

**In Loving memory
of our beloved Sr M Gaudentia Mqhakama CPS**

*“Well done, good and faithful Servant...
Enter into the joy of your Lord”
(Matthew 25:21)*

Sr Gaudentia Cecilia Nonceba Mqhakama, daughter to Mr Thomas and Rachel Mqhakama, was born in 1944 at Luthulini Administrative Area in the District of Bizana, South Africa.



Sr Gaudentia joined the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood in 1965 at Glen Avent Convent.

She was received into the Novitiate on 5 January 1968. On 6 January 1970, she made her First Vows of Religious Profession, followed by Final Profession on 2 February 1976, all at Glen Avent Convent.

Soon after her First Profession, Sr Gaudentia was placed at Paul's Mission Press, at Glen Avent Convent. Thereafter, in 1971, she was sent to Mariannahill Mission Press to learn how to bind new books and to renew the old ones. Later, she became in charge of the Book Binding Department. In 1986, she took up studies in Bachelor of Commerce, at the University of Transkei in Mthatha, followed by studying for a Diploma in Higher Education, at the same University. In 1996, she taught at St James Senior Secondary School in Cofimvaba. Subsequently, she was appointed as Province Procurator, the task she shouldered for 12 years and was highly appreciated by those who knew her best, for her expertise in Finances and as a result, brought the Eastern Province to be self-sustainable.

It was during these years that Sr Gaudentia contributed immensely to the development of the Province. Her greatest desire was always to do her best for her fellow sisters and the Congregation which she loved and valued most. She was very particular about keeping the rules of the Congregation.

Sr Gaudentia also worked in Cwele Mission in the Diocese of Mthatha and later, in Mt Frere Mission under the Diocese of Kokstad. In these Mission Stations, sister did General Work. She was open to everybody and very welcoming. She could give good advice to those who shared their personal problems.

For many years, Sr Gaudentia was a diabetic patient. However, about two months ago on 15 January, she suffered a stroke which left her right side paralyzed. In addition, while at St Mary's Life Hospital, cancer of the breast was exposed. Due to all these complications shortly before her death, on 3 March 2021, she had developed signs of Gastro-Intestinal bleeding.

*Sr Gaudentia Mqhakama, was a true and a dedicated Missionary Sister of the
Precious Blood.*

Hamba kahle Mazawane, sohlala sikukhumbula!

REST in PEACE!