

## SR. TERESA MORRISON, CPS



I have been a Missionary Sister of the Precious Blood for fifty two years and I can't believe how rapidly the years have passed. My life as a missionary has taken me to many different places, especially to South Africa where I was privileged to teach for several years. Twelve years ago I came full circle when I returned to my hometown of Woodstock in the beautiful province of Ontario. It is here, where I was born into a large, loving family as the oldest of seven, with a diverse extended family.

At the time of writing this, we are preparing to enter the season of Lent. At this time of year especially I like to recall the words of Sr. Melannie Svoboda, S.N.D., as they always touch me and provide a focus for all I do in my ministry: "Jesus, Epiphany of the invisible God, shine through me today." As a CPS, I have been blessed to travel to different parts of our world where I have learned so much about people and cultures. In these places, I have witnessed the invisible God shining through so many people of different cultures. Here in Canada and abroad I have learned especially what binds us all together, what makes us all unique and what causes us to pause in gratitude and prayer.

Now, on home turf, in my role as pastoral minister of Holy Trinity Parish, I am privileged to serve a large and growing community. My ministries are varied in scope and allow me opportunities to meet parishioners and non-parishioners in both happy and challenging times in their lives. I learn so much from how people live in very difficult situations and am in awe of how the invisible God shines through so many people I daily encounter. I continue to have a profound sense of gratitude as I journey with others searching for God in their lives. Again and again I am deeply touched through my connection with people who are rejoicing in a baby's birth, or who are seeking support and encouragement. Those who knock on our doors seeking to know about our Faith are very dear to my heart. As, of course, are those whom I accompany as they are coming to the end of their earthly lives, and their grieving loved ones who seek support in their sorrow. Then there are the many who are seeking dignity and a place to call home, who are always welcomed with open arms. In their lives, however difficult or happy, these individuals and families always let me glimpse the invisible God shine through.

Being a part of our Provincial Team provides opportunities for me to connect with the joys and challenges of religious life today. My birth family, my friends and my CPS family are loving sources of unfailing encouragement which sustains me especially in times when I feel the pains of others. As we all know, all work and no play is not healthy. To help me unwind but also to keep my mind active, every day I try to learn something new. What I find very

relaxing is being an armchair 'sleuth.' How I relish solving mysteries (at least those that can be solved). My idea of a quiet evening is to read a good mystery to try to figure out 'who done it.'

Now, when it comes to modern technology, I admit, I am a bit 'old fashioned.' This being said, I do marvel at the advancements in all things that keep us connected. However, what is most important to me is God's love and presence in my life and in the lives of others. I am blessed and hope to be able to help the women, men and children to whom I minister, discover how loved, blessed and precious they are. As I said earlier, I hope and pray that Jesus, the Epiphany of the invisible God, shines through me each day on this journey of discovery.

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