

St. Teresa of Calcutta



1910-1997

Feast Day:
September 5

Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu was born in Yugoslavia. Her family was devoutly Catholic. She went to a convent (a place where nuns live) in Ireland when she was 18. There she received the name Teresa. She was quiet and shy. Very few people there understood her language.

Her community sent her to India. There she was a school teacher for many years. She learned to speak the local languages.

One day in 1946, Mother Teresa was on a train. On that train she received a call to serve “the poorest of the poor.” She started her own religious community to do this work.

Mother Teresa helped people throughout India. Even if they were extremely poor, or had very serious diseases, Mother Teresa showed them love. She helped people no one else would help.

Pope Paul VI and St. Pope John Paul II praised her work.

Women joined her communities in over 100 countries. She continued to help throughout the world even as her health got worse. She died in 1997.

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