



In loving memory of our dear Sr Winfried Fockele CPS

who died on 2 August 2021

in Hillcrest Hospital, Durban

“My Lord and my God.” Jn 20:28

Sr Winfried (Hildegard Maria Theresia) was born on 13.03.1934 in Paderborn, Germany, to Franz Fockele and Gertrud Fockele.

Already as a young girl she had the wish to go to the Mission. She entered our Congregation in 1954 in Neuenbeken and was received into the Novitiate on 14.08.1955. Sr Winfried made her First Profession on 15.08.1956 in Neuenbeken and her Final Profession on 15.08.1959 in Mariannahill.

Her wish to go to the Mission was fulfilled, when she was sent to Mariannahill in 1957. She trained as a Nurse and later as a Midwife and Community Health Worker and worked in the hospitals of Mariannahill, Ixopo and Centocow.

Sr Winfried was an efficient nurse who loved her work. We also know her as a resourceful and competent Matron of Centocow Hospital who had the wellbeing of patients and staff at heart. She had initiative and used her talents, when organising the renovation of the church, the hospital, accommodation for doctors and staff and also the little convent for the Sisters.

Sr Winfried was an out-going and well-coming person. The little Convent in Centocow became a favourable place for Sisters who needed a rest and holidays. She liked company and had many friends.

When Sr Winfried retired from Centocow Hospital in 1999, she took care of the sick Sisters in Sacred Heart Home, Ixopo. In 2004 she was in charge of Tre Fontane Guesthouse for 2 years. She was still on the Board of Community Outreach and helped at the entrance of Mariannahill Convent, till spine surgery forced her to retire completely.

Sr Winfried kept contact with her family and the Bishop of her home diocese, Paderborn. The celebrations of Libori, the patron saint of her home diocese, were special to her. A few days before her death she enjoyed the meeting of the Bishop with the missionaries via zoom.

We remember her as an out-spoken and down to earth person. She took an active part in community life and prayers. On 10 July she still had the joy of celebrating her 65th Jubilee in Religious Life.

On 31 July 2021 Sr Winfried had a bad fall and was admitted to Hillcrest Hospital, where she died of heart failure in the early morning of 2 August 2021. She could greet her God with: “My Lord and my God.” Jn 20:28, as her favourite Scripture passage states.

R.I.P