

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



14<sup>th</sup> June 2016

***“I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race I have kept the faith.” (2 Tim 4:7)***

Dear Sisters,

This Biblical quote aptly illustrates what our dear Sr. Loretta did with her life, her gifts and resources generously given by the Providential Mercy of God. Sr. Loretta was born to Stanislaus DungDung and Josephine Soreng on 17<sup>th</sup> April 1928, at Ranchi (Lanchra grah). She hailed from a family of eight, three brothers and five sisters, rooted in faith and well educated. Her eldest brother was a Priest, Fr. Piyush SJ., and her younger sister, Amy, a Sister in our Congregation.

Sr. Loretta felt drawn to the consecrated life and convinced of her vocation, she joined our Congregation as a teacher. She entered the Novitiate on 09.01.1957, was given the Religious Habit on 03.01.1958, made her First Profession on 03.01.1960 and Final Profession on 03.01.1966.

Soon after her Religious Profession in 1960 she was appointed as a Teacher in Secunderabad. Following in the footsteps of our Founders she carried on her profession, which she deeply loved, for 33 years in schools at various places like Secunderabad (1960), Duldula (1962), Tivim (1967), Bhagalpur (1982) and Dumaria (1983), educating children and youth as an Instrument of Divine Providence. She was dedicated and hard-working, inspiring children to follow the Lord through her very life and teaching. After her retirement from the active ministry of teaching, she rendered her services as a social worker for 6 years in the Community of Kazipet (1993) and also worked in Nelamangala for 2 years (1999).

She was transferred to St. Ann' Hospital, Fatimanagar in 2001 and assigned as Assistant Warden for the student nurses. She taught them spoken English and wanted them to be perfect in Language and Pronunciation. She would supervise their studies and take keen interest in the spiritual growth of the students, whom she also taught Catechism, Mass Prayers and the Rosary. ‘Mary is the surest, the easiest, the shortest and the most perfect way leading us to Jesus’; this was her daily message to those under her maternal care. She was a strict disciplinarian and was able to achieve positive results in the process of educating all.

We can speak volumes about her great love, devotion and attachment to Mother Mary. Her conversations were oriented towards Mother Mary and the Mass. She was found to be praying the Rosary, that powerful weapon, at all times and always exhorted the Sisters to do the same. This is how she prayed often to the Mother of God, in English, “*Hail Mary, Holy Mary, Pray for us. Amen*” and in Hindi, “*Meri Matha, pyari Matha, mere leye prarthana karo*” (My Mother, dear Mother, pray for me.)

She was a lover of nature, contemplative most of the time. Sr. Loretta was humorous, never spoke ill of others and known to be a very grateful person. She was jovial and loved to sing, was robust and

enjoyed good health all through her life. In spite of a number of falls and fractures, she was up and about following the daily horarium of the Community, even though she suffered from Dementia for the past five years.

On 13<sup>th</sup> May, while going for Mass she felt giddy and was about to fall but was prevented by an attender of a patient who rushed to her aid. She had a cerebral hemorrhage resulting in left Hemiplegia; she was unconscious for two days and had to be admitted into our hospital at Fatimanagar. She revived after two days, praying to the Madonna all through the waking hours. She was administered the sacrament of the sick on 16<sup>th</sup> May, by Fr. Joseph our Chaplain.

On 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2016, from 7 p.m. onwards she developed a severe lung infection and suffered from breathlessness in spite of the administration of oxygen and medical attention. On 7<sup>th</sup> morning the Sisters of the Hospital Community, St. Ann's Home for the Aged, St. Ann's Community, Kazipet visited and prayed for her. While the students were praying the rosary, she breathed her last at 2.45 P.M.

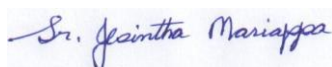
Sr. Loretta's nephews and nieces visited her a few days ago. On hearing the news of her death, one of her nieces, Sophia Elizabeth, sent an e-mail saying, *"My aunty was a very kind hearted, loving, pious woman. She believed in simple living, high thinking. She was blessed with the skill of writing. Every word of her letter that she sent home was always deeply inspiring and powerful. She believed in the harmony and togetherness of family and society. Whenever she came home for vacation, she brought all our families together. She also encouraged the children to come closer to God. During her vacations, she made all the children sit with her and recited stories and teachings of God...She was a kind soul and we will always remember her in our prayers. We will try to live by her teachings and good advice."*

On 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2016, at 4.00 p.m., the funeral mass was concelebrated by five priests. The main celebrant, Fr. Balashowry, Parish Priest of the Cathedral of Fatimanagar, began the Holy Eucharist quoting from the book of Daniel 12:3, *'Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.'* Living a holy life, today she shines like a star forever and ever. In the homily, he said that Sr. Loretta was made for a mission and all of us have a mission to accomplish. He exalted her missionary zeal and for travelling across India. She was born in Bihar and died in Telangana. In between she made numerous journeys and imparted the joy of the Lord to everyone. She was a blessing to the Community and to all.

I am grateful to Sr. Pauline C., Sr. Sophia and the Sisters of the Community, who have lavished such loving care upon Sr. Loretta, especially in her sickness. Though they feel the loss of her, especially in the Mass and at prayers, recreation and meals, yet they are proud of her, for having been such a holy Sister in the Community. I am indebted to the Sisters of the neighbouring Communities and the Nursing students for their prayerful support. I express my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved members of her family and Sr. Terenzia, her cousin who is in the Northern Province of India.

Let us offer our prayers, sacrifices and suffrages for the speedy entry of her soul into the eternal bliss of our Triune God and be assured of having one more saint in heaven who will intercede for us.

Affectionately,



Provincial Superior