

Life and Death of
Sr. Irene Nakale-Tshavuka, OSB
09th of September 1959 – 20th of August 2009

"You are my God, my happiness lies in you alone!" Ps. 16,2



Sr. Irene was born on the 09th of September 1959 in Oshima/Owamboland in Namibia– together with her Twin-Sister Elisabeth. She was baptized on the 21st of July 1960 in Oshikuku and given the name "Irene".

Irene grew up with her parents and her brothers and sisters. The mother bore four times twins and two single children, together seven girls and three boys. Only two sisters are still alive, her twin-sister Elisabeth and her sister Cecilia.

She entered the Benedictine Sisters of Oshikuku and made her First Profession on the 06th of January 1985 and her Final Profession on the 06th of January 1991.

Sr. Irene was one of the Benedictine Sisters who were integrated to the Missionary Benedictine Sisters of Tutzing on the 29th of August 1999. Thereafter she was assigned as a cook in Tondoro, Windhoek and Ongha. Sr. Irene was a quiet person by nature. She was simple, joyful and liked jokes. When she had to teach somebody or to correct she did it in a friendly, kind and humble way. She was very prayerful. Her favorite song was: "Nda hara ndi hore Maria Meme, muudhigu ne-nyanyu ndi ku karere..." . (I want to love Mary, my Mother in difficulties and in joy).

Sr. Irene became sick with liver-cancer. She never complained about her suffering.

We found a handwritten prayer:

*“My Dear Lord, Thank you Lord, that you call me!
Thank you for the graces I received these days!
Thank you Lord for your love and your kindness!
Be with me everywhere I am!
Strengthen me in my difficult time!
Give me grace to call your name in times of happiness and in times of sorrows.
Thank you for your healing and for your forgiveness!
Lord you know me and I ask you to bless me every day of my life!”*

Sr. Irene died peacefully in our Roman Catholic Hospital on the 20th of August, just after midnight at 00.30 surrounded by many Fellow-Sisters who were praying and singing.

We are grateful for Sr. Irene and we will miss her very much. We trust that she will intercede for us.

R.i.p.

Missionary Benedictine Sisters of Tutzing
St. Benedict Priory, Windhoek/Namibia