

Mission Moment

Remembering Sister Kristin Battles ~ Wisdom woman for our times

Since Sister Kristin's passing into eternity on August 15, many individuals have shared treasured memories. Here are several.

For twelve years (2010 - 2022) as Superior General, Sister Mary Kristin led our Congregation with wisdom, courage, and a profound spirit of service. Her attentive presence, compassionate listening, and ability to discern the challenges of our time strengthened the mission of the more than 2,200 Sisters of Notre Dame serving in different parts of the world. Her leadership was marked by nearness, hope, and unwavering trust in God's providence. During her visits to Brazil, she showed a strong personal connection to the apostolic mission carried out here, along with great appreciation and sensitivity, especially in education, health care, faith formation, and the promotion of the dignity of life. Her presence among us was a source of encouragement and joy, and her care for the sisters and the mission left a lasting impression on our hearts.

Sister Vania Maria Dalla Vecchia, Provincial Superior, Our Lady of Guadalupe Province, Brazil

As the niece of Sister Kristin, I have enjoyed a unique relationship with her--one that has been private and separate from her more public role. It is with honor and love that I share one of the best family memories of the time I have cherished with her.

Kristin really praised my successful first year of motherhood. She spoke of the importance of mothers and the great need for their support and education around the world. For Kristin, the vision was always the big picture. She understood the power of the church and money and worked to harness it for the benefit of humankind. She said when a mother is supported a whole village rises up.

My life has been blessed by the presence and prayers of my Aunt Kristin and all the SNDs. I've heard the sisters' voices singing her praises from around the world. The song performed for Sister Mary Kristin by the sisters in East Africa, which I have listened to dozens of times, fills my heart with gratitude and connection to all that is good and valuable about humankind.

My Grandmother was also deeply blessed by the SNDs for their prayers. My last text with Kristin was on my Grandma Claire's recent birthday anniversary. Grandma would have been 110. Kristin's last message to me was about Grandma "One in a million! Never to be forgotten. We learned much from her wisdom and values." Those exact words could also be spoken about my Aunt Kristin.

Leslie Jay Bosch