



Obituary

Sr Generosa Masondo OP

11.05.1952 – 26.02.2023



*It is my Father's will that whoever sees the Son
and believes in him should have eternal life,
and that I should raise her up on the last day.*

Jn 6: 40

Sr Generosa Masondo was born on 11 May 1952 on the Roman Catholic Oblate Farm at Cedara to Johannes and Claudia Masondo. Generosa Ntombiyenkosi, the first born of the Masondo family, grew up in her mother's extended family. She was proud of her Zulu heritage.

Her primary school education was in a Catholic environment, first at the Cedara Farm School where the Daughters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Oblates of Mary Immaculate were teaching. Whilst she was inspired by them, the person who most deeply influenced her life was her grandmother, a staunch Catholic, who said the rosary every night.

Generosa never forgot what a deep impression her grandmother had on her. Also, every Sunday without fail her parents attended Sunday Mass even though her father was not a Catholic. She joined the "Chiro" movement at a young age, and by the time she reached the age of twelve years she felt drawn to be a religious sister. This led to a family struggle as her father could not understand her desire. As a result, she was not allowed to attend a Catholic school for a whole year.

When the Masondo family moved to Sweetwaters, Generosa was again able to attend a Catholic school. She and her two school friends, Agnes and our Sr Anna-Rose shared much about the call to religious life. The parish priest, Fr Sibisi, was a wonderful support, guiding Generosa to Oakford. Over time, Generosa's father became more accepting of her wishes and gave her his blessing.

Generosa completed her postulancy and novitiate at Ekukhanyeni before making her first profession at Oakford on 19 August 1978 together with Srs Anna-Maria Khumalo, Anna-Rose Ngubane and Ignatia Mshengu.

Sr Generosa continued with her education at Sacred Heart Secondary School at Oakford, and completed matric at Montebello High School. She undertook studies and short courses for a diploma in biblical studies, dressmaking, youth ministry, and catechetics. For some time, she served as boarding mistress at Oakford and in the pre-primary school in Empangeni. But her great love to which she returned and to which she devoted most of her years in ministry was to pastoral work in the Ingwavuma (Hlabisa), Eshowe (Stanger), Durban (Tongaat, Ekukhanyeni) and Pretoria (KwaNdebele) dioceses.

She attended a sabbatical programme at St Anselm's in England, and in more recent times committed herself whole-heartedly to a personal growth programme which she found challenging but from which she did not waiver.

Since 2014, Sr Generosa has lived in Oaklands, Verulam, deeply committed to pastoral and catechetical ministry in the parish. She will be sorely missed by her friends in Oaklands and her parish community in Verulam.

During the last few weeks before her death, Sr Generosa experienced her mother and Sr Cosma calling her. She told a friend "My time is up."

*May the Lord whom she served so generously
now welcome her into the place prepared for her
in the Kingdom of Heaven.*

RIP