



IN MEMORY OF  
***SR. MARY JACINTO GRACIAS, CPS***

who went home to God on

08 JANUARY 2024

Sr. Mary Jacinto was born on 05.05.1938 in Nairobi Kenya. Her parents were the late Jacinto Das Dores Gracias and the late Albima Conceicao Vas. She was the dear sister of Mr. Patrick Gracias and Miss Teophista Gracias both predeceased.

From 1945 – 1952 Sr. Mary Jacinto attended primary and secondary school at Dr. Ribeiro Goan Primary School, in Nairobi Kenya. She later joined Premier College where she took Shorthand and typing course. In 1965 -1968 she did a certificate course in Ceramic, Religious Education, and Mathematics from the University of London Institute of Education.

Sr. Mary Jacinto entered the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood at Riruta, Kenya on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1961, and was received into the novitiate on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1962 in Riruta Kenya. She completed her novitiate at the Motherhouse and made her First Profession on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1964. She returned to East Africa. Sister Jacinto pronounced her Final Vows at Riruta Kenya on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 1969.

Sr. Mary Jacinto was a teacher by profession. She taught with great dedication in various schools both in Kenya and Tanzania. She taught in Lioki Girls Secondary School from 1968 – 1971, Muthetheni Secondary School, 1972 – 1979, Precious Blood Secondary School Kilungu in 1980 -1991. She was then transferred to Mulala Secondary School in Mbitini from 1992 – 1997, where she served as the deputy head teacher and later as a Headmistress. After teaching in schools in Kenya and retiring as a TSC teacher, in June 1997 she was posted to Kifungilo Girls Secondary School Tanzania and taught from 1997 – 2001. In the year 2004 she took a sabbatical in USA. She later returned to Kenya and was posted to Precious Blood Secondary

School Kilungu where she worked as the school Librarian until she retired from active ministry and moved to the Provincial House in Riruta to take up the prayer ministry. In Riruta she managed the Sisters library. She would encourage Sisters to do quality reading. She displayed quality reading materials in a strategic place in the library. She was very particular in keeping order. In education, she set high standards in discipline and had high expectations of her students.

Sr. Mary Jacinto was very artistic. She used her natural, God-given gifts of art, she designed cards and other artifacts. She was full of determination, endurance, and was hard working. Sister never gave in to pain during her last years of life. She was always in the chapel for meditation and community prayers well ahead of time. She would shout for help when she found the chapel door closed. If sister was not in the chapel, then one would know she is not well. She participated in the community activities. She had a smile on her face even when she was in pain. She lived to the fullest in whatever capacity she served. She gave herself completely to the tasks entrusted to her.

In the month of December 2023, Sr. Mary Jacinto's health steadily declined. On 03.01.2024 Sr. Jacinto received the Sacrament of the anointing of the sick just before she left for the hospital. She was taken to Mater Hospital where she was admitted. On 08.01.2024 on the last day of Christmas and on the feast of the baptism of our Lord, she responded to God's voice, "This is my beloved daughter, with whom I am well pleased" and Sr. Mary Jacinto returned to the Father's home. Just as she was united in baptism with her maker, she is now united with him in eternity. May the name of the Lord be blessed.

**“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race,  
I have kept the faith, all that awaits me  
is the crown of glory” [2 Tim. 4: 7-8]**