

## **Sr. Rosalia Tumulak, SPC**

September 3, 1939 – September 3, 2016

In book of Psalms in the Holy Bible, we find the verse, “70 is the sum of our years, or 80 if we are strong.” (Psalm 90). Today, September 6, 2016, this verse also refers to our dear Sr. Rosalia, who was born 75 years ago in Dumanjug, Cebu. A bright and talented high school student, she was sent by her parents to Arellano University and to Philippine Normal College after High School. There she obtained the Elementary Teacher's Certificate and began her call to teaching. She joined the congregation of the Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres in 1968, and made her final vows as SPC in 1976.

As a zealous and talented teacher, Sr. Rosalia's first parish assignment was Tago, Surigao in Southern Mindanao. She handled religious classes in the school run by SPC Sisters, as well as did social work in the Parish and took charge of the student boarders. Later she was sent for Theology Studies, then taught at Kabankalan College owned by the Columban Fathers and at the same time did parish work.

After the Renewal Program in 1981 at Our Lady of Chartres Convent, Antipolo, a new assignment was given her — Religion Teacher in the Elementary and High School departments in Pagadian, Zamboanga del Sur. In 1988, she was in-charge of the Catechetical Program for High School and Kindergarten, as well as part-time catechist in the Public School.

Filled with zeal for the Catechetical Ministry, she was assigned to Culion for a period of four years at the same time doing pastoral work, feeding program among females, children of lepers in the leper colony.

After her Silver Jubilee in 1996, her next assignment was Maramag, Bukidnon, doing catechism and pastoral work again. It was there in 1997 that she was involved in a vehicular accident. The hospital's jeepney was bumped from behind by a cargo truck. Five sisters were in that jeepney and Sr. Rosalia was one of the sisters knocked down in that accident. Sr. Rosalia was badly hurt, thus she was airlifted by a small private plane to Cebu, and was brought to Perpetual Succour Hospital for management of her injuries. Sr. Rosalia had a

long recuperation period under the care of specialists until she could walk again — but with a limp and paralyzed upper limb. Her memory and speech remains good. When she was able to travel, she was transferred to Mere Monique Home. A catechist at heart, she tried to impart the Good News wherever she could to caregivers here in MMH until she could no longer do it.

Days before her demise, she could no longer continue her daily routine, was missed in the chapel for she was brought to St. Paul's Hospital where she passed away few days after. Her peaceful encounter with Jesus, her Lord, whom she loved and proclaimed tirelessly and joyfully to all, now she will meet to live and love forever and ever.