

**Sister of Saint' Ann**

**Province "Carlo Tancredi e Giulia di Barolo"**

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**10122 TORINO**

*The Provincial Superior*

Turin, 26 December 2017

*“God so loved the world that He gave His only Son  
that whoever believes in Him should not be lost, but have eternal life”. (Jn.3,16)*

Dearest Sisters,

in the most sublime manifestation of the Father's Love that is the Birth of Jesus, this Word gives strength to our Faith and nourishes our Hope, illuminates our prayer with meaning because our dear Sister Enrichetta, who believed in His love and entrusted herself to His mercy, may enjoy the fullness of eternal life

**Sister Enrichetta** (Giovanna Tornielli) was born in Turin on 9 December 1934.

Sr. Enrichetta grew up in a deeply religious family, in which her parents transmitted to her the values of humility, simplicity, love for the poor, values that our dear Sister acquired fully and lived throughout the course of her earthly life.

On December 8, 1955 she entered in our Congregation, in Turin - Mother House, where she celebrated the stages of her formative journey:

on August 10, 1956 made her Vestition

on August 10, 1958 made her First Profession

on September 8, 1964 consecrated herself forever to the Lord with the Perpetual Profession – in Turin, Mother House.

In 1985, after the first Profession, Sr. Enrichetta moved to Turin via Massena as assistant to the boarders, a service that our sister carried out expressing that of her characteristic qualities: serenity, gentleness in her dealing, unconditional availability with the boarders entrusted to her and with those who approached her.

In 1960 she became part of the Community of the Mother House, as in charge of the refectory, a service that she held for many years and where, once again, she put herself at the disposal of the Sisters; in 1972 obedience called her to Rome, in the Generalate, where she carried out the reception service and, after a few years, in 1975 she was transferred to the Community of Rome-Viale Marconi to complete her studies and obtain the Magistral Qualification, for which she was asked to remain in the same community to teach in the Primary School. The Sisters who knew her remembered the sober lifestyle with which Sr. Enrichetta lived and her commitment to meet the needs of those who asked her for help.

In 1983, our dear Sister returns to the Generalate and is named a local Bursar, a service that she assumes and carries out with seriousness and precision.

In 1991, for family reasons, Sr. Enrichetta asked and obtained the transfer to the Community of Moncalieri in the Province of Northern Italy. For many years the community of Moncalieri has breathed the gentleness and originality of Sr. Enrichetta who with a thousand abilities was able to put into practice the creativity of the Spirit typical of the lovers of God in putting their nothingness before Christ. So it was not

unusual to see her often unguarded of everything, to dress a poor man, or to find her in the porter's lodge while she was doing humble services to some needy; or again, to see her "slip" along the streets of Moncalieri, always running, with some commissions to do, always with great confidentiality, a gift that made it invaluable and that she rendered such services entrusted to her toward the Sisters and the community.

But this was not casual. In the notes she jotted and kept with her, in her thousand sheets, she wrote: *"To you who teach me to enter life through the sure path of love, Thank you" (2016); "Lord, I am here to give my all to the full, without half measures, that is in the best and most complete way ... loving" (febb 2016). A glance at the past: my God, how many graces you have favored me! Lord, here I am. Now I start again "(2016); "The greatest vocation is of one who loves silence ... It does not take much to make us love: a bit 'of kindness that is worth a caress ..." a little step a day (week 2017) "*

These traits made her known to everyone, requested by many; so she worked hard until it was possible for her health conditions that, at a certain moment, did not allow her to leave the house: her serious kyphosis in the long run had caused a serious curvature to the column that, in addition to numerous other problems, did not facilitate the balance.

In fact, in March 2015 she was welcomed in the Community of Turin - Casa Betania for serious problems of disorientation; nevertheless, as long as she could, even with the older Sisters, she lavished herself with kindness and availability.

Sr. Shiney remembers her as a *Sister who lived with intensity her self-giving to the Lord; attentive and available to help anyone in need. She was assiduous in prayer and has always participated in all community activities. She was not able to speak badly about others and accepted and welcomed everyone with a smile. She willingly went to find the weak sisters and told them the jokes to lighten their suffering and loneliness. During her illness she has always been peaceful, never a lament; she always expressed with cordial words her gratitude towards the Sisters who assisted her.*

On the evening of December 20th, our dear Sister was urgently accompanied to the emergency room for serious respiratory problems; unfortunately, despite the prompt intervention and care of the doctors, the following day, December 21, in the hospital, at 11.45 am Sr. Enrichetta has ceased to live due to cardio-respiratory arrest.

The corpse was transported to the chapel of the Mother House for the celebration of the funeral Mass in the presence of the sisters of the two communities of the Mother House and of some Sisters of the neighboring communities; there were also relatives and some friends and teachers of Moncalieri.

The Parish Priest of Moncalieri, Don Paolo Comba, who for many years knew Sr. Enrichetta, during the homily highlighted the traits of humility and simplicity that have characterized her life, highlighting her constant dedication to the poor, declaring : "I am sure that the poor today have opened the doors of Paradise for our dear Sr. Enrichetta".

At the end of the celebration, Sr. Franca Rita addressed the last greeting to the Sister:

*Dearest Sister Enrichetta, I felt great joy yesterday when I came to the hospital to see you: you looked serene and beautiful like the one you had when I entered the religion class and you played the ball with a strength and a joy that left me stunned. The yes that you said to Jesus as a young woman you kept, even a hundredfold, when obedience made you return to Moncalieri and we found ourselves living in the same community. Along the way, I realized the love you had for your mother that you were assisting with gentleness and care. Do you remember that I also called her mother? because I felt that she loved me almost like you. You assisted her until the Lord called her to Heaven.*

*Your immense value was what you did for the poor. You lived as poor and loved the poor. How beautiful! What a great gift the Lord has given you! Perhaps few people have understood, that we have been founded for the poor, as the Marchioness Giulia di Barolo who has let herself be involved with the prostitutes of via delle Orfane. I would have many other things to say to you but now you can read in my heart, even the tears I shed when they told me that Jesus has called you to Heaven.*

*Pray for us that in our daily living the love for the poor would return, because they will be the ones to open the doors of Paradise for us as they have certainly done for you. Thank you Sr. Enrichetta and until we meet in heaven.*

After Mass, the body was accompanied and buried in the family tomb in Moncalieri.

Dearest Sisters, at this time of Christmas we make room for God through listening to the Word, silence, prayer and availability, with a great heart but with an attitude of the little ones and the poor; we continue to pray for our dear Sr. Enrichetta while we ask her to intercede for our entire religious family

Let us continue to remember in our prayer Mother Francescain her visit to the Sisters of the Province of Central India.

I greet you with affection,

  
Suor Gabriella Profita, Provincial Superior