



Dear Sisters,

On September 16, 2024, at the Lefort Hospital in São Paulo (Brazil), at 5:00 PM, the Divine Master definitively called to himself our sister

SR. M. PIERÂNGELA – ILIDA DALLA RIVA
born on September 14, 1945 in Aratiba (Rio Grande do Sul – Brazil)

She is the firstborn of the married couple Pedro Dalla Riva and Ângela De Ré. It was a family that was united, hardworking and animated by faith and the spirit of sacrifice. She willingly participated in the life of the parish, the animation of the liturgical celebrations and the popular feasts and, through prayer, she progressively matured in the desire to consecrate herself completely to God in the example of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, whom she considers as her vocationist and teacher of life.

Having encountered the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master, she finally entered at the age of twenty-five into the Congregation in Sao Paulo DM on March 4, 1971. Upon completion of the novitiate, she made her religious profession at Sao Paulo DM, on February 10, 1974, on the 50th Anniversary of the foundation of the Institute. On February 10, 1980 she made her perpetual profession in the same Divine Master Community in Sao Paulo.

Tested also by life and the family situation, Sr. M. Pierangela showed herself to be, from the first steps of religious life, a mature, good and serene young woman who actively participated in community life and carried out the apostolate with love and dedication. She cultivated a spirit of prayer and profound praise and progressed in the understanding and fidelity to the charism of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master.

Particularly in the first years of religious life, she dedicated herself to the pastoral work for vocations and the formation of the aspirants. Then she accepted, in obedience, the responsibility of coordinating the communities of Rio de Janeiro (1985 – 1988) and Caxias do Sul (1989 – 1990). The major part of her consecrated life was spent in the mission in the Liturgical Apostolate Centers.

Sr. M. Pierângela was fascinated by the power and the beauty of our mission as Sister Disciples. All of the priests and other persons who entered the Liturgical Center, somehow sought the sister, whether to receive assistance or to be heard. In the relationship established with the priests and friends there was a sign of faith and gratuity that guided the offering of her



life. Every day, with joy, hope and the certainty of Divine Providence, she made herself available by beginning with prayer together with the employees and, to the extent possible, desired that they dedicate a period of time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel within the Center. The priests and lay persons who frequented the Center perceived the Liturgical Center of San Paolo as a welcoming oasis and place of encounter.

Sr. M. Pierângela testified openly: *«On my part, I continue to thank and bless the Lord for the countless experiences of faith during these years. I always sought and found that the best help is listening: accept everything in the best way possible. There is room for everyone in our chapel. The Word of God always places us in an attitude of humility and interior openness to receive the mystery of love that has no limits.*

In light of the writings of Fr. Alberione, of Mother Scholastica, and the articles of the Rule of Life, I reflected upon becoming living witnesses to the presence of the Risen Lord, in every time of our history. Our dear and beloved Mother Scholastica reminds us in her writings that here there is “a land of merits and paradise is a place of joy”; it is also our desire that the Lord himself is within us, the one totality, so that all may see and love him».

With serenity and patience, Sr. M. Pierângela spent her last days serenely facing the worsening of various pathologies that rendered her minute person ever more frail and purified her interior spirit like gold in the crucible. With the celebration of the centennial of Foundation she united her thanksgiving for the gift of the Jubilee of her religious consecration, continuing to bless the Divine Master for the great gift of the vocation and mission that springs from the Paschal Mystery of Christ Jesus. Physically, she was consumed slowly and inexorably like “a burning candle to shed light”.

We are confident that she can now intercede for the gift of creative fidelity and interiority that is nourished in docility to the Spirit of God and in listening to the Word of Eternal Life for all of us.

Rome, September 17, 2024

Sr. M. Micaela Monetti
Sr. M. Micaela Monetti