

# ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

218 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Nebraska City, NE 68410

Telephone: 402-873-3024

Website: [stmarysnebraskacity.com](http://stmarysnebraskacity.com)

Pastor: Very Rev. Michael G. McCabe

Associate Pastor: Rev. Michael A. Ventre

Sunday Mass - Schedule: Saturday: 6:30 p.m. & Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule: St. Mary's Community Hospital Chapel - Monday-Friday - 6:20 a.m.; St. Mary's Church - Monday-Saturday - 8:00 a.m.

Perpetual Adoration - St. Mary's Community Hospital Chapel: Monday - 6:00 a.m. thru Saturday - 12:00 a.m. - Pam Gress, 402-969-0556

Confessions: Saturday - 4:00-5:00 p.m. or by appointment CCD Coordinator - Diane Denniston, 402-242-2631

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday-Friday - 9:00-11:00 a.m. & 1:30-4:00 p.m., 873-3024

Prayer Chain: email: Patrice Wulf, 873-6848 ([wulfpak@windstream.net](mailto:wulfpak@windstream.net)) or calling tree: Kathy Duffy, 873-7576

## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

**PRAY FOR THE SICK** - Dan Lucas, Dean & Cheryl Hauptman, Dennis Heng, Donna Thoms, Lexis Bruns-Morris, Jerry Thede, Lois Harris, Juanita Kreifels, Laurence DuBois, Adam Eppert, Mary Jo Ventre, Ann Spalti, Pat Bowman, Kenneth Russell all parishioners who are homebound, hospitalized, in nursing homes and all the intentions listed in our Book of Intentions. Please feel welcome to add names to our prayer list by calling the parish office. Due to the privacy act, the person must grant their permission for their name to be printed in the bulletin. Thank you for your prayers.

**PLEASE PRAY** for the happy repose of the soul of Kathy Stukenholtz

**PLEASE PRAY** for our seminarians James O'Neil and Brian Wirth and vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Thank you.

**PLEASE PRAY** for the success of the renovation and expansion campaign "Visions for a Vibrant and Faith-Filled Future" of Lourdes Central Catholic Schools.

**WELCOME** to all our visitors and guests. If you have recently moved to Nebraska City and would like to register as a member of St. Mary's Church, we invite you to stop by or call the parish office.

**ADORERS NEEDED - EUCHARISTIC ADORATION - !!!GREAT NEED!!! WEDNESDAYS FROM 1-2 A.M. Also, Mondays from 3-4 p.m., Wednesdays from 10-11 p.m. (second adorer), Thursdays from 1-2 p.m. and Fridays from 3-4 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. (second adorer).** Eucharistic Adoration is held beginning on Monday following the 6:20 a.m. Mass and ends at 12:00 a.m. Saturday morning at CHI Health-St. Mary's Hospital Chapel. If you are not a regular scheduled adorer and would like to be or would like more information, please call Pam Gress, Coordinator, 402-969-0556. Everyone is always welcome to make a visit. Thank you to all of our scheduled adorers. **PLEASE NOTE:** The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed until Tuesday, September 6 following the 6:20 a.m. Mass.

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS** will meet on Tuesday, September 6 at 6:30 p.m. in St. Mary's Church hall. We will be installing new officers and members. Members are asked to bring a snack to share. Drinks will be provided. Anyone interested in joining Catholic Daughters is welcome and members are encouraged to invite a friend. Membership is open to all Catholic women within a 30 mile radius of Nebraska City. Please contact Patrice Wulf at 873-6848, if you have any questions.

