



Dearest Sisters,

Today, October 2, 2016, the first Sunday of the month dedicated to the Divine Master, we received the news of the entrance into eternal life of our sister, which took place at Antipolo Clinic (Antipolo City - Philippines), at 6:50 pm (local time):

**SR. M. JESUSA TEKING,
born on December 25, 1941, in Bitoon-Dumanjug Cebu - Philippines.**

Sr. M. Jesusa, who retained her baptismal name, grew up in a profoundly Catholic family. Her mother, a strong and authoritative woman, was appreciated in her village for her leadership qualities. Already an elementary school teacher, since her youth Jesusa was engaged in forming the young in the Christian faith, associating them to the Legion of Mary. She came to know of the Congregation of the Sister Disciples when her scout group received hospitality from the sisters in Antipolo, where she entered as an aspirant on December 27, 1969. Following the year of novitiate, she made her first profession on December 8, 1974. She pronounced her perpetual vows in Antipolo on December 8, 1980. In her application for admission to perpetual profession, as in earlier requests, she manifested a strong desire to be united to Jesus and to offer herself to the service of the Church. Sr. M. Tiziana Dal Masetto, then Regional Superior of the Philippines and Taiwan, wrote of her: “[*She is*] a mature person capable of sacrifice. She does not have special qualities apart from an exceptional perseverance and diligence in that which is difficult, without complaining.”

After profession, she studied theology for four years, while also dedicating herself to the pastoral care for vocations and formation of the young. In 1981 she was the Local Superior of Antipolo and, immediately thereafter, she was entrusted with the ministry of Novice Directress and Regional Councilor. In 1993, she was named Regional Superior of the Philippines. In this ministry she showed a special capacity for listening. Her humble attitude, united with great kindness, made her a wise woman, capable of governance. In 1997 she was sent to the Liturgical Apostolate Center in Davao. In 2000 she was called to Quezon City as a Councilor in the Provincial Government. In 2004 she returned to Antipolo for various ministries, and in 2006 she was appointed the Junior Directress. In 2008 she was the Provincial Vicar and at the end of her mandate she returned to Antipolo and gave her contribution in the sewing workroom.

Sr. M. Jesusa always showed great love for the Congregation, a strong sense of belonging with a lively interest in the pastoral care of youth and vocations. She wrote: “*I thank you for the suggestion to prepare a systematic program for the pastoral care for vocations. We did it and applied it in parishes and schools. Little by little we are seeing its fruits*” (February 14, 2001). Her strong faith and her edifying religious spirit made her a model for the youth with whom she worked at various times, and for whom she has always had particular attention. She was also very sensitive to the spirit of poverty, making her own the commitment suggested at the 8th General Chapter to convert from “*it is my right to it is given to me.*” She saw and lived the vow of poverty as a

condition for fraternal collaboration in the community. *“True relationships require freedom from prejudices and from one’s own interests,”* she wrote in her personal notes.

In 2014 she was diagnosed with a degenerative disease of the nervous system (Bulbar Palsy) which forced her to remain in the infirmary of Antipolo until the end of her earthly pilgrimage. The Guardian Angels, whose liturgical memorial we celebrate on October 2, undoubtedly accompanied her before the throne of God.

The sisters in the Philippines/Taiwan/Hong Kong lovingly and gratefully remember her in these words: *“Our dearest Sr. M. Jesusa, we are sorry that you have left us. You were truly a transparent person and a communicator of peace in our midst. You formed us in the love of the Divine Master and in the service of the sisters and of God’s people. Thank you for your presence, for your edifying example at all times. Please remember us before our Divine Master and invoke for us the gift of sanctity, the gift of beautiful and holy disciples who, like Jesus Master, reveal the merciful face of the Father.”*

Sr. M. Jesusa, a sweet person who lived in habitual recollection, worthily bore her name which referred to the person of Jesus. Now, from heaven, continue to lead us to Him who is Truth, Way and Life!

S. H. Paolo Hauran.