

**St. Ann's Provincialate
B – 43, Cariappa Road
Bolarum – 500 010
Secunderabad, A.P.**

29th February 2016



***“I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in Me,
even though they die, will live.” (Jn. 11:25)***

Dearest Sisters,

These words from the Gospel passage aptly illustrate how a consecrated soul, believing in the merciful love of the Father, lives her life to the full and eventually finds rest in His presence. So it was that, on Saturday the 20th of February 2016, our dear Sr. Emmanuelina, left us for her heavenly house after a long illness, patiently borne.

Sr. Emmanuelina (JULIANA) D’Souza, the eldest daughter of a devout couple, William and Apolina D’Souza, came into this beautiful world on the 16th of February 1938. Two brothers and a sister comprised the happy family at Bendur, Mangalore. Right from her youth, the Lord had a soft corner for her, culminating in His urgent call: “Come, follow Me.” The reply He received was “Here I am Lord – fill me, equip me.” She entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Ann of Providence on the 21st of June 1959 at the Mother House of the Province – Secunderabad. She made her First Vows on the 1st of January 1962, and on 1st January 1968 she pronounced her Perpetual Vows.

An educator by profession, she rendered generous service in several Communities, such as Jamnagar - 1962, Hutti - 1966, Jawalgira – 1974 as Headmistress, Raichur – 1979 as Primary in-charge and Mudgal - 1989. During these years, she guided several children, young girls and boys to fashion a good future.

Despite lack of modern facilities, she felt nothing in this world was a hindrance where the love of God was concerned. Sr. Emmanuelina was very humble and loving. She spoke very little but this had a magnetic effect on the listeners. Her way of life attracted many to the Lord. Her life was adorned with the virtues of prayer, sacrifice, thought for the other, love for the poor and the little ones. She was a peace-loving person and gentle in her dealings with others. When they suffered, she did not desire to do great things to relieve them, instead she consoled them with her presence and loving words. She was slow to anger and ever ready to forgive. Patience, kindness and simplicity were her outstanding virtues, which helped her face all sufferings patiently. Her two brothers died; the sudden demise of her second brother had a great effect on her. She found it difficult to accept the loss. Her health was disturbed.

She suffered from a heart attack in 2007, but recovered with careful medical treatment. Because of her poor health condition, in 1996 she was transferred to St. Ann’s Home for the

Aged, Angelore. Through small and loving deeds, she was able to serve others according to her ability. She spent her precious moments lovingly and hopefully with the Sisters and the aged people around.

Sr. Emmanuelina was highly Diabetic and a Blood Pressure patient. After the heart attack in 2007 she was under medical treatment. During this last month, she complained of uneasiness and ill-health, was taken several times to Fr. Muller's Hospital, Kankanady, for treatment; she was diagnosed for stones in the Gallbladder. The day following her Birthday this year, i.e. 16th February, Sr. Emmanuelina's health condition worsened, she was shifted to the ICU. While conducting the ECG test, the Doctors noticed that she was suffering from Dilated Cardiomyopathy. Owing to this condition, only 20% of her heart was functioning; she put was on the ventilator. In spite of intensive treatment her health condition deteriorated and on 20th Saturday at 6.30 a.m. the Lord called her to Himself.

The Sisters of the Community and also those who lived with her in the past found Sr. Emmanuelina, to be a person of immense patience in spite of having to face many problems. She bore all her pains and sufferings in silence for Christ, whom she loved ardently. She had a lot of concern for the Sisters of the Community specially the Sister-students. She used to keep company with them during their exams and pray for them.

The funeral Mass was celebrated in the Chapel of St. Ann's Home for the Aged, Angelore on 22nd February 2016 at 10.30 a.m. by Fr. Patrick – a relative of Sr. Emmanuelina. In his homily Fr. Patrick stressed on the virtue of patience, much evident in her life. He also said that, though quiet by nature, she was always cheerful and concerned. The smile on her face brought cheer to others. She never uttered words which hurt others nor did she complain about any one. She was a peace- loving person.

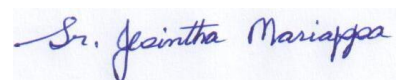
I extend my heartfelt thanks to all the Priests who offered the Holy Eucharistic Sacrifice for the repose of the soul of our dear Sr. Emmanuelina. Special thanks to Fr. Patrick for his inspiring homily. I also thank all the Sisters of the neighbouring Communities, the inmates and all who were present to pay homage and offer prayers for the soul of our dear Sister.

Words are inadequate to express my gratitude to Sr. Celine D'Souza, the animator, and all the Sisters of the Community, for their dedicated and generous service to our dear Sr. Emmanuelina, especially during the last days of her life. I am also grateful to the inmates (Aged Ladies) who supported her with their prayers, love and care.

While we offer our sympathies and condolences to the dear family members, I sincerely thank each one who had come to bid farewell to our dear Sr. Emmanuelina and to be with her till the end.

Let us offer our prayers and sacrifices for the departed soul of our dear Sister Emmanuelina, that she may attain the fullness of life, in the presence of our Triune God. May she pray for all of us that we may share with others, the joy of discovering the Mercy of God.

With love and affection,



Provincial Superior