**CCD (CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE)** for students not attending Catholic school. Meet the teacher and registration will be held on Wednesday, September 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the basement of Lourdes Primary. Classes begin for **GRADES 1-6** on Wednesday, September 14. CCD for students in kindergarten will begin on January 4. **REGISTRATION FORMS & SCHEDULES FOR K-6** are available in the entrance of the church. CCD fees/Activity fees are \$50.00 each for the first two children and \$27.00 each for each additional child. **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** students only are to include an additional **\$8.00** for the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Banner. Payment is due and payable at the time of registration. Completed registration forms can also be dropped in the collection basket or mailed to the parish office. If the fee is a financial burden, please contact Fr. McCabe and special arrangements will be made. For more information, please call Diane Denniston, CCD Coordinator, 402-209-2498 or the parish office, 402-873-3024. **7-12 Grade CCD** will begin on Sunday, September 11 from 5-6:30 p.m. in the rectory of St. Benedict. Supper will be provided each week. For more information, contact Fr. Mark Cyza, 402-873-3047.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN THE PARISH AND SHARE YOUR GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENT?** The Stewardship Committee invites you to join them on the first Wednesday of each month from 7-8 p.m. in the church hall. The Mission of the committee is to promote making time for God in prayer, sharing of our time and talent for the common good, giving of our treasure and nourishing our faith so that we can share with others. The goals are to engage our parish by communicating and actively living the stewardship message of hospitality, prayer, formation and service. The group will be studying "The Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic as part of their spiritual growth. For more information, please call Julie Parker, 402-297-0677, Scott and Jan O'Neil, 402-259-3325 or the parish office.

**CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME:** The rectory will soon be getting new energy efficient windows and the roof on the bell tower will be repaired. The cost for the windows is \$26,230.00 and the roof repair is \$19,388.00. Funds that have been donated thru the Building Fund special envelope and some of the Joy of the Gospel funds will be used. Additional contributions are needed so those funds are not depleted. Other repairs that need to be done are painting of the church and gutter repair. Repairs that have been completed are a new commercial hot water heater and boiler repair. 41 windows have been painted by volunteers. If you would like to contribute towards these projects, your donations are welcome. Thank you to all those that support our parish thru the Building Fund and the Joy of the Gospel. Thank you to all of our volunteers that give of your time and talent. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT:** At the conclusion of today's gospel, we hear Jesus tell a "great crowd" that "...anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." A few of Jesus' immediate disciples, such as Peter, John and James, did just that: They responded to Jesus' call, renouncing everything to follow him. How do modern disciples of Jesus respond when confronted with this apparently harsh command of Jesus? Surely the renunciation of possessions need not mean literally giving all one's possessions away, does it? Questions we might ponder this week though: Do our possessions keep us from encountering Christ at Mass? Do they distract us from our parish family? Do our possessions interfere with our relationships? Do they make us insensitive to those less fortunate?

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURER - MY RETURN TO THE LORD

**Aug. 28: Adult Env.: \$5113.50; Loose: \$508.67; Children's Env.: \$2.30; Online: \$1144.50; Total: \$6768.97**

Building Fund: \$170.00; Franciscan Sisters: Needed: \$8400.00; Received: \$5851.00; Balance Needed: \$2549.00; Guardian Angel: \$50.00

Lourdes Building & Renovation - Match Contributions: Needed: **\$500,000.00**; Received: **\$39,186.39** Thank you for your generosity.

## MASS SCHEDULE/INTENTIONS

	6:20 a.m. (Hospital Chapel)	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
<b>Monday</b>	Betty Hiesterman+	Dave Heng, Sr.	
<b>Tuesday</b>	Charles Williams+	Ellen Mullen+	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Mark Detloff+	Donald Schomerus+	
<b>Thursday</b>	Bill Carroll+	Anna Mae Kaiser & Family	
<b>Friday</b>	Velda Kreifels+	Dona Vasa+	
<b>Saturday</b>		Leonard & Clara Heng+	<b>6:30 p.m.</b> Robert O'Neil+
<b>Sunday</b>		Grandchildren of Cliff & Jean Kreifels	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> People of the Parish
	<b>6:30 p.m. Saturday</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Sunday</b>	<b>10:00 a.m. Sunday</b>
<b>USHERS/ GREETERS</b>	Arnie Kreifels, Bryan Stukenholtz Jason & Kim Esser	Charlene Reese, Jeff Reese Pete & Nancy Lutz	Richard Gibson, Kent & Cindy McGinnis Jeff & Hettie Funke
<b>SERVERS</b>	Tristian & Alex Peter Trevor Bennett	Nick & Andrew Bernard Blayne Rumery	Sam Bolin, Joseph Whitney Steven Walters
<b>LECTORS</b>	Barb Stukenholtz	Jerry Martin	Wilber Fey
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Tom Gude	Mike Gilson	Bill Olmer
<b>OFFERTORY</b>	Larry & Marcia Talmon	Virginia Ullsperger & Karen Vaughn	Brad & Jo Vasa Family

