

## Curriculum Vitae of Mother Angela Strobel, Prioress General of the Congregation of the Missionary–Benedictine Sisters of Tutzing



Date of birth: January 3rd, 1942  
Place of birth: Langenargen, Lake of Constance,  
Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart  
Country of birth: Germany  
Feastday October 11. ( B. Pope John XXIII, Angelo Roncalli)  
Professional training: Elementary School,  
Mission School in Tutzing from 1956 to  
1962; Studies in Chemistry Science in Brazil.  
Date of Entry: 1963 in Tutzing, until 1966 in Bernried  
First Profession: October 24th, 1966 in Tutzing  
Mission Experience Abroad: from December 29th 1969 to  
January 2000 in Brazil, except  
Procure in Tutzing: between 1987 and 1988  
Language abilities: German, English, Portuguese.  
Assignments: Teaching chemistry in schools in Brazil;  
secretary of the prioress;  
Prioress in Olinda from 1989 to 2000;

Vicereess General in our congregation: from October 2000 to September 2006  
October 1st 2006: elected General Prioress by the 11. General Chapter in Rome

### Interview with M. Angela Strobel

Going back to the past: Do you remember the first time you wanted to become a Sister? Was it at once to become a Missionary Benedictine? Which person had its share and what were your motivations in this early stage?

*Yes, I remember very clearly - not really to become a Sister, but a missionary. I was in the 3rd or 4th class of the elementary school. In school we had young priests coming for religion classes. Once we even had a missionary who had been expelled from China. We had mission magazines for children. We were collecting our little money to baptize "Heidenkinder". I even remember the place where I had an "exciting" sharing with a peer about going for mission in Africa. About Benedictine life I knew less than nothing.*

Which were the most outstanding learning areas you experienced as a Vicereess General and which learnings probably will be of most support for you as Prioress General?

*The "learning areas" have been all the fields where our Sisters live and work throughout the world. I learned different ways of living life and mission. Of course, I learned much from the way M. Irene led the Congregation and from how we in the Generalate all worked together and supported one another. To know how to go about canonical matters is also a help.*

According to today's Gospel: One, who takes the plough into her hands and looks forward, she is right for the Kingdom of God. How do you as our Prioress General for the six years envision your future? What do you see when you look forward with the plough in your hands?

*I think that this morning I received the grace not to look back. But to look forward is another thing. I envision the future as a time when really selfless service is needed. The vision of the future of the Congregation is coming out in this Chapter. We already have some very good directions. I feel that "Preparing Together" not only as a title of the booklet (summarizing the Sisters' hopes and insights), but as a real fact, freed a lot of "hidden" energy in our whole Congregation. This gives me much hope. I see and I hope that there will be more sharing and cooperation in the Congregation.*

What are your hopes, what are your fears?

*The fear of personal failure is there, but this increases also my faith and trust in God and in my co-sisters.*

In which area do you see an urgent need for change in our Congregation?

*Our Congregation has a history of 121 years, and during this time there have been many changes as our Sisters heeded the call and responded to the needs of the times. What is even more urgent is the change that esus asks from us, the change occasioned by conversion to find and live our true identity as Missionary Benedictine Sisters.*

In which way do you expect the individual sister, the communities and the congregation to support you in your new ministry?

*I see my ministry as a service to our Congregation which is called to participate in the mission of God. So I would expect that together we fulfil this mission; each Sister bearing witness in the particular place where she has been called to give of herself. There are many fields of mission and we can only rejoice in so much good being done. I will be very grateful for suggestions and sincere feedback.*

*Most of your future time will have certain tasks and responsibilities without choice whether to do them or not. So most of your time will be consumed by that and probably you will wish to have more time. How do you care for yourself personally?*

*What are your everyday "sabbatical occupations" (in order to find rest and become quiet)?*

*My everyday "sabbatical occupations" or moments will be (according to my intention) one hour of Lectio, because this is the real sabbatical time, and then a half-hour walk in the garden.*