



In loving memory of our **Sister Judith Shezi** who departed this life on 5th January 2021

at the Sacred Heart Home, Ixopo

I have called you by your name. Is 43:1

Sr Judith (Remegia, Judith) Shezi was born on 24 June 1931 in Hluthankungu, St Michael's Mission, Mariannhill Diocese, to Antoni and Evelina Shezi. From an early age she was acquainted with the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood. She became attracted to religious life. Sr Judith entered our Congregation on 05.01.1951 and was received into the Novitiate on 06.01.1954 at St Patricks, Mthatha Province. On 06 January 1956 she made her First Profession, and on 02 July 1962 her Final Profession.

Sr Judith was very practical and gifted. We know her as an excellent cook. St Theresa of Avila's words: "The Lord walks amidst the pots and pans", apply to her. Most of her religious life she spent working in the kitchen. She served as a cook in Tsomo-Eastern Cape from 1958-1962, then in the Monastery kitchen, and from 1970-1985 in St Mary' Hospital kitchen. She cooked for the Sisters in Sacred Heart Home from 1985-1990 and then for the Sisters at Bethany Convent (former Provincialate in Pinetown)

In 1998 she became Superior in Mariathal and was transferred to Sacred Heart Home in 2002. Although semi-retired, she supervised the Marienhouse and cared for the poor in Outreach Projects. From 2005 she cared for the Sisters in St Michael's until she retired to Sacred Heart Home in 2014. There she still prepared vegetables and was faithful in her prayer apostolate.

Sr Judith had a beautiful and close relationship with her family. Her nephews, nieces, grandnephew and grandnieces respected and loved her as an elder, listened to her and received from her life's wisdom. She once told us that her father was a head-man and taught her how to do a proper Zulu-dance. As Sr Judith became older, she hesitated a little when asked to perform a Zulu-dance, but then put all her skill and energy into her short performance which always drew an enthusiastic applause from the community.

Sr Judith was a very prayerful person. Her sense of perception and humour were appreciated by all her fellow Sisters. We also know her as a kind and caring Sister, a community/people person.

She looked forward to celebrate her 65th Jubilee of Profession. At the end of 2020 she complained of heart trouble, and the nursing Sisters of Ixopo stabilised that condition.

On the morning of the 5th January 2021, she attended HI Mass and even made a joke at breakfast. Thereafter she collapsed and returned to her Creator.

R.I.P