

Cantique de la Sainte Vierge Marie

Mon âme exalte le Seigneur,
exulte mon esprit en Dieu mon
Sauveur!

Il s'est penché sur son humble
servante;
désormais tous les âges me diront
bienheureuse.
Le Puissant fit pour moi des
merveilles;
Saint est son nom!

Son amour s'étend d'âge en âge
sur ceux qui le craignent;
déployant la force de son bras,
Il disperse les superbes.

Il renverse les puissants de leurs
trônes,
Il élève les humbles.
Il comble de biens les affamés,
renvoie les riches les mains vides.

Il relève Israël son serviteur,
Il se souvient de son amour,
de la promesse faite à nos pères
en faveur d'Abraham et de sa
race à jamais.



*"Life's journey is to
God's eternal Day . . .
For in Life and in death,
We belong to the Lord!"*



**Sr. Marie Rose Vandal FMM
(M. Zenobie)**

**Born: July 27, 1910
Entered: May 5, 1927
Novitiate: June 13, 1928
First Vows : June 13, 1930
Final Vows: June 13, 1933
Born to Eternal Life: 9.16.2006**

Early Years

Sister Marie Rose Vandal was born in Drummondville in “la belle province de Quebec”, Canada, the daughter of the late Ludger and Aurore (Courchesne) Vandal. This place of birth was a small farming village close to her beloved Quebec. Persons coming from this village were reputed to be of sturdy stock, which could account for her strength, skill and ability in handling her life-long ministry—the printing press.

She studied professional piano for several years and advanced sewing.

God's Call

She entered the novitiate of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary in Grand Allee, Quebec at seventeen years of age and as a young professed sister worked in the printing press there.

Missionary Life

After her final vows, Marie Rose was sent to Rome and Grottaferrata where she again applied the skills she learned while she worked on the printing press.

In February 1939, Marie Rose was sent in mission to Japan where again she worked on the printing press in Sapporo in the northern part of the country.

During World War II, Marie Rose was interred with other foreigners in a camp close to Sapporo.

After her release from the camp, Marie Rose was sent to the United States where once again her talents and experience working with printing brought her to Holy Family Community in North Providence. The Franciscan Missionaries had a printing press which was both their means of support and of spreading the Good News of God's love. Fruit Hill reminded Marie Rose of her beloved Quebec so she felt much at home there. However, her missionary heart opened to the peoples of the world, and by *the fact of her vocation*, Mary Rose had the whole world as her homeland! Her travels across oceans and other lands to spread the good news of God's love attested to this.

Although her English was limited, she always managed to communicate effectively.

When the printing press was closed, Marie Rose went to the Mission Bureau where she spent hours packing trunks and making packages to send to various mission countries.

When she could no longer do this work and the needs of the missions changed, Marie Rose contributed her time and talents to making dolls and stuffed animals to sell at the annual Bazaar and gift shop. Hence, she was able to use her sewing skills. She also prepared cancelled stamps to sell and give the proceeds to the missions.

Throughout her life she was diligent in her efforts to assure material help for the missionary works of the Institute.

In 1994, Sister Marie Rose became part of Queen of Peace community at Fruit Hill and in 2001, she was sent in mission to St. Antoine's with a ministry of prayer and suffering for the needs of the church and of the world. She also visited the very ill to pray with them. Since many of the residents spoke French, she read aloud to them in French, news articles in periodicals from Canada.