

# *Sister Maria Julita R. da Conceição*

## *January 8, 1937 – September 29, 2018*



Sister Julita, was born Angelita Rosa da Conceição, on January 8, 1937. Her parents, João José de Melo and Rosa da Conceição had twelve children. She was born in the town of Piquete, Alagoas, in the northeast of Brazil. As a teenager, she moved with the entire family to São Paulo. At a very young age, Sister Julita began working to help her parents and younger brothers.

In 1962 at the age of 25, she joined the Congregation, where she began her training in Vila Alpina and professed her vows on January 26, 1969.

During her life in the Congregation, she took on various jobs. Sister Julita was in charge of laundry, canteen and maintenance training in schools in São Paulo and Pedro Leopoldo, where the Congregation had a hospital. She helped with sewing and was involved in Parish Ministry. She resided in some missions where her presence was always a joy to the sisters and the people with whom she worked.



Julita had a very lively and playful spirit and was always making us laugh. In 2013, with declining health, Julita was transferred to the Recanto Paz e Bem house. However, even in this situation, her spirit of joy remained, and she always had a joke to tell, or make a comment in reaction to people and situations. Something remarkable to us was how her family who still lives in São Paulo, took her to lunch every Sunday and spent some time together. When Sister Julita began to have difficulties walking and getting in and out of the car, her family then began to visit her at home every week. Their love for her has always been present in the lives of this family.

On September 28, 2018, we celebrated the coming of spring. Sister Julita was elected by all to be the *Queen of Spring*. It was a joyful day. The next day, September 29, 2018, she passed away, after suffering cardiac arrest at home and in the hospital. Her absence has caused us great sadness. Her jokes made us laugh every day.



*Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."*

*~Psalm 126*