

SUORE DI SANT'ANNA

Provincia "Carlo Tancredi e Giulia di Barolo"

Via della Consolata, 20

10122 TORINO

Tel.: 011/234.22.30 - Fax: 011/234.23.37

E-mail: casamadre.to@libero.it

The Provincial Superior

Turin, 30 July 2015

*"Let us now praise famous men, and our fathers in their generations.
But these were men of mercy, whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten;
their prosperity will remain with their descendants and their inheritance to their children's children.
Their bodies were buried in peace, and their name lives to all generations".*

(Sir. 44:1; 10-15)

Dearest Sisters,

The liturgy makes us meditate on these words on the day on which we celebrate the Memorial of Saints Joachim and Ann and while the entire Congregation was celebrating to honour our Patroness St. Ann, our dear Sr. Concetta was celebrating a greater feast, in Heaven, with the prayer of Vespers together with all the Saints. In fact, after long suffering, she passed away at 5:30 p.m. **on 26 July 2015**, to share fully the joy of Christ, the Bridegroom.

Sister Concetta (Amodio, Concetta Maria), was born in Palazzolo Acreide (Siracusa) on 21 July 1927.

She entered our Congregation in Rome - Viale Marconi, on 25 October 1947.

on 15 September 1948 she made her Vestition in Rome - Viale Marconi.

On 15 September 1950 she made her First Vows in the Chapel of the Mother House in Turin.

On 10 August 1956 she consecrated herself forever to the Lord through the Perpetual Profession.

In 1953, having obtained a Diploma in Teaching, she was sent to Turin - Via Massena as an Elementary School Teacher, a service she rendered with passion in all the Communities where obedience sent her:

In Chieri (1955), as in Castelfidardo (1960), and in Acireale (1971) always as a Teacher.

Her innate sweetness, together with kindness and generosity, rendered her amiable so as to easily win over whoever approached her, especially the children whom she loved tenderly and to whom she communicated serenity and the joy of living, through her jovial and calm temperament.

In 1972, from the Community of Acireale, Sr. Concetta went back to Castelfidardo, where she remained until 1995. This was the mission in which Sr. Concetta poured out all her educative passion: educating hosts of children, trying to give the best of herself to help them become not only good students, but good Christians and adults who could be fathers and mothers.

Thus, one of her former students writes:

"She immediately won over our admiration for the great enthusiasm she knew to transmit to us not only in the impeccable teaching of ideas, but in knowing how to educate us to the joy of living, to the knowledge of beauty, to the things that surround us. Many are the memories that will make Sr. Concetta always present in the life of those who had the honour of meeting her. On every occasion and special events, how, we do not know, she was always present, giving help and consolation even in the darkest moments of life.

Now that she sits sovereign next to her Spouse, her Light will be even brighter and more wonderful upon each of us and on Castelfidardo, which she loved so much and where, for many years, she lived in the spirit of selflessness and generosity".

In 1991 she was nominated Superior of the same Community of Castelfidardo, a service that she carried out with commitment and a spirit of sacrifice, despite difficulties.

In 1995 obedience called her again to Acireale from which, in 2001 she was transferred once again to Castelfidardo, where she was called to carry out the service of Superior for two consecutive three-year terms.

Despite her not so young age, Sr. Concetta continued to dedicate herself with energy and enthusiasm to the service of the Sisters in the Community and the people whom she always welcomed with her smile, encouraging whoever approached her to live the daily events with faith.

Concluding her term as Superior, in 2007 she was asked to go to Grosseto. She accepted it even though her heart was grieving because she had to leave her beloved people of Castelfidardo, whose memories would remain indelible in her heart.

The Director of the Newspaper "*Presenza*", of the Archdiocese of Ancona-Osimo wrote regarding Sr. Concetta:

"The presence of Sr. Concetta Amodio in Castelfidardo was an important point of reference for the city.... Following the example of Giulia Colbert, and above all, of Mother Enrichetta Dominici, Sr. Concetta, aside from having increased the knowledge of many generations through her teaching the elementary school children, is remembered for her ties with the families: there was no difficult situation, such as death, in which Sr. Concetta with the other Sisters, had not brought comfort.

Another aspect which we would like to underline is that of the increased acculturation of the people of Castelfidardo which Sr. Concetta had done through her activities within the Institute making known its history and through organized trips to most important Shrines of Italy and Europe among which were Lourdes and Fatima.

A Sicilian of strong character, Sr. Concetta represented that Sicilian pride and Hellenistic culture and she never lost an occasion to make others visit that region which she knew very well".

In 2008, due to health problems which had become increasingly pronounced, she was received in the Community of Rome-Viale Marconi, where the Sister Nurses took care of her ill health: in fact, she suffered from serious problem of diabetes, which in time became complicated and caused other problems, at times requiring hospitalization.

Last March, she was transferred to the adjacent Community of Stella Maris and in the month of June, because of high and persistent fever, it was necessary to admit her to hospital where she was diagnosed with acute enterocolitis caused by a bacteria that had attacked her vital organs.

After a long period of hospitalization, when her condition was by then very serious, Sr. Concetta was discharged as she herself desired, in order to spend the last days of her illness in the Community.

She lived her last days in an obvious state of suffering and despite the loving and continuous care provided day and night by the Nurses and the Sisters, her condition worsened further until it led to her passing away peacefully.

The funeral Mass was held in the Chapel of Rome, Stella Maris, in the presence of the Superior General, the Councillors and the Sisters of the nearby Communities.

The people from Castelfidardo could certainly not be missing: some of the Sisters of that Community and some friends who represented Castelfidardo that "*grieved for Sr. Concetta*", as it appeared in the news headlines of some local newspapers.

After the funeral Mass, her mortal remains were buried in the Cemetery of Prima Porta where she now rests together with many of our other Sisters.

Dearest Sisters, from Heaven, where we think she is, our dear Sr. Concetta will intercede for consolation and joy for her relatives, whom she loved much, for the Sisters who helped her during her illness, for our Religious Family that has great need of the intercession of our Sisters who already partake of God's joy.

Let us not forget to offer our suffrages, in that Communion of Saints which makes us one family.

I greet you all with affection,



Sr. Gabriella Profita, Provincial Superior