**WEEKDAY SERVERS:** - Sep. 5-10 – Steven Walters – Joss Neumeister; **6:20 a.m. Mass at Hospital** – Server: Dave Heng; Reader: Sharon Crunk

**READINGS:** Sep. 5, 1 Cor 5:1-8/Lk 6:6-11; Sep. 6, 1 Cor 6:1-11/Lk 6:12-19; Sep. 7, 1 Cor 7:25-31; Lk 6:20-26; Sep. 8, Mi 5:1-4a/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23; Sep. 9, 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Lk 6:39-42; Sep. 10, 1 Cor 10:14-22/Lk 6:43-49; Sep. 11, Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32

**STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE:** Trust is at the center of a stewardship way of life.

**BULLETIN NOTICES:** Please submit all bulletin notices by **Monday at 11:00 a.m.** in writing either by e-mail to [stmbulletin@windstream.net](mailto:stmbulletin@windstream.net) (preferred) or to the parish office.

**DO YOU LIKE TO SING?** The adult choir is in need of members who enjoy singing. Consider sharing your gift with your parish by joining the adult choir. Weekly practice is on Sundays at 9:40 a.m. and the choir sings at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. You don't have to commit to participating 100% of the time. We want you to sing when it fits in your schedule. Families can join even if everyone doesn't read music. We will adjust to make this work for you. Students in grades 9-12 are also invited to join. This is a great way to honor God through the gift of song. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Dan Giittinger 402-873-4635. Thanks, and praying that you will join us.

**LABOR DAY BRUNCH:** Everyone is invited to attend a Labor Day brunch sponsored by Bethel United Church of Christ on Sunday, September 4 from 11-1 p.m. Serving sausage, eggs and your choice of pancakes or biscuits and gravy. Free will offering.

**ADULT STUDY: THE SECOND GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD:** *Divine Mercy in the Second Greatest Story Ever Told* is a breathtaking journey combining history, Scripture, prophecy, and the lives of the Saints to show God's merciful love for you. In ten captivating chapters, acclaimed author and popular speaker Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, shows how amazing historical events of the past 500 years connect to reveal the deeply personal spiritual reality of God's merciful love - culminating *now*, in our lifetime. But this is more than just a masterful telling of the "Second Greatest Story". Thanks to the brilliant artistry of the Augustine Institute's world-class film team, this amazing story comes to life like never before through their dramatic DVD presentations. You'll not just learn about the consoling message of Divine Mercy, you'll experience it. Join us for this 10 session study. Choose the day that best fits your schedule beginning Sunday, September 11, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Monday, September 12, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 14, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Thursday, September 15, 9:00-10:30 a.m. **All four studies will be held at the Franciscan Sisters' Convent, 1503 4<sup>th</sup> Corso.** Please call to **register no later than Sunday, September 4** by calling [402-873-3052](tel:402-873-3052). **Materials Needed:** Fr. Michael Gaitley's Book, "The Second Greatest Story Ever Told" **Assignment:** Read Chapter 1 before the first session.

**OPPORTUNITIES COME AND GO** – sometimes we see them before us – and are forever thankful for the graces received - other times we pass them by thinking I don't have time for this! Coming September 10 from 8:45-1:00 p.m. is one such opportunity. Saying yes to this morning lays the foundation of communication, openness, and trust between parent and child for years to come. "Winning The Culture War" is the theme for the Mother/Daughter Father/Son Retreat for parents and their 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. The beauty of God's gift of human sexuality and chastity will be presented in age appropriate fashion and in an atmosphere of love and respect for the dignity of the human body. There is a \$10 donation per family payable to Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Falls City. For more information, contact Fr. Dunavan, 402-245-3002 or Trudy Burenheide, 402-801-1837. September 6 registration deadline. See the fliers in the entrance of the church.

**THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MARIAN MASS, ROSARY & CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION** will take place on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Waverly Marian Center. Bishop Conley will be the main celebrant and homilist. The S.T.A.G.E. Fatima Play will be performed at 5:45 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the Mass will be held at the Cathedral of the Risen Christ at 7:00 p.m. The Rosary will be prayed in English, Czech, Spanish, Vietnamese and German. Limited seating and handicap accessible restrooms will be provided.

**MASS IN LOMA:** Mass will be offered at the St. Luke Czech Catholic Shrine in Loma on Sunday, September 11, at 4:00 pm. The Ostry Family Singers will provide the music. All are welcome!

**FR. MICHAEL STEC AND THE PARISH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (ULYSSES)** invite you to their annual Chicken Dinner & Bazaar on Sunday, September 11 from 10:30-3:00 p.m. Serving friend chicken and ham with all the fixings, fresh cucumbers and tomatoes and Kolaches. \$10 for adults, \$6 for children, \$11 for take-outs. Polka Mass at 10:00 a.m. Auctions at 1:00 & 4:00 p.m. See the flier in the entrance of the church.

**R.C.I.A. (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS),** a process used by Catholic parishes to welcome and prepare adults who are interested in becoming Catholic or exploring whether or not the Catholic faith is for them (or baptized Catholic, but not yet Confirmed). It is a journey of faith in community, during which information about the Catholic faith is shared and the drawing of one's heart closer to God are joined to help the person live a fuller Christian life. We meet weekly on Wednesdays during the school year and will begin on Wednesday, September 14 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Lourdes High School. Supper and daycare will be provided. For more information, contact Fr. Mark Cyza, 402-873-3047.

**THOUGHTS TO PONDER:** *Love takes up where knowledge leaves off.* St. Thomas Aquinas

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE – SEPTEMBER 25:** During this "Year of Mercy," our parish is planning a pilgrimage on Sunday, September 25. Our chartered bus leaves Lourdes parking lot at 8:00 a.m. and we will attend Mass at the Carmelite Monastery in Agnew. We will also visit Assumption Church and grounds in Dwight, St. Gregory the Great Seminary, Seward and the Cathedral of the Risen Christ in Lincoln. Lunch will be on your own in Seward either at McDonalds, Pizza Hut or La Carreta Mexican Restaurant. Cost is \$25.00 for adults and \$13.00 for children (thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade). To reserve your seat, please complete the registration form below.

**FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TO SHARE:** If you have fresh fruits and vegetables that you would like to share for Lourdes Hot Lunch Program, donations are being accepted at St. Mary's and St. Benedict's. Thank you for your generosity for our students.

**PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR PARISH RECORDS UP-TO-DATE - CHANGED ADDRESSES, PLANNING TO MOVE? DROPPED YOUR LAND LINE, ADDED A CELL, CHANGED PHONE NUMBERS OR EMAIL ADDRESS? Please call the parish office with your new information. If you are planning to move out of our community, please also, let us know. Thank you.**

**THE BISHOP'S APPEAL FOR VOCATIONS** will take place the weekend of September 17-18. Each family will receive promotional materials and a donor card with your parish ID number. The theme for this year's appeal is "Missionaries of Mercy & Truth," in support of the Church's Year of Mercy. Our parish goal for this year is \$9424.79. Please be as generous as your means allow. Please pray for the success of this appeal and for all of our seminarians. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL RETREAT HOUSE:** The retreats are silent or preached retreats providing the retreatant guidance in prayer, as well as ample opportunity to be alone with God. Retreat typically begins with Rosary and Mass at 8:00 p.m. on Friday evening and end with Mass on Sunday followed by noon lunch. Each retreat includes: Celebration of the Eucharist, meditations given by a retreat master, adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, Sacrament of Reconciliation, silence, prayer, recollection, and opportunities for meeting/spiritual direction with the retreat master. Upcoming retreats are September 8-11 for men and women, Opus Sanctorum Angelorum, "Work of the Holy Angels (4 days), September 30-October 2 for men and women with Fr. Michael Morin "To Pray as Jesus Taught," October 7-9 for men and women with Fr. Wade Menezes, "Year of Mercy Retreat & Conference." For more information or to register, go to [www.goodcounselretreat.com](http://www.goodcounselretreat.com) or call 402-786-2705. Schedules are available in the entrance of the church.

