St. Ann's Provincialate, Melamiyur 07.10.2014

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7)



Dearest Sisters,

Sr. M. Augusta who lived a serene and quiet life at 'Madonna Villa' St. Ann' Home, Melamiyur, entered the heavenly abode on 6^{th} October 2014 at 11.40 a.m. after nine long months of suffering due to fracture in both the hips.

Sr. M. Augusta (Jaya Mary Arokiaswamy) was born on 01.07.1930 to the devout Catholic Parents Mr. Arokiaswamy and Mrs. Agnes in Michaelpuram, Tamilnadu. She was the 8th born of 10 children of a big family which is so loving. Sr. Augusta was very affectionate to all the family members specially to her younger Sisters in the family.

Sr. M. Augusta, after completing her schooling, did her Teacher's Training Course at Vellore in the year 1945 – 1947 and then she worked as a middle school teacher. In the year 1951 she got an appointment as a teacher in St. Mary's School, Chengalpattu. The Sisters were happy with her and took a lot of care and concern and encouraged her to join our Congregation. She was very much impressed by the type of life lived by our Sisters. Seeing them joyful, she decided to join our Congregation in the year 1953.

06.01.1953	-	Postulancy
01.01.1954	-	Clothing
01.01.1956	-	First Profession
01.01.1962	-	Final Profession

She spent most of her years in teaching at Aruvankadu. She also rendered her services in the Communities of Chengalpattu, Teganare, Mambakkam, Thirumalayampalayam, Kombadimadurai, Kilachery and Adhanur. In 2008 she was transferred to 'Madonna Villa' St. Ann's Home – Melamiyur to take rest and remained here till the end of her life.

Sr. M. Augusta was a serene and soft spoken person. Being a good teacher, she was able to win the hearts of her colleagues and students. She loved the poor students and worked hard for their welfare. She was very zealous in teaching Catechism in the school as well as in the Parishes. Her love for Christ urged her to speak of God to all those who came in contact with her. She remained always gentle and calm in the midst of troubles and difficulties.

Sr. M. Augusta was a person of prayer and deep faith. She endured patiently all her pains specially when she fractured her hip and had to undergo an operation which caused her immense, unbearable pain. Few months later she had another fall and fractured the other hip which confined her to bed. This caused her anxiety and unthinkable agony although she was given the best of treatment. Day by day her health deteriorated and she was unable to move or even eat on her own. At the end she suffered from bed sores. No treatment helped her and slowly she drifted into coma. On 6^{th} October at 11.40 a.m. she gently breathed her last.

During the funeral mass celebrated in the Chapel at 'Madonna Villa' St. Ann's Home - at 5.15 p. m, the Sisters from the neighbouring Communities and her family members were present. After the Mass her mortal remains were shifted to the cemetery for burial.

I am grateful to Sr. Donata and Community for their continuous loving service offered to Sr. Augusta during these nine months. I thank specially Sr. Sheela Amalraj our Sister nurse who took care of Sr. Augusta, being at her disposal day and night. May God reward her self - sacrifice, patience and dedication.

I express my thanks to Sr. Mercy Sebastian and Sisters at St. Ann's Provincialate, Melamiyur, Sr. Leelamma Antony K. and Sisters at St. Ann's Animation Centre, Melamiyur, Sr. Maria Shanthi and Sisters at St. Mary's Convent, Chengalpattu for their timely help and support. Thank you dear Sisters for your loving service and for being there at this time of need.

I express my sincere condolences to the bereaved family members of Sr. Augusta.

Let us offer our prayers and suffrages for our dear Sr. Augusta as we thank her for her dedicated and committed service to our Congregation.

Affectionately, & Parie Smillo

Sr. Marietta D' Mello Provincial Superior