



Obituary
Sr. Johanna Maria Weis
who died 17.04.2020
at Missionshaus Neuenbeken

Sr. Johanna Maria was born 11.11.1927 at St. Leon near Heidelberg, Diocese of Freiburg. She was the second-born of eight children. One of them died. In Baptism Sr. Johanna Maria received the names of her two grandmothers – Eva and Elisabeth. She was called Eveliese.

After completing her elementary and vocational education at St. Leon she helped at home – with running the household and the inn, a family business. In 1949 she worked at a Caritas children`s convalescent home in the Black Forest. Reports say that she fulfilled her duties with great care. She was liked by the children for her calm, joyful way, had good relations with her colleagues and was known for her friendly, tactful, noble conduct.

In 1949 she spent a year at Kolpinghaus in Freiburg. She served people at the counter – with a lot of personal experience from her home business. She then lived and worked at home until 1963. 1957/58 she did some courses in short hand- and typewriting.

Sr. Johanna Maria entered our Congregation in Neuenbeken in 1963 at the age of 36. She was received into the novitiate 14.8.1964 and made her first profession 02.02.1966. She spent part of her juniorate in Heilig Blut. These years after Vatican Council II were a time of rethinking in the church and in religious communities. They were marked by searching for new ways, for deepening religious vocations, naturally accompanied by insecurities. In 1967 Sr. Johanna returned to Neuenbeken and made her final profession 02.02.1969. For 8 years she took on the ministry of dispatching and promoting the “Mariannahill Mission Magazine”. This entailed long journeys by car with their own challenges, and again and again the search for suitable board and lodging. She then helped at the entrance at Neuenbeken. In 1979 was sent to Arnsberg as superior of the small CPS community. From 1981 -1984 she worked in our senior home in Roden/Saarland, from 1985 -1990 in Knechtsteden.

In 1990 Sr. Johanna Maria asked for exclaustation to be able to help her sick sister at home. She returned to Neuenbeken in 1993 and helped in the infirmary, in Pfannerhaus and cared for the distribution of bread in our big

house. Worry about her family was constant. Every year around Christmas she was allowed to spend some time at home to help them.

In 2013, when she was free of other duties, she spent time with them again, and returned a year later for an eye operation and for the preparation and celebration of her golden jubilee in February 2016. After her return she helped in the vegetable department until December 2019, when she had to move to the infirmary. At the beginning of March 2020 her relatives visited her there. On Friday during Easter week she peacefully passed over into never-ending life.

On Sunday 19.4. – the Sunday of Mercy Pope Francis spoke in his sermon about the test we are presently going through.

“Like St. Thomas we experience fragility, fear and doubts. We need the Lord, who – beyond our weakness – recognizes unspeakable beauty in us. With him we discover that we are precious, weak as we are like beautiful crystals – fragile and precious. If – like crystal – we are transparent before him, his light – the light of mercy - will be alive in us and shine through into our world. So we can say with St. Pater in first letter “We are filled with joy, even if for a short time we have to suffer from trials.”

(1 Pet 1,6)

May Sr. Johanna Maria - now free of all worry and tribulation – now experience the embrace of God`s merciful love. May she, who loved singing with all her heart, now join the Alleluja of Easter. May she be secure in God`s peace and a faithful intercessor for her family, for whom she cared so much.

R.i.p.