

SISTER M. GUADALUPE PARTIDA

Josephine Partida, known as Sister M. Guadalupe Partida and a member of the Sisters of the Holy Family for 61 years, was born in Watts, California on January 6, 1929. Sister Guadalupe died on September 13, 2010 at the age of 81 at the Motherhouse in Fremont, California.

Sister Guadalupe attended public schools and when she began to think seriously about becoming a Sister, she visited various religious congregations. Sister was attracted to the congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family because of their love and service to people and for their hospitality. She joined them in 1949.

St. Francis Day Home in San Francisco, California was Sister Guadalupe's first assignment where she enjoyed helping in the daily care of the young children. The purpose of the Congregation and their work with the Day Homes was, and still is, to keep families together while the parents worked. Many times over the years Sister Guadalupe would reminisce of her ministry in the Day Home and of her love of working with the young children and especially those in the nursery.

Sister Guadalupe was later assigned to poor parishes in rural areas of San Diego to teach Christian Doctrine to children attending public schools and to do home visiting.

After Sister's transfer to San Antonio, Texas in the 1960s she became involved in social justice issues. She also attended classes at the Mexican American Cultural Center and Incarnate Word University where she became grounded spiritually which prepared her for promoting evangelization both in ministry and in advocating for the marginalized. Bishop Patrick Flores of the Archdiocese of San Antonio sent Sister Guadalupe to Cuernavaca, Mexico for three months where Sister Guadalupe participated in a leadership training program. This experience enabled Sister to empower lay people in their ministries to the church.

Sister Guadalupe, upon her return to California and during her ministry in Hanford, California, became involved in the Cursillo Movement among adults and youth, and in later years when Sister served in the role as Pastoral Associate at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Laton, California. Sister was also a spiritual advisor to the Catholic Daughters of Hanford, California.

In more recent years Sister Guadalupe played an important role in the Long Beach Holy Family Guild by faithfully attending their monthly meetings. Sister prayed with the ladies and always had a few words to share with them.

In 2007 when Sister Guadalupe was called to serve the Sisters of the Holy Family as a Congregational Councilor, she said she was privileged to be chosen and expressed her gratitude, her joy and her challenges to have been able to work with and minister to children and their families of all nationalities over the years – Filipino, Portuguese, Hispanic, African Americans and Caucasian groups.

A Mass of Christian Resurrection was celebrated by Reverend Richard Boyle, O.S.M. at the Motherhouse Chapel, 159 Washington Blvd., Fremont, California on Saturday, September 18, 2010.

Memorial Remembrances may be made to the Sisters of the Holy Family, P.O. Box 3248, Fremont, CA 94539.