

Reflections on my Golden Jubilee — Sr. Jean Langley FMDM

What can I say about being an FMDM for 50 years, when it seems like yesterday when I walked down Ladywell Drive in Godalming, Surrey for the first time to a 'Lovely Girls' Retreat and just **knew**, this was it! It still feels the same every day (*with varying degrees of enthusiasm, love, joy peace.*)



Last year I celebrated another milestone in my life journey – 40 years in Zambia! Again it seems like yesterday when I arrived in Chinyingi Mission to replace Sr. Inviolata (Monica Orange) who was wanted back in Ladywell for the laundry! As there was no written evidence for this and as I had just completed my nursing training (*whereas Monica was in charge of the farm*) it was, in the end, agreed that we could both stay!! Then began the adventure of what has been over half my life, and it still fills me with wonder to be in this beautiful country with its amazing people and my, equally, amazing Sisters.

It is difficult to sum up all my gratitude for the wonderful day Ann and I shared on the 12th February 2017; gratitude to God for the Gift of my Vocation, gratitude to all many Sisters and friends who sent me greetings and, especially, gratitude to Ellen and all here in our Region who made it such a memorable day. Perhaps I can try to express my feelings in something I wrote for my Silver Jubilee. I hope it will try to say what is in my heart even more so now.

MY MAGNIFICAT

*Yahweh, my God, my All, my One,
I praise the wonder of your being,
The mystery of your love.
How is it, that You, the Creator
and the Ruler of the Universe
should care about me?
And yet you love me.*

*In your love, you chose the womb that gave me life,
Led me from the darkness of ignorance
into the Light of knowing You.
When I searched for love in the alley-ways of sin
You rescued me and gave me your Love.
You held my hand and gave me new Life.*

*The cup of my heart overflows with joy!
My Abba, my Daddy, who is like You?
A thousand years is not enough to praise You.
You have given me your Love, your Life, Yourself.
I am yours, your child for ever.*