon completion of the novitiate, she made her religious profession in Rome on March 25,1960, and after five years of temporary vows she made her perpetual profession on March 25, 1965, always in Rome. These were the fervorous years of the Second Vatican Council in which the Sister Disciples, young and adult, participated in various ways as living and active members in the Church, and Sr. M. Carla drew from the vitality of the renewal of religious life and ministry with enthusiasm and hope.

During the first years of religious life, she accompanied the young women in the postulancy as an assistant and, for one year, she taught the young boys in the Seminary of the Society of Saint Paul in Centrale di Zugliano (VI).

She completed her certification in 1964, and given her artistic abilities, she was sent to the Istituto Statale d'Arte di Urbino where she completed the three-year course (1967 - 1970) for graphic arts. She received her diploma with a thesis entitled "La simbologia nella comunicazione ecclesiale" [The symbolism of ecclesial communication].

During her stay in Urbino, with a small group of young student Sister Disciples, she provided for the coordination of the life of the sisters and sought to reconcile the academic obligations with the daily religious observance.



The sisters who were with her during that time remember her for her humane and religious demeanor. With simplicity, she made herself a sister among the sisters, without being afraid of manifesting her difficulties, her sufferings and her tears in moments of difficulty. Her large eyes, her clear gaze transmitted an infinite transparency: she loved all that is beautiful, not only esthetic beauty but interior beauty; for her, beauty is truth, good, beauty as transparency of life, as coherence of life. This fascinated her and she sought to communicate it as she could and knew: she conserved these traits through the years.

Sr. M. Carla collaborated in the liturgical apostolate for which she proposed that all of the productions must truly be an expression of the beauty of God. She was a person filled with vitality, interior beauty and humanity in the various services she undertook: as formator of the Juniors, in the Office of the Center for Liturgical Action of the Italian Episcopal Conference, in the graphics office of the magazine "La Vita in Cristo e nella Chiesa", in graphic design of the productions of the Liturgical Apostolate - posters, cards, national or diocesan exhibits – and in the furnishing of the settings.

Through her artistic sense, taste, precision, her desire to attain the beauty that she dreamed of, she succeeded, in little time and with few resources, in preparing a welcoming environment, in her linearity, in which every piece of furniture and every object had a proper and harmonic place.

With her, teamwork was not always easy, but the common and explicit objective was that of enabling the guest to enjoy the beauty and the warmth of "feeling at home". She had a gift of drawing beauty from very little for the glory of God and the joy of the sisters. In order to render a more qualified service in the apostolate, from 1990 to 1991, she attended the Course for Window Dressers at the Accademia Vetrinistica Italiana di Milano.

She also fulfilled the role of superior in the communities of the Vatican at the Telephone Switchboard (1979 - 1985) and in Naples (1993) where she was loved and esteemed for her amiability and protecting the values of the consecrated and Pauline life of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master.

After two years of service as a telephone operator in the Vatican (1999 - 2001) she was transferred to Milan and then to Cinisello Balsamo as a collaborator in the Liturgical Apostolate Center and telephone operator.

Afflicted with generalized atherosclerosis and hypertensive myocardiopathy, she spent these last years in communities more suitable to her state of health, surrounded by the care of the sisters in a setting that was more adapted to the preparation for the encounter with the most beautiful one among the sons of men: Jesus, our Master and Lord. And his Virgin Mother, Mary, on the day in which the Church remembers and celebrates the apparitions to the three shepherds of Fatima, came to lead her into the House of the Father.

Rest in peace, Sr. M. Carla, and intercede for us that we too may purify our interior gaze to be able to recognize the presence of God around us each day.

Rome, May 14, 2024

Sr. M. Micaela Monetti

