



*Faith in the Resurrection
opens us to fraternal communion
Beyond the threshold of death.*

(RoL 24)



Today, 27 January 2023, at 9.15 pm,
in Casa Madre – Albano Laziale (RM),
our sister has ended her earthly life

TERESA, Sr M. LIDIA SCHIRRU

She was 89 years old and 61 years of religious life.

Today, as we thank the Lord for the gift of Sr. Teresa's vocation as a Pastorella, we raise with the psalmist the prayer that we see shaped in her life, in her sixty-one years of pastoral ministry: *Trust in the Lord and do good, that you may dwell in the land and be fed in security*; a life made fruitful by solid faith and profound charity.

Teresa was born on 03 October 1933 in San Basilio (CA) and was baptized on 09 October of the same year in the parish of her town, dedicated to St. Peter Apostle. She entered the Congregation in Casa Madre - Albano Laziale on 03 October 1958 and in the novitiate on 02 September 1960. She made her first profession on 03 September 1961, taking the name of Sr. Maria Lidia. After her first profession she was sent to the Community of Massa Martana (PG), where she devoted herself mainly to family pastoral care.

She made her perpetual vows on 3 September 1966, in Casa Madre in Albano Laziale, and in her request for admission to her perpetual profession she expressed herself as follows: *I consecrate myself to the Lord to become a saint and with the help of Jesus the Good Shepherd and my good will I have to succeed in being a holy Pastorella*. After her perpetual profession she returned to Massa Martana and remained there until 1982, always engaged in family ministry.

Sr Teresa is described from her initial formation as *a simple, quick, docile and meek person, with solid piety, very collected and with an interior life, who is dedicated in a special way to the poor and the sick. Of a docile and generous character, she is an example in common life for her goodness. Very sociable and well-liked by the laity. A sister who did not have great studies, but who possesses the wisdom of the heart and manifests love and tenderness towards everyone. Very solicitous for frequent visits to lonely and sick people, generous and faithful in community and apostolic life. She had a predilection for priests whom she "almost venerated" and was happy to be able to collaborate with them.*

After about twenty years of pastoral care in Massa Martana, in 1982 she was transferred to Foggia in the parish of St. Paul where she still carried out her apostolic activity mainly in the field of family ministry. In 1990 she returned to Albano Laziale – Casa Madre for a period of updating. Subsequently she carried out her pastoral ministry in various parishes: from 1991 in Marechiaro (NA); in 1994 in Pieve di Campo (PG); since 1995 in Pannarano (BN) and in 1997 in Reggio Calabria (RC). In 1998 she returned to Albano Laziale for a year and then continued her ministry in 1999 in Massa Martana and in 2000 in the formative community of Axa (RM). In 2006 she was transferred to Castellamare (NA) and in 2017 again to Massa Martana, her first pastoral love, where she mainly devoted herself to the care of elderly and sick people.

In 2018 she returned definitively to Albano Laziale – Casa Madre where she performed various services and received the necessary care that her age and state of health required. We thank the sisters who have always, especially in recent months, generously and lovingly offered the attention that Sr. Teresa needed. Thanks also to the family members for the affection and closeness given to Sr. Teresa in recent times of illness.

To you, dear Sr. Teresa, as we entrust you to the Mercy of the Father, we ask you to intercede for us and for the whole human family a meek heart and a weaver of communion, like your heart, especially for those who are called to stop the war and all forms of conflict, present in this world of ours.

Sr Aminta Sarmiento Puentes
Superior General

Rome, 27 January 2023
Saint Angela Merici