**ST. ANDRES'S CHURCH, TECUMSEAH IS HOSTING THEIR 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL AUCTION & DINNER** on Saturday, September 17 beginning at 4:30 p.m. Dinner, auction, raffle and much more. See the flier in the entrance of the church.

**MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!!!** Volunteers are needed to deliver meals to shut-ins in Nebraska City every day of the year (except Sundays and major holidays). Shifts can be weekly, monthly or you can volunteer on an as-needed basis. Basically, the routine is to pick up the meals at St. Mary's hospital at 11:00, deliver 10-12 meals and then return the coolers back to St. Mary's. This routine usually takes about an hour so it's possible to do it over a lunch break. **Please contact Darcy Carpenter 816-223-2602 (cell) or 402-873-4927 (home) or [shsdarcy@windstream.net](mailto:shsdarcy@windstream.net)** for further details on how to join the team of amazing volunteers who are helping our neighbors in Nebraska City.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach, Lincoln's largest community kitchen and outreach center, is teaming up with over 500 volunteers of all ages for the 20th Annual "Huskers Helping the Homeless"- the Best Defense Against Hunger. This year's event is the weekend of September 16–18 for the Nebraska vs Oregon football game. Volunteers wearing red "Huskers Helping the Homeless" T-shirts will be at Sam's Club and Walmart stores, Russ's and Super Saver stores, South Pointe Pavilions and downtown accepting donations on behalf of Matt Talbot Kitchen, and in turn, the working poor and homeless men, women and children of our community. Donations will support Matt Talbot's hunger relief and homeless prevention services offered 365 days of the year! Volunteer shifts are available all day on September 17 prior to the 2:30 p.m. kick-off. Volunteer shifts are also available the day before and the day after the game, September 16 and 18. It is great activity for youth groups, bible study groups, and families to do together. Register online at [www.mtkserve.org](http://www.mtkserve.org). Students receive three volunteer service hours. Your support of this activity helps Matt Talbot continue to show God's love to those most vulnerable in our community. Thank you and God Bless You.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TALENT – DINNERS FOR FR. MCCABE & FR. VENTRE:** Sept. 7: Julia Russell, Sept. 10: Jacqueline Smith, Sept. 12: Pat Stoner, Sept. 14: Shelli Stuhr, Sept. 17: Shawn Stukenholtz, Sept 19: Marcia Talmon, Sept. 21: Julie Volkmer, Sept 24: Allison Weddle, Sept.26: Hope Weninger, Sept 28: Kathy Wigington. The time to bring dinner for your designated day is between 5:30-6:00 p.m. If you do not use disposable dishes, please put your name on the dishes and pick them up in the church hall. It is preferred that meals be taken to the back door of the rectory, and if the priests are not home, please put the meals in the refrigerator. Questions or you would like to volunteer, please call Maureen Chance, 874-9411. Thank you.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TIME – CHURCH CLEANERS (following the Saturday 8:00 a.m. Mass {8:30 a.m}):** **Sep. 10:** Derek McGinnis, Taylor DeVorss, Kent & Cindy McGinnis, Jason & Molly McNeely, Frank & Dana Medeiros, Brett & Emily Meyer, Laci Meyer, Stephen Meyer, Tom & Cindy Mick, Joe & Marliss Miller, Scott & Kristin Miller. **Sep. 17:** Carline Moles, Robert & Kristine Moser, Charles Moyer, Robert Moyer, Jennifer Mucha, Sam & Pat Nanfite, James & Patricia Neu, Matthew Nienaber, Bill & Mary Jo Olmer, Erik & Kilee Olson, Jessica Olson, Scott & Jan O'Neil. **Sep. 24:** Tom & Mary Paap, Ken & Mary Pargett, Marv & Mary Penning, Jeanna Pestel, Dawna Fitzsimmons, Rosemarie Pfeiffer, Carissa Phillips, Robert & Heather Popish, Robert & Sarah Racek, Merle & Muriel Rakes. **If you are unable to clean the week assigned, families or individuals are responsible for finding a replacement or contacting and paying a substitute \$15.00. Substitutes:** Kathy Duffy, 873-7576, Linda Smith, 873-7576, Sharon Crunk, 873-4568, Julia Russell, 873-9160, Mary Mills, 873-6247.

**JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY PILGRIMAGE – SEPTEMBER 25, 2016**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone(S) \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Adults \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Children \_\_\_\_\_ x \$13.00 \_\_\_\_\_ (Children thru grade 12)

Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment is due at the time of reservation and payable to St. Mary's Church. Reservations can be made by mail (218 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Nebraska City, NE 68410), dropped in the collection basket or at the parish office.**

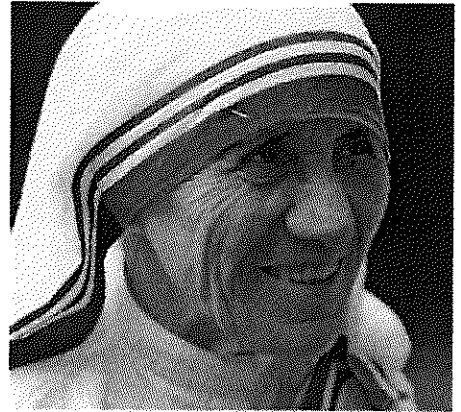
# From Blessed Teresa to Saint Teresa: A Stewardship Saint for September

On September 4, 2016, Blessed Mother Teresa becomes Saint Teresa of Calcutta. She was a woman who gave us an extraordinary example of Christian discipleship and stewardship by her faith, simplicity and service to women and men without considering their race, religion or nationality.

She was born Agnes Bojaxhiu in Albania on August 26, 1910, and at age 18 went to Ireland to join the Sisters of Loreto following what she discerned to be a call to become a missionary.

dedicated educator, she was increasingly disturbed by the desperate poverty in Calcutta.

On September 10, 1946, Sister Teresa had an extraordinary conversion experience, what she later described as "the call within the call." While traveling by train from Calcutta to the Loreto convent in Darjeeling she experienced interior visions that led her to the conviction that Christ was calling her to serve "the poorest of the poor."



On September 10, 1946, Sister Teresa had an extraordinary conversion experience, what she later described as "the call within the call."

She was sent to India in 1929, and began her novitiate in Darjeeling near the Himalayan mountains. Eight years later she made her solemn vows and took the name Teresa after Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, the patron saint of missionaries. From there she taught at the Loreto convent school in Calcutta for almost twenty years. Though a

In 1948 after a few months of medical training, Sister Teresa ventured out into the slums to tend to the needs of the destitute and starving. Her first year was very difficult. She had no income and had to resort to begging for food and supplies. She experienced loneliness, doubt and the temptation to return to the comfort of convent life. But at the

beginning of 1949 she was joined by a group of young women who wished to be a part of her ministry.

In 1950 "Mother" Teresa's community was formally recognized by the Vatican. Its mission was to care for, in her own words, "the hungry, the naked, the homeless, the crippled, the blind, the lepers, all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone." In 1952, she opened a hospice for the poor. Then she established several leprosy clinics throughout Calcutta, providing medication, bandages and food. In 1955, she created a home for orphans and homeless youth.

The Missionaries of Charity soon began to attract both recruits and charitable donations, and by the 1960s had opened hospices, orphanages and leper homes all over India. Her first mission outside of India was in Venezuela in 1965, then in Rome, Tanzania and Austria. During the 1970s the congregation started missions in dozens of countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and the United States. In 1979, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Mother Teresa died on September 5, 1997, departing a religious community with over 4,000 sisters operating 610 missions in 123 countries and aided by more than one million co-workers. Former U.N. Secretary-General, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, said of Blessed Mother Teresa: "She is the United Nations. She is peace in the world."