

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

15th April 2014.



**Make disciples of all nations, observe all that I have commanded you...
I am with you always (Mt. 29/19-20)**

Dearest Sisters,

“The call to the priesthood and religious life demands a courageous choice of unreserved commitment to the Gospel and service to the people of God. This is precisely how our dear Sr. Severine answered the call and fulfilled God’s plan in her life of sixty interesting and enthusiastic years as a Sister of St. Ann of Providence.

Sr. Mary Severine (ANTHONIAMMA) Samineni the precious daughter of Savariah Naidu and Bakkiyammal of Pannur, Tamilnadu, came into this world on 9th June 1925. Blessed with a religious vocation she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Ann on 16th June 1945 and was clothed with the religious habit on 21st January 1946 at the Mother House, Secunderabad. After having completed her teachers training at Madras (Chennai) in the year 1950, she exercised her apostolate of teaching in the Communities of Chengalpattu, Secunderabad and Bolarum. She was professed on 1st January 1954. She was specialized in needle work and crafts. She knew how to deal with the girls under her charge. She guided them to do their work neatly so that the turn-out be something worthy of note and praise. The students practically ran to her in times of trouble and distress positive that their problems would be solved almost immediately. In a word she put herself at the service of the spiritual, moral and material good of humanity.

In the year 1970 she was transferred to the Community of Chengalpattu for a period of six years in the capacity of animator. With a penchant for listening and accompanying the Sisters – her heart would go out to them till they were their normal selves once again. In 1976 she moved on to Mambakkam to preach Christ through her work as a missionary. After this she took charge of the Community of Gollapudi. 1987 saw her at St. Ann’s Juniorate Mallapur as bursar of the Community. Precise at her work she also saw that the younger Sisters did so in like manner. In 1989, she was welcomed to St. Theresa’s, Eluru, as the Sister-in-charge for a term of six years. In 1995 June, Sr. Severine was at Munagala busy as a bee in the field of evangelization. As a matter of fact, she loved to make “disciples of all nations” wherever the Lord of the Harvest led her. In 1996 June, the sisters and the inmates of The Home for the Aged and Disabled, Fatimanagar were delighted to have her with them as the Superior of the Community. She lovingly prepared them for the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Like our Founders she gave first place to the poor, needy and marginalized.

The mission close to her heart was her commitment to the Gospel through which she brought many a stray sheep back to the fold. Her zeal for the spread of the Kingdom was praiseworthy. Rectifying marriages and settling broken families was another talent given top priority in her long life. In 2001 June, she was transferred to Kazipet where despite her frail health which was gradually deteriorating, being affected with Cancer she continued with the process of evangelization – to witness, to serve and

to communicate – true zeal through the proclamation of the Word and the spread of the Kingdom of God!! If only all our Sisters could follow suit!!

She was given Chemo- therapy and Radiation in Hyderabad and was brought for rest in 2003 to the community of St. Ann's Hospital, Fatimanagar. She accepted all the suffering entailed in medical treatment for the love of God and to save souls. She sustained a fracture of the hip bone some years ago .

One ailment followed the other and on 3rd March 2014 she had to be shifted to hospital for further treatment. Investigations revealed that the Cancer had spread to the bladder and lungs. She requested that she be given the Sacrament of the sick and expressed that she was ready to meet Jesus. She requested that the members of her family be informed. She was happy to meet them for her final farewell.

On the First Friday of the month round about 4 O'clock in the evening her condition worsened. All the Sisters of the Community and the neighbouring Communities of the Home for the Aged and Kazipet gathered around her – praying. She was fully conscious and reminded the Sisters to go for adoration. The ejaculation “Jesus I love you” was constantly on her lips. On Saturday morning she received Holy Communion and quietly breathed her last at 4 O'clock in the evening.

Her exemplary consecrated life inspired her niece and grand nieces to join our Congregation. She loved all the members of her family and was looking forward to meeting them. Her nephew Martin came in from Chennai a day before her death. She was delighted to share her thoughts with him. Her grand nieces Srs. Felicita Gali and Bala Pushpam Marianna, were also at her bedside supporting her in prayer. Her niece Sr. Fatima Gali could not make it on time. She arrived ten minutes after she expired.

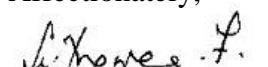
Sr. Severine was our prayer tower. Sr. Severine was loved and appreciated by one and all. A happy person is not a person in a certain set of circumstances but rather a person with a certain set of attitudes. She was one of our role-models in the true sense of the term. Not only was she faithful to the Rules and Constitutions but made it a point to bring others to the Lord with her loving, forgiving nature, that was marked with missionary enthusiasm, infinite patience, stamina and cool courage in the face of difficulties from within and without. All of us have much to learn from Sister whose relationship with Christ determined her life-style. Great acts of love are done by those who are habitually performing small acts of kindness. An incident related by the chief celebrant Fr. Balaswamy SDB, during the solemn Requiem High Mass at the Cathedral at Fatimanagar gives us an inkling of what her presence meant to the parishioners of her home town in Pannur. On enquiring as to why the bells tolled in the Parish the answer was that it announced the death of their senior-most parishioner- Sr. Severine. Yes, dear Sisters, Sr. Severine is no more but she continues to live in the minds and hearts of all those whose lives she touched on her earthly sojourn.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to all the dear members of her loving family and in particular all those who made it possible to be with her till the end.

I sincerely thank our Sisters and medical staff who assisted Sr. Severine all throughout her stay at the hospital. May the Divine Healer bless you all. Our dear Sisters of the neighbouring Communities and those from the South province deserve our gratitude for their prayerful support and presence at the funeral.

Let us implore our Merciful Saviour to hear our humble prayer for our dear departed Sister and give her spirit light and endless rest.

Affectionately,


Provincial Superior.

