

Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession



Sister Helena McEvelly



Sister Mary Burke

On 1st October 2014, FMDM Sisters from England and Scotland gathered in our Motherhouse at Ladywell Convent England, to celebrate with Sisters Helena McEvelly and Mary Burke on the joyous occasion of their Silver Jubilee of Religious Profession. Present also, were relatives and friends.

The theme chosen for their Silver Jubilee Eucharistic Celebration is:

***“Therefore hold back nothing of yourself
for yourself,
so that he who gives himself totally to you
may receive you totally.”***

- St. Francis of Assisi -



*The Lord has called me
to be a new kind of fool
in this world.
Francis of Assisi*

*It is timely that the church will celebrate the **Year for Consecrated Life** next month. We rejoice with Sisters Helena and Mary who witness to living the **JOY OF THE GOSPEL** in our Franciscan way of life.*

*In this article, Sisters Helena and Mary share with us their **personal reflection of their 25 years journey** as an FMDM Sister. We give thanks to God for the lives of our two Silver Jubilarians.*

CONGRATULATIONS Helena and Mary!

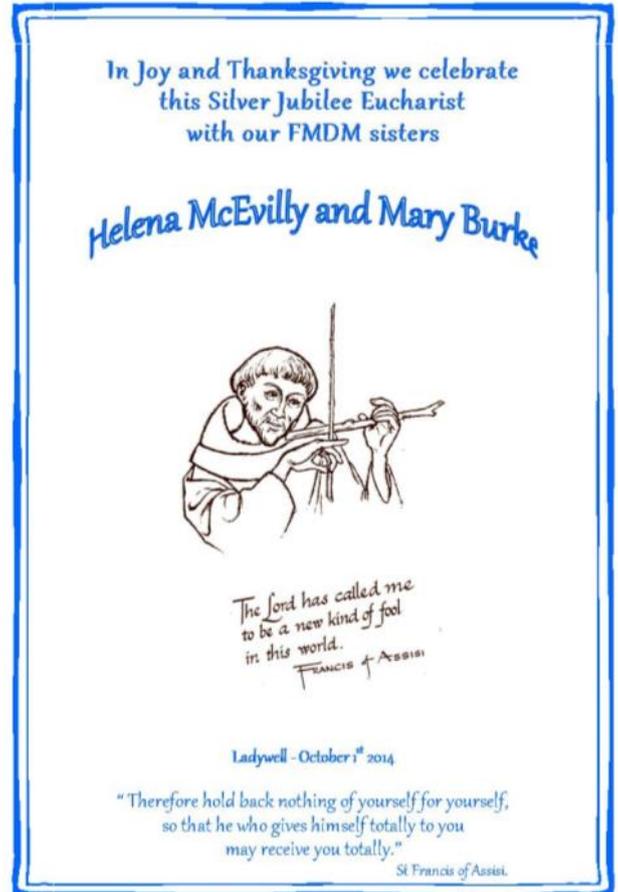
EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION

SILVER JUBILEE

Sister Helena McEvilly and Mary Burke



FMDM Sisters, family members at the Silver Jubilee Eucharistic Celebration in Ladywell Chapel Motherhouse, ENGLAND.



Sister Helena and Mary Burke with Offeratory gifts



A SPECIAL BLESSING from Fr. John Bland for Sisters Helena McEvilly and Mary Burke

Celebrating the joy of the Gospel

with our two Silver Jubilarians



Sisters Helena McEvilly and Mary Burke



Jubilee Cake



Jubilarians cutting the cake in unison!



Sisterly moment of joy!
(L—R) Ann Kiely, Helena and Jane



Anne (Mary Burke's sister) with Mary.



Personal Reflection of my 25 years journey



Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood

Sister Helena McEvilly writes—

LOOKING BACK

*the last 25 years have been **a journey of discovery and wonder.***

I realized now how little I knew then and how much less I know now about the wonder and unfolding of life experiences. I have encountered the most wonderful people along the way. God had a way of sending people - just when I needed them most.

My 17 years in Nigeria have been the most significant part of this time. I first went a few days after my 23rd birthday for a year. After completing my nursing training in St. Thomas' Hospital London followed by Tropical Medicine training in Liverpool and a Franciscan Spirituality Year in Canterbury, I was assigned to a Bush Mission in Nigeria. I was ready to take on the world and I gradually learned the world had taken me on and I learned many lessons through various life experiences. The sisters with whom I have lived with have been the greatest blessing to me. The concern and support of my family, friends and home parish have supported me and had it possible for me to do what I had to do.

My journey with Christ has been the constant throughout these years and I pray our relationship grows deeper and deeper.



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As I celebrate my 25 years of total dedication God as an FMDM Sister with great joy and thanksgiving, I thank God for the many people who have been part of my journey.

“Therefore hold back nothing of yourself for yourself, so that he who gives himself totally to you may receive you totally.”

St. Francis of Assisi



Personal Reflection of my 25 years journey



Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood

Sister Mary Burke writes—

Some twenty seven years ago...

***I answered the Lord's call
to become an FMDM Sister.***

*As I celebrate my Silver Jubilee I am reminded me
of how this same Lord has revealed his love for me.*

*This 'revelation' has happened for me through
my own relationship with him,
through my FMDM community life
and through the various ways
in which he has enabled me
to serve him in many parts of our world.*

***My heart truly sings with joy and gratitude
and I look forward to trying to live the coming
years in the presence of the ONE
who is the Love of my life.***

