

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



28th January 2015.

“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet so that they may open the door for Him as soon as He comes and knocks.”
Lk. 12: 35-36.

Dearest Sisters,

Being attuned to the voice of Christ, her Spouse, Sr. Fabiola kept herself awake for the return of her Master. Behold, she heard the final knock of her Bridegroom at 6.30 p.m. on January 21, 2015 and opened the door with a lighted lamp fixing her eyes on Him. She was a great devotee of St. Joseph and prayed through his intercession always for a happy death. She had the privilege of dying on a day dedicated to St. Joseph.

Sr. Fabiola (THERESIA) Chennattu the 5th child among 7 children, was born on July 2, 1931 at Kanjiramattam, Kerala, in the good and devout family of Mr. Emmanuel and Mrs. Annamma. She grew strong in the faith, her pious parents instilling in her love and fear of the Lord. She responded to the Divine call and entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Ann at Secunderabad on January 21, 1956. She was vested on January 1, 1957 and made her First Profession on January 1, 1959. Being fully convinced of her call, she made her Perpetual Profession on January 1, 1965.

After completing her Art and Craft Training Course in Hyderabad, in 1962 Sr. Fabiola was transferred to St. Theresa's Convent, Eluru, where she taught drawing and craft to the High School students for 24 years. She also rendered her service as the Boarding Mistress. Her favorite ones were the naughtiest and weakest children, especially those who suffered due to family problems. The children in the boarding never lacked the maternal presence of Sr. Fabiola from their rising until their going to bed. Her artistic and creative hand prepared hundreds of vestments, altar linen, corporals, and purificators for various Churches. Her long stay there touched and inspired many young lives.

Sr. Fabiola was transferred to St. Ann's Convent, Eluru in the year 1986 and to St. Ann's Convent, Bolarum in the year 1995, as the Bursar of these communities. She was adept at accounts, which she did in detail and with precision. Affectionately, she used to be called 'walking calculator'. In 2005 she was transferred to St. Ann's Convent, Tarnaka and finally she was placed in St. Ann's Home, Bolarum in the year 2007.

Sr. Fabiola was an embodiment of piety, a woman of prayer, who always believed that with God she could accomplish all things. She was always the first in the chapel at 5.00 a.m., and left the chapel in the night only to sleep. Mostly she spent her free time in silence, enjoying the loving presence of Jesus, praying for Priests, for Religious Sisters and for the various needs of our Congregation.

Sr. Fabiola was guided by strong faith, discipline, interior recollection and high morality that allowed her to rise above trifling matters. She would always forgive others. She was indeed a pliable instrument in the hands of God, always obedient to her Superiors. Her love towards nature and animals was remarkable.

With her gentle and quiet personality, she never interfered with anyone. She was a good adviser, self-sacrificing, thoughtful and soft spoken. There was always a beautiful smile on her face, which brought joy and cheer to many who met her. She touched the hearts of many by extending her helping hand in time of need. Being contemplative by nature she was able to see the craftsmanship of God in every creative being and appreciated each little kindness shown to her.

Gratitude is the attitude of the heart. This was very true in the life of Sr. Fabiola. She volunteered to sit by the side of the Sisters who were sick and interceded for God's healing touch on them. She never demanded anything and was content with whatever was provided. She accomplished every duty, whether simple or complicated, with great love and patience.

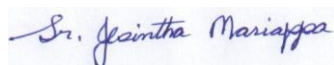
On December 4, 2014, Sr. Fabiola was admitted into Hospital for the fracture of her hipbone. Doctors advised her to take complete rest with traction. Though she was discharged from the hospital on December 17, 2014 she remained bedridden. She indeed anchored herself on the Passion of Jesus till her last breath. On January 21, 2015 at 1.00 p.m. she complained of pain on the right side of the chest. After consulting the Doctor, the sisters did the needful. In the morning she found it difficult to swallow anything. Since her health was deteriorating, Sr. Meera, the Superior, called for the Sister-Nurses from Lallaguda Community. Sr. Annapurna P. rushed to St. Ann's Home around 10.30 a.m and a nasal tube was inserted. At about 3 p.m., her breathing became very slow and her gaze was fixed. At 3.30 p.m. she was administered the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, by the retreat preacher Fr. Nelson Lobo OFM. At 6.30 p.m. she breathed her last, while the Sisters interceded for her with ejaculatory prayers.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated on January 22, 2015, at 3.00 p.m. in St. Joseph's Church, Bolarum. Father Y.M. Joseph, the Parish Priest, presided over the Holy Eucharist, along with other concelebrants. In his homily, he expressed his esteem for Sr. Fabiola for her exemplary life. Some of the Sisters from the neighbouring and distant Communities, as well as her nephew, niece and nephew-in-law, were present. We express our heartfelt condolences to the members of her family and to all her other relatives and friends.

I am deeply indebted to Sr. Meera, our Junior Sisters, the elderly Sisters and especially Sister Jyothi Pavitha, for their untiring service during the last days of our dear Sister Fabiola. May the good God reward them with His graces.

We find something beautiful in Sr. Fabiola. She entered the Congregation on January 21 and on the very same date she left us for her heavenly abode. As we surrender our Sister to the mercy of God, let us be sure that we have a strong intercessor before the throne of God to pray for the Congregation and for our Province.

Affectionately,



Provincial Superior.