



### **Sr. Theresa Molchanow, MSC**

Theresa Mary and Dolores Ann were born twins just shy of Pearl Harbor Day in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Seven and a half years later their twin brothers, Paul and Michael, were born.

Because of God's great personal love for me, God gave me, Sr. Theresa Molchanow: parents and faith-filled grandparents of East-European origin who loved me; a Catholic School Education; and an adventurous, persevering spirit. As a twin I learned early in life that the world was bigger than I.

It was the word "missionary," along with information about a high school for girls [St. Michael's] who may be interested in becoming Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, in an ad printed in *The Sunday Visitor* Catholic newspaper, which became, for me, God's clear invitation into the rest of my life. In the mid-1950's it was not uncommon for teens to have some inclination toward their life's orientation or vocation.



I became a Missionary Sister of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus with my first profession of the evangelical vows of consecrated obedience, chastity and poverty in 1961.

I reside now at Saint Michael Convent in Reading, Pennsylvania with several other retired M.S.C. Sisters. Presently, I am grateful to be able to live with my twin sister who also is a Missionary Sister of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. My present ministry is one of prayer for the world and others, of doing what I can to care for the earth, our common home, of simple service within community, and of keeping in touch with family and with those whom I have known.



Even though my life as a Missionary Sister of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus these past 60+ years has sent me to live and serve in the U.S.A., Papua New Guinea, Italy and Mexico, the list of what I may have accomplished is not as important to me as is the "heart" of each of these missions. It was, it is, and will always be true for me and for each M.S.C. Sister that what "makes me tick," what keeps me responding to the daily invitation to be "missionary" wherever I may be and whatever I may do for as long as I may live, is the energy within the *grace to be the heart of God on earth* so that the Heart of Jesus may be known and loved everywhere!