

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



10th June 2015.

“Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,
whose trust is in the Lord.” (Jer. 17,7)

Dearest Sisters,

Our life here on earth is a journey with Jesus who, holding our hand, leads us to Eternal life. The long awaited day dawned for our dear Sr. Irene Marreddy to say ‘Lord, I trust in You, here I am. Take me’.

Sr. Irene Marreddy, whose maiden name was Theresa, was born on 7th April 1930 in Siripuram, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh to a pious couple Marreddy Kasu and Mariamma Kasu. They brought up their dear daughter with much love and care and nurtured her with God’s Word. At her young age she decided to follow Christ. She entered the Novitiate on 20.06.1949. The following year, on January 1, she was clothed with the Religious Habit and her First Profession was on January 1, 1952. She made her Final Profession on 3rd January 1958.

Sr. Irene has made a long journey through the corridors of time as a teacher, attending to the little ones in the classrooms, boarding and hostels. Sister was very loving and gentle, understanding and sympathetic, more concerned towards the young and always soft spoken, hard working and committed to her religious vocation.

In 1951 Sister worked as a boarding mistress. In 1969 she was in charge of the school at Nidadavolu. In 1972 she was transferred to St. Anthony’s High School, Vijayawada to render her service as a Teacher. In 1986, she was appointed Superior of St. Ann’ Convent, Mallapur. Then in 1992 she took charge of the College Hostel at St. Ann’s, Eluru. After two years she was appointed as an administrator in Jeevan Jyothi, Begumpet, run by the Archdiocese of Hyderabad. In 1997, Sister was transferred to Munagala where she was one of the pioneers who established that community, but in September of that same year, she was transferred to St. Ann’s Home for the Aged and Disabled, Fatimanagar as in-charge of the women section. In March 2006, due to health reasons, Sister was brought to St. Ann’s Home, Bolarum, and there she remained till the end.

Sr. Irene, owing to her earlier fall and ripe age, was bed-ridden for the past one year. On 19th May, 2015 Sister was taken to Vijaya Marie Hospital, Khairatabad because of breathlessness and inability to take any food. She was on I.V. fluids to maintain the hydration level. On 20th May, 2015 Sister’s health condition became worse. The following day, she showed a slight improvement, but suddenly her health started deteriorating. In the evening of 24th May, 2015, at the Doctor’s advice, Sr. Irene was brought to St. Ann’s Home. All the Sisters of St. Ann’s Home and the neighbouring communities visited her and stayed with her, supporting her with their prayers and presence. As

gently as she had lived, Sister Irene left this earthly abode to gently slip into the bosom of the Heavenly Father at 1.30 a.m. on 25-06-2015.

The funeral mass was celebrated in the evening at 5.00 p.m. in St. Ann's Home, Bolarum. Fr. Lourdu, the former Parish Priest of St. Joseph's Church, said in his homily, "*When one is born, all smile and the new-born cries; when one dies, all cry and the deceased smiles, because he or she is 'with the Lord'. So also it is in the case of Sr. Irene, who lived her life in the presence of God by offering herself generously in the service of God, specially towards the poor. Today she smiles because she is with the Lord.*"

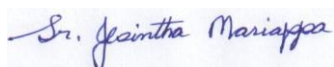
We extend our heartfelt condolences to Sr. Irene's brother, sister, nieces and nephews and many other relatives and well-wishers who were present for the Funeral Mass and at the burial ground. At the invitation of Fr. Lourdu, some of her relatives and a Sister shared their experiences. It was very edifying and inspiring to know that Sr. Irene had touched many souls with her gentleness and soothing smile. She had a spirit of determination in her commitment and a spirit of generosity in her caring for the poor and the least. In her last days, though she was bed-ridden, she always radiated God's ever living and loving presence with her smile to all those who visited her. She suffered silently by offering everything to God. No complaints or grievances or criticism ever came from her lips. No physical ailment or emotional disturbance could hold her back from the spiritual exercises like, praying the Rosary, Liturgy of hours and participating in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

Sister Irene was loved and esteemed by all those who were under her care, whether Sisters or students. She taught the students not only secular subjects but also how to love God and how to help one another. She fostered many vocations to religious life. Many of our Sisters who studied in Eluru, Nidadavolu and Vijayawada were guided and inspired by her magnanimity. In Munagala and Fatimanagar – the poor and the downtrodden were her friends. Every problem is a God-given opportunity for growth. This was what urged Sister Irene to overcome all her problems and struggles with resignation to God's will.

We thank Sr. Meera and her Community Sisters who gave their utmost care to Sr. Irene. We owe our gratitude to our Sister-Nurse Sr. Pushpa, who assisted her in her last agony.

After the Holy Mass her mortal remains were buried in Metuguda Cemetery, Secunderabad, next to our other departed Sisters, where they now rest, awaiting the final resurrection. Let us offer due suffrages for her.

Affectionately,



Provincial Superior.