

MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

FOUNDER

Mother Teresa was born on August 26, 1910, in North Macedonia. At the age of 18, she left her home to join the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Ireland. She received the name Sister Mary Teresa after St. Therese of Lisieux. In 1929, she departed for Calcutta, India where she taught at St. Mary's School for girls. Through interior locutions and visions, Jesus revealed to her the desire of His heart for her to care for the poor and neglected. He asked Mother Teresa to establish a religious community, the Missionaries of Charity, dedicated to the service of the poorest of the poor. On October 7, 1950, the new congregation was officially established. By the time of her death in 1997, Mother Teresa's Sisters numbered nearly 4,000 members in 123 countries of the world. Their holy work of caring for the neglected continues today.

MOTTO

"I thirst"

A motto that summarizes Mother Teresa's experience with God: He thirsts for us

TYPE

The Missionaries of Charity are a Religious Institute of Pontifical Right. When a congregation is formally approved by the Pope with the decretum laudis, it is subject to immediate and exclusive authority of the Holy See.

HABIT

The habit of the Missionaries of Charity is a white sari with a blue striped border.

NOTABLE SAINT

St. Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997) Feast Day: September 5

SPIRITUALITY

The spiritual characteristics of the Missionaries of Charity include universal love, union with Jesus, Our Lady's presence, radiating Christ, and the mystery of Jesus in the person of the needy.

QUOTATION

"Be kind and merciful. Let no one ever come to you without coming away better and happier." - St. Teresa of Calcutta
"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."
- St. Teresa of Calcutta

