

Sr Assunta Therese, "My End is Love"

by Sr Mary-Anne Flether



I do remember that Fr. Michael Raymond's homily was solely addressed to Assunta Therese, who "offered herself in poverty and suffering in living her vows of obedience, chastity and poverty...."

This is his homily: "The genesis of your vocation story: In life, there is a point you begin, and a point you end. For you, Sr. Assunta Therese, your point now is at the end - your point is love.

As you journey in your vocation, never forget how you began. Look back at the past with gratitude, live in the present with passion, and live in the future with hope. But you cannot live in hope unless you look back at the past in hope.

When you have an experience of God's love, you have a story. A story to celebrate. Today we celebrate 60 years of your story. All

these stories is what St. Francis says, "The Gospel of Life".

You have a sense of simplicity and littleness. The Magnificat of your life - JOY. JOY is in contrast to happiness. JOY is from within, Franciscan Joy. Littleness is in contrast to achievement. In religious life, it is fulfillment, not achievement. As Jesus said, "It is accomplished".

We love the memories of our stories. Memories are the gratitude of the heart.

A tree is known by its fruit. You have 60 years of the roots of that tree. Jesus said, "You did not choose me. I chose you". You have done it, Assunta. You have given fruit, the fruit from littleness. Francis said, "Let us begin again...".

May He who began this work in you, bring it to completion. She who is LOVE, begets love".

It was touching to see Sr. Assunta Therese struggle to stand upright, and to hear her pronounce her renewal of religious vows with such strength of voice and conviction.... "I make these vows forever". She has never wavered in her trust in God, who is the gift of her faith, her vocation, her conversion from Hinduism all those years ago.