St.Ann's Provincialate Melamiyur 08.05.2012

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing"



(25im. 4:7,8)

Dear Sisters,

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012 at 8.15.p.m. at St. Ann's Animation Center Melamiyur, Sr.Angelica Varkey Annamma took her journey to her Heavenly homeland. After a long and painful suffering caused by cancer of the liver, she now enjoys the Presence of her Creator.

Sr.Angelica Varkey Annamma was born in Shertallay, state of Kerala on 24<sup>th</sup> October 1934 to devout parents Mr. Varkey and Mrs. Mary of Kinattukara family as a third child. She has two brothers. She was baptized on 7<sup>th</sup> day at Mutton Forane Church and was given the name Annamma. She was brought up with love and affection in a prayerful atmosphere in the family. She was educated under the guidance of A.C. Sisters. In the month of June 1953 she entered St.Ann's Convent at Secunderabad. On 1<sup>st</sup> January 1954 she was vested with Religious habit and Ist January 1956 she made her First Religious Profession and on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1962 she made her Perpetual Profession.

In June 1956 itself soon after her First Profession she was transferred to St. Theresa's Convent, Eluru. She was in charge of the Office at St. Theresa's College, Eluru till 1977, wherein she worked so hard for the development of the College. She is fondly remembered by the both Sisters and the Staff of St. Theresa's College, Eluru till today. In 1977 she was transferred to St. Anthony's Convent as Sister in Charge and as a teacher in St.Anthony's High School Vijayawada. In 1982 she was transferred to St. Ann's Convent Kanhangad as Headmistress of the Upper Primary School. In 1993 she was transferred to St. Mary's Convent, Chengalpet as the Animator of the Community. In 1999 she was transferred to St.Ann's Novitiate, Eluru. During the year 2000-2003 she was appointed as the Animator of St.Ann's Animation Centre – Juniorate at Melamiyur. In 2006 she was sent to St. Ann's Convent Kanhangad. In 2007 – 2012 appointed as the Animator of St.Ann's Convent, Nileshwar.

Sr. Angelica was well known for her hard work, spirit of self-sacrifice and patience. She was a person of prayer, kind and considerate to others specially to the old, sick and the poor. Being an excellent administrator she assumed with responsibility her role of an educator. A lovable person, innovative by nature, energetic in action, rendered her service with missionary zeal. Her leadership qualities – Courage and confidence in action, perfection at work, punctual in all activities is something to be appreciated. This is Sr.Angelica a nice, gentle, calm and dignified person. She was endeared by one and all.

Sr. Angelica was well known for her generosity, patience and endurance. In her last days, she was not able to take in any solid food but remained only on liquids and at times on drips. She received Holy Communion daily. On 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012 she showed signs of leaving this earthly dwelling through some discomfort and breathlessness. The Sisters from three Communities: St. Ann's Provincialate, St.Ann's Animation Center and St. Ann's Home 'Madonna Villa' also her family members gathered around her bed, praying for her and entrusting her soul to the Lord. Slowly and gently she bade 'farewell' to all those around closing her eyes. Immediately her face was radiated with serenity and peacefulness.

On 20<sup>th</sup> Friday the day of her funeral, the Sisters, Priests, family members, staff and students, friends and well wishers surrounded her to pay their last respect. The funeral took palce at 3.30 p.m. The Eucharistic celebration was officiated by Rt.Rev. Bishop Neethinathan the Bishop of Chengalpet along with several priests.

I thank the Community of St.Ann's Convent, Nileshwar for their love and respect shown to Sr. Angelica, the Animator of the Community. I thank Mother General who kept enquiring about the health of Sr. Angelica with the assurance of her prayers. I thank Sr. Giovanina and Community who took care of her and all the Sisters from neighbouring Communities who comforted her during her pain and suffering through their visits. I do appreciate their timely help rendered during the funeral. My condolence to Sr. Leelamma Antony Kinattukara and Sr. Reethamma S. Kinattukara the nieces of Sr. Angelica and all the bereaved members of her family. In a very special way I thank Sr.Leelamma for being with Sr. Angelica and rendering her loving service with affection and concern.

May the life of Sisters like Sr. Angelica inspire us to commit ourselves for hard work and selfless service in offering ourselves totally to God's service. Let us continue to pray for the repose of her soul.

Affectionately

Sr. Marietta D'Mello Provincial Superior