



Birth Day Prayer

The author of life existed from all eternity. His Spirit hovered over the waters and in the fullness of time, He breathed His spirit into His very image and likeness. Hence the miracle of life found its place in this vast universe. The same Spirit continues to be at the heart of creation, guiding, leading, inspiring, empowering and letting us know the depth and width of divine love of our creator, for each of us. Let us take few moments in acknowledging the presence of the creator Spirit within us.



- **Creator Spirit/ Hymn to Holy Spirit**

Each one of us represents a miracle - a miracle that God wished to happen. Dear Sr...., as a unique individual, you are the fullness of God's miracle. God thought of you with much love and tenderness and created you with lots of dreams and purpose, to be on this earth for a while. There is no one like you on this earth, as even the identical twins have some differences between them.

Long before you were conceived by your parents, you were conceived in the mind of God. He thought of you first. God prescribed every single detail of your body. He deliberately chose your race, the color of your skin, your hair, and every other feature. He custom-made your body just the way he wanted it. He also determined the natural talents you would possess and the uniqueness of your personality.

Hence let us all raise our hearts in gratitude to God, for this gift of life as we listen to this hymn.

- **Hymn**

Every birthday is a moment of celebration and an opportunity; a Kairos time, to make an introspection into all that has been and to move forward with a greater clarity and enthusiasm. Let us now glance back to those sacred years, days and moments of the history, where the birthing of our dear Sr....took place.

Sr....'s story begins in the loving heart of the Triune God.

- The **heart** is the locus of physical and spiritual being, and represents the "central wisdom of feeling as opposed to the head-wisdom of reason" .It is compassion and understanding, life-giving and complex. It is a symbol for love, unity, sacredness, cohesion, sensuality, femininity, attraction, and mirroring. Often known as the seat of emotions, the **heart** is synonymous with deep sense of affection. It is where life energy throbs ceaselessly. The heart is dynamic, ever giving and receiving.



It is from such a heart, Sr....takes birth. The heart of the Triune God is mutuality and communion itself. Out of the loving communion of the father, the son, and the Spirit, creation was born- Name a beautiful child by her parents Mr.... and Mrs.... as their second child. The Author of life entered Sr's life story vividly, in the course of time. The Holy Spirit kept telling her the story of unknown and necessity of leaving the familiar shores. Empowered by the Spirit, she grew up as a convinced and pious young woman. The call of God was irresistible and she became a servant of the Holy Spirit in the yearand became a sister to all, lovingly known as....



- I now invite Sr..., to relive those sacred moments of her commitment to the Lord, and **place a lighted candle on the alter** symbolically, in gratitude to the one who has called her.

The transforming power of Spirit encouraged and challenged her, to expand her God consciousness, when she wanted to limit herself, undermining her great capacities for mission. Sr's role model was Jesus, who proclaimed the Reign of God and beckoned all into friendship with the Triune God, By His words, and deeds. Sister noticed that Jesus invited back to communion all those who, in one way or the other, had fallen out of it or had been pushed to the margins, He reached out to all but specially to the poor, sinners, the sick, women, and people of other beliefs.

So also Sr....knowing her roots- the heart of the Triune God- served the people with Hansen's disease for 8 years. Moved to for another 13 years to help the women in skill training, thus proving herself too, be a perfect artist and creative thinker. She has headed the community effectively for a term of 3 years. She has served the Lord and mission efficiently in the role of an accountant, for many years in different institutions. Her story of trust in the one who has called her and courage and perseverance, continues in our midst, in this community.

- I now invite our community leader, to place a lighted candle on the alter acknowledging with gratitude, the great missionary in the person of Sr....

Taking into our own hearts, the sentiments of gratitude and trust, that Sr... feels today, let us sing together:



- I just keep trusting my Lord...

Sr..., you are someone who mirrors some of the qualities attributed to the divine, such as compassion, sensitivity and self giving nature. I see you often placing personal matters secondary to the assigned jobs or self volunteered common tasks of the community. When it comes to volunteering you are there, without considering your age, illness or time factors. You are indeed a role model of hard work and courage even at this time of your illness. You hardly blow the trumpet when you walk extra miles. On a daily basis, I see you exemplifying sisterly love in charitable acts to the community. I see in you a great sense of satisfaction, when you notice the happiness of others while enjoying the dishes you have made or wondering at a craft

item you have finished. Straight forwardness, promptness and generosity are part of your personality. God has blessed you with ample skills and talents to carry on his mission as a joyful SSpS. He has equipped you with a heart that feels for the other, a mind that seeks novelty and perfection. We have a lot to learn from your purposeful life and commitment to work, be it taking care of the rabbits or pigs, baking cake or a special dish, art work or accounts, medical assistance or mending lives, faith sharing or pious practices, etc. Dear Sr..., may the years ahead of you will find you in better health, more productive and bringing everyone into the heart of the Trinity- your real home.

Dear Sisters, I now invite you to pray with and pray for Sr....

- Shared Prayer of petition



The author of our lives loves everyone and he keeps telling us about it in different ways. Now we shall listen to a love letter written by God, for our b'day baby Sr...

- Audio: love letter from God

Let us conclude our hour of prayer with this scripture text Eph 3: 16-19

- “According to the riches of God’s glory, may you have the power for your hidden self to grow strong, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith and you may be filled with fullness of God.”

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen



- Angelus.

Sr. Jessy Mary Paul SSpS

