

St. Ann's Provincialate
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Date: 25th April 2012



Dearest Sisters,

*"When the winds start to blow
and the storm clouds gather
I won't worry for the captain
has been here before."*

Our life can be compared to a ship that sails towards another shore. It is tossed by the storms, winds and waves of the ups and downs, joys and sorrows of life, while on its long voyage trying to find and follow the route to its final destination. This was the life of our dear Sr. Louisa.

She hails from Madanthyar in Mangalore. She was the third child of late Martin D' Cunha and late Catherine D'Cunha. Three of her four sisters and one brother have already reached the other shore waiting to welcome their sister.

Sr. Louisa was born on Feb 29, 1928. In the year 1947 she willingly said "Yes" to God's voice and opted to join the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Ann. Here she began her life of consecration, dedicating herself completely to the service of God and His people. She made her First Profession in the year 1950 and Final Profession in 1956.

Our sister Louisa was endowed by God with a great gift of taking care of the sick. She was an exemplary nurse. After her training in Nursing in 1953 she rendered her untiring and loving service in the Tata Hospital of Mithapur. From 1976 -1979 she worked in Fathimanagar Hospital, but in 1979 she was taken back to Mithapur. In 1994 she was transferred to Mehmabad. 1995 she was transferred to Angelore as the animator of the community.

She spent 37 years of her religious life in Mithapur. During her service in Mithapur, she was revered by the entire community as 'Mother', also fondly known as 'Sister Noorja' by some. She was also instrumental in establishing the KPS- one of the earliest educational institutes of Mithapur. The senior staff remembers her as a stern Mother but with a kind twinkle in her eyes. Those who experienced the warmth of her healing touch still love and render respect to her. Sr.Louisa was an intelligent, courageous and hardworking person. Prayer was the key of her day and the lock of her night. She lived the famous words of Mother Theresa 'where there is God there is peace, where there is peace there is generosity and love for the poor'. She built her entire life on these words.

She had a great devotion to Mother Mary, always asking for her intercession. Here is an incident to show her great love and trust in Mother Mary. Once, the Sisters in Mithapur were caught up in a disaster. It was a rainy day and the house in which they were living was about to be drowned in the water. At that moment, Sr.Louisa threw a picture of our Lady into the water and to her joy the water subsided immediately and they were safe. She strongly believed that it was Mother Mary who saved them from that disaster. At that time she made a promise to Our Lady to spread devotion to her. So, in 1995 she started the novena in Angelore on every Saturday. This devotion continues even now.

In 1995 she was sent to the Community of Angelore to close it down. But Sr. Louisa, being a courageous lady, worked for the welfare of the community and she became a precious jewel to all the inmates of the house. Her day used to begin at 3.00 a.m. in the kitchen. 'In giving we receive' was the motto of her life. She was adjustable, quick to mix with all, very hospitable, gentle and generous, a mother to the poor. Even on the last day of her life, i.e. Monday (9th) she spent her time stitching clothes for the poor children. She had a special love towards Priests.

In 2009 she was diagnosed with breast cancer and bore all the pain without complaining, for the glory of God. The Priest in the homily said, that through her peaceful and serene life she always radiated Christ who rose from the dead; and it was during the Easter Octave that the Risen Lord willed to call her home.

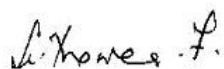
We remain grateful to the Sisters of Angelore Community who served Sr.Louisa in her illness especially Sr. Anasthasia who was always her constant assistant and support. On Tuesday 10th at 5.00 am. Sister manifested righer with slight fever. The Sister-Nurses tried to give the assistance they could, but at about 9.00 a.m. Sister showed restlessness, then immediately the doctor was informed and the ambulance was called, but on the way to Father Muller's Hospital, Sister breathed her last.

Many people speak about Sr.Louisa saying she was a living saint, dedicated to the service of the sick and suffering. In these last few months when her strength was failing, she never spent her time in bed but used to sit in the presence of the Lord.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated in the Chapel on 11th April at 3.30 p.m. with the presence of sixteen Priests, many Sisters from our Province, and representatives from the North and South Province, her only living sister, her nieces and nephews and many of her friends and well wishers.

Her remains were laid to rest in the Parish Church, awaiting the final resurrection. We believe that Sr. Louisa is already close to the Lord, interceding for us with the Father of us all; however, let us be generous in offering suffrages for her.

United in love and prayers,



Provincial Superior.