

## **A TEARFUL ADIEU TO OUR LOVING SR. ZITA OLIVEIRA**

*This is my beloved daughter in whom I am well pleased, these words of God the father consoles us as we gather here to bid farewell to our beloved Sr. Zita Oliveira.*

*Sr. Zita was born to pious and devoted parents Joao and Angelina Oliveira on 8<sup>th</sup> November, 1973 in Goa. Her birth brought prosperity to her family. She has 3 elder sisters and 3 elder brothers. She lost her father a few years ago and her aged mother is living. Being the youngest in the family she is very much loved by everyone and they consider her as a precious jewel in the family. She was brought up by her grandparents while her parents were in the fishing business. She was a good football player and her family wanted her to get into some business but she chose to serve the poor.*

*She joined the Sisters of the Good Shepherd after her 12<sup>th</sup> and underwent all the formation in Bangalore. She made her first commitment on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 1998 in Bangalore and Perpetual Commitment in Goa on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2004. She did her BSW in Mumbai and MSW in Nagpur. She has done a one-year diploma in theology, youth ministry and faith formation in Christu Jyothi College, Bangalore. She rendered her service in various communities - Karjat, Balaghat, Nagpur, Virar she was in charge of the Chalice sponsorship programme and was also helping out in social development projects. She worked as a project field work co-ordinator in Goa for 2 years in the Anti Human trafficking project in collaboration with Caritas India. She served as a Warden for the children of women in prostitution for 2 years in Virar. Presently she was in charge of the Rose Bakery in Garatola, Madhya Pradesh for the past 4 years empowering the tribal girls to be self-sustainable by giving them training on bakery products.*

*Sr. Zita is well known for her commitment and dedication to the responsibility entrusted to her. She has special love for the poor especially towards the children, women and youth. She is a compassionate woman.*



*Her heart moves to respond to anyone in struggle and she gives herself fully to alleviate their sufferings. She is very simple in her approach, her cheerful and caring attitude made everyone happy in her company. She is hardworking even sacrificing her time and energy for the sake of the mission. She is sincere, accountable and transparent. We can never forget the sweet memories of her presence with us.*

*In the 2nd week of April Sr. Zita was down with fever and diagnosed as Typhoid and was taking treatment for the same but did not show any improvement and was brought to Nagpur on 20th night and on 21st she was taken to Alexis super speciality hospital in Nagpur. Doctors at the emergency diagnosed her positive for Covid-19 and her oxygen level was going down and the CT scan report showed that her lungs were fully infected and the condition was very critical. They were not willing to admit her but with our persuasion she got admission in the ICU with a ventilator and they gave all the possible treatment for 9 days but could not save her. She breathed her last on 29th April 2021 at 9.45 pm in the hospital.*

*Dear Zita, your passing away has created a void in our hearts  
We wanted you to be with us, tried all the possible ways to save you  
But God's ways are different and He wanted you to be with Him  
Because he has a special love for you.  
It was painful for us to see you slowly fading away  
The deadly virus Covid-19 has devoured you at this early age  
We wanted to save you from this suffering  
In our agony we pleaded with God to give you life.  
But it is God's will that you are relieved from this earthly suffering.  
We strongly believe that you are with Our Shepherd God  
He has invited you to the eternal bliss, where there is no more suffering.  
Intercede for us all and for all who are under the clutches of this deadly virus.  
**A tearful goodbye to you dear loving Zita***

