

Honouring our Jubilarians



Sr Thomasina Sewell, FMDM

In 1951, Gladys Sewell entered the Postulancy at Mount Alvernia Convent in Moulmein Road, thus starting her journey as a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood (FMDM) Sister.

Now known as Sr Thomasina, she celebrated 60 years as an FMDM Sister on March 24.

Sr Thomasina took up nursing and midwifery training, as well as Advanced Nursing Administration in England and Ireland before returning to Mt Alvernia Hospital in 1961.

Her ministry has mainly been in nursing and midwifery, as well as in administration and leadership. She worked in Mt Alvernia Hospital, Villa Francis, Our Lady's Hospital in Ipoh and back again in England and Ireland.

Sr Thomasina was also the Novice Directress when they started their first local Novitiate in the 1980s. After her time again in the Motherhouse in England, she returned to Singapore in 2001.

Presently, Sr Thomasina's ministry is to help in the hospital as an FMDM Sister.



Sr Siena Pillai, FMDM

Theresa Pillai joined the Congregation of the Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood in 1952. She had her Religious Formation at the International Novitiate in United Kingdom and made her first vows on 1954. She was named Sr Catherine of Siena.

During her Religious life, Sr Siena underwent General Nursing Training in Ireland and Midwifery training in UK. Returning to Singapore she has served in several capacities, including nursing at the Trafalgar Home for people with Hansen's Disease in our early history.

Later, she served in Mount Alvernia Hospital in the General and Maternity Wards until her retirement.

Sr Siena took on training in Clinical Pastoral Education in the Philippines and the Singapore Anti-Narcotic Association's (SANA) basic training for Volunteer Aftercare Officers. She served on SANA and visited prisons for many years. She received the Silver Medal of Honour in 2004 and the Gold Medal of Honour for her dedication to this cause in 2005.

Sr Siena is now being cared for at the St Theresa's Home for the elderly.