

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



3rd September 2014.

'Your face Lord do I seek' (Ps. 27:8)

Dearest Sisters,

The sudden demise of Sr. Innocenzina (Mariam Thozhuthuparambil) on 20th August 2014 at 9 a.m. took us by surprise and once again made us reflect on the mystery of death and on the certainty that one's life is in the hands of God.

Sr. Innocenzina was born in Kerala on 24th September 1934 to Anthony and Rose the third among then four children. Her Priest brother and younger Sister had gone before her. She is survived by her elder Sister aged 90.

Answering the call of Jesus "Come follow me" she joined the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Ann of Providence at the age of 20. After the Postulancy she entered the Novitiate on 8th January 1956, was clothed in the Religious Habit on 1st January 1957 at Secunderabad and made her First Profession on 1st January 1959. She served the Community of Jamnagar from 1959-1963 as a Teacher in the Kindergarten. In 1964 she was welcomed into the Community of Fatimanagar to help the Sisters in the Hospital. In view of her sympathetic, kind and generous nature, Sr. Innocenzina was sent to St. Philomena's School of Nursing, Bangalore, from 1965-69 where she completed her training and qualified herself as an efficient nurse and midwife, ready to give of herself wherever needed. In the same year she was transferred as infirmarian to St. Ann's Convent, Secunderabad.

In November 1969 the Community at Mudgal welcomed her to work in the dispensary, later she went to Jawalgira and for the next 30 years she willingly served as a Nurse at Gollapudi, Fatimanagar, Appanapeta and St. Ann's Home Bolarum. In 2008 she was happy to work at the Home for the Aged, Fatimanagar. Even though Sr. Innocenzina was highly diabetic resulting in several health problems over the years she never let this situation come in the way of her life of service in the vineyard of the Lord. Just as Christ came to serve she was willing to go out to others around her. Gifted with the healing charism she was a source of comfort to all those who needed her delicate touch. She placed her trust in Christ who said that His yoke is easy and His burden light (Mt. 11:30). She took everything in her stride generously offering her aches and pains for the sick and suffering all over the world.

Gradually Sister's health began deteriorating. Her swollen feet was a source of discomfort but for dear Sr. Innocenzina, her one desire was to attend all the exercises of the Community which she did till the very end. On 7th August 2014, she had severe breathlessness and was rushed to the Hospital immediately. The Doctors, after having conducted all the tests, diagnosed that hers was a cardiac problem. She found relief from the medication administered. As her health improved she was discharged on 11th August 2014.

Earlier in the week she made a telephone call to one of our Sisters regarding her precarious health and her readiness to meet the Lord whom, she continued, was not calling her. She wondered why! Then again prior to her death she spoke to the members of her family who, incidentally, were planning to pay her a visit shortly.

Quite early in the morning of the 20th, she woke up and prepared herself to attend Morning Prayer and receive the Holy Eucharist. At 8.30 a.m. she showed signs of breathlessness coupled with restlessness. The Sisters took her in a wheel-chair to the hospital. At this time of agony when the Doctors and

Sisters were administering life support her condition grew worse. She was unable to breathe or speak at the Sacrament of Reconciliation she could only say repeatedly: Jesus have mercy on me – beautiful way of confessing. She was calm and serene during the celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick. She asked for the Rosary from one of the Sisters near her side, took it from her and reverently kissed this beautiful gift which she always carried on her person all through her life.

Being a Nurse she sensed the beginning of her end and she spoke to her Superior, Sr. Mary Joseph in these words: ‘This time I may not come back to the house’. Slowly her pulse dipped low and she winged her way to heaven at 9 a.m. on 20th August 2014.

As we live, so we die. Sr. Innocenzina’s death truly reflected her life – serene, peaceful, quiet and thoughtful of others not wanting to trouble any one for anything.

In the Community, she was always found to be a loving, faithful, loyal and observant Sister finding inner strength and solace in prayer. Her life was lived in an attitude of seeking to serve the Lord be it with the patients, working in the dispensaries and hospitals or attending to a Sister in the Community. She was attentive to helping the poor who knocked at the Convent door frequently.

Despite the fact that she was confined to her room she never wasted her time. She would be found as busy as ever – knitting little baby sets for the new born babes and children at the hospital. She also used her talents in teaching our young Sisters this same activity. She would never talk ill of anyone, on the other hand she would help those who came to her for guidance. A sorrow shared is halved a joy shared is doubled. Nobody can become a complete person without receiving or giving love. Sr. Innocenzina was one such person and we thank God for her ability to do so. Therefore through her exemplary life of selfless service and commitment she still continues to be present with us, inspiring and interceding for everyone who met and lived with her in her journey of dedicated service.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was celebrated at 11 a.m. by Fr. Chinnappa Reddy Yeruva, Parish Priest of Fatima Cathedral, Fatimanagar. Men and women religious were present together with some of the members of her family. The mortal remains of Sr. Innocenzina were laid to rest in the Parish Cemetery, Fatimanagar, together with some of our Sisters.

I wish to communicate my heartfelt gratitude to all the Sisters of both our Communities on the campus together with the hospital staff for their prompt and loving service, their availability in coming to the assistance of our dear Sister all throughout her illness and their concern in her well-being, when she needed it the most.

I thank in a special way Sr. Prasannatha and the Sisters who collaborated with her in making the funeral arrangements in my absence while we were at the Chapter.

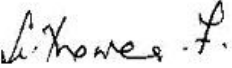
I extend my sincere condolences to all the dear members of her loving and close-knit family and in particular her niece and nephews who were present to pay their last respects to their beloved aunt.

Our dear Sisters from the neighbouring Communities and those from the Southern Province deserve our gratitude for their prayerful support and presence at the funeral.

O God, our Father, Fount of life you called our Sister Innocenzina to a new life in Christ and gave her the grace to follow your Son by living and working together with us in the healing ministry.

We lift her up in prayer and ask you to receive her in the joy of your kingdom with Christ and our Sisters who have gone before her. Have compassion on her and place her at your right hand near the throne of justice – Amen.

With love and affection,


Provincial Superior