

**Sr Maria Annunziata  
(Clorinda) Stanizzi**

*In the early hours of 1 October 2008, the feast of St Theresa of the Child Jesus, Sr Maria Annunziata (Clorinda) Stanizzi breathed her last surrounded by her community of Strathfield and entered into the everlasting presence of God.*



**A LIFE OF DEEP AND PROFOUND FAITH**

Following the desire of the Founder of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master, Blessed James Alberione, Sr Maria Annunziata together with one other sister waved goodbye to their community and homeland and left from Naples, Italy in 1956 bound for Australia. She was the first pioneer of the Sister Disciples here in Australia.

The two sisters settled in Strathfield and eventually had their own little convent and liturgical centre. In 1972 the sisters, lead by Sr Maria Annunziata extended the congregation's foundation to Victoria and commenced the first house in the Congregation dedicated to the sick and elderly priests. Later on a Divine Master community was also established.

In 1974 Sr Maria Annunziata at the request of the Bishop of Auckland, was asked to make a foundation in New Zealand. This was specially in view of establishing our mission of Eucharistic Adoration in St Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland. Opening our Eucharistic Adoration publicly was an initiative overseen by Sr Annunziata. This also being the first for the Congregation.

In 1982 Sr Maria Annunziata also founded for a short time a community of Sisters in Western Samoa.

Sr Maria Annunziata was a woman of deep and profound faith who placed all her trust in Jesus, the Divine Master and in Mary, Queen of Apostles. She was a woman of intimate prayer life spending hours in Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament interceding for the needs of the world and especially for priests. The legacy that she has left is one of faithful observance as a Disciple of the Divine Master. Her life was lived in virtue and unconditional love for all. She will be greatly missed by all those whose lives she has touched.

A Requiem Mass was celebrated at the Sisters' parish church, St Dominic's, Flemington on 7 October, the feast of the Holy Rosary and she was interned at Rookwood Cemetery.

***May she rest in peace with her Divine Master and Lord***

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