

IN MEMORIAM:

GLORIA ANNA MONICA LOBO (December 10th, 1943 – April 2nd, 2018)

Gloria Lobo was a member of the Rosary Apostolate for several years and was a great inspiration, mentor and guide to those of us who served with her and knew her personally. A woman of great spiritual strength, a woman of perseverance, a kind, gentle, loving, extremely generous and considerate woman who never hesitated to defend and promote the faith – she was for sure, a beloved daughter of the Lord and His holy Parents who took her home on Easter Monday this year – also the Death Anniversary of our Patron Saint John Paul II. She is surely interceding for the entire Rosary Apostolate – especially the children we serve, before the throne of our Lord and Our Mother Mary.

Widowed suddenly at age 33, her husband succumbing to a massive heart attack at age 35, she was left with 4 young children to raise all on her own – the youngest being only 10 months old. Gloria had never worked before but went on to get her teaching degree and raised her children through sheer hard work and determination – supported by the love and mercy of God who was always with her. She suffered the loss of her eldest son Robert (an Engineer) who passed from a stroke a day before his 45th birthday just 5 years ago. Son Dr. David heads the Department of Tropical Diseases in Connecticut, daughter Maria is a homemaker in Iowa with a beautiful family and the youngest, Liza is a practicing lawyer here. More than their professional achievements to be commended – her 4 children are deeply rooted, strong and vibrant Catholics, thanks to the priorities of their mother who raised them to be so. It is plain to see that by turning to the Lord for His help, we can accomplish anything. She singlehandedly did what countless two parent families rarely achieve.

Gloria had a great love for the Holy Eucharist and went to Mass daily. Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was an integral part of her prayer life as well as daily rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and loads of other prayers. She was always praying for the conversion of souls here on earth and for the souls in purgatory. She was a strong influence on her grandchildren whom she loved dearly and cared for deeply. Those here in Toronto, have been a part of the annual fundraiser skit troupe for the Scarborough banquet and workshops.

Gloria travelled to India with Liza to celebrate her mother's 100th birthday and tragically collapsed during the party and passed away attired in the colours of her beloved Mother Mary! Her body was brought back to Toronto and she is buried beside her son Robert at Christ the King Cemetery on Reesor Road, Markham.

Gloria has left behind the most important legacy any son or daughter of God can ever leave behind – a legacy of faith rooted in obedience to Christ and His Church. She embraced the entire Magisterium and no one could ever accuse her of being 'a cafeteria Catholic'. As Catholics, we look to our saints for inspiration and to show us how we can live our faith in a way that is most pleasing to God. They are our true heroes and when we seek to know how it is done, we look to them for direction that we can find from their life accounts. We are so blessed to have had among us, one such person. We can look to the life of Gloria. She showed us how it is done!

Rest in peace, dearest Gloria – my spiritual mother, my inspiration, my friend. We love and miss you endlessly.

– Ann Alphonso, Regional Director, Scarborough 1

Memories of Gloria from Scarborough 1 team members:

“She was such a devoted and dedicated person.” – Nick Barillaro

“She was like a mother to me. I have learned so much from her about the Catholic faith..... even healthy recipes.”
– Christine Manrique

“5 years ago as a new member of the Apostolate, I could not have asked for a better mentor. Gloria epitomized what the Rosary Apostolate is about. Her love for our dear Mother was clear in all she did, but especially when she spoke and prayed with the children. She wanted them to know and love Mary as she did.”

– Karen Engelmann

“She was soft-spoken, always smiling and eager to help.” – Lolita Henriques

“She was such a nice person. I find it hard to describe my feelings about her. She made me feel good about myself and inspired me in my faith.” – Philomena Conception

“Gloria Lobo was an Angel in disguise among us. She was a kind, generous and caring soul who is definitely in Heaven praying for all of us. Rest in peace dear!” – Gloria Fernandes

“She was a wonderful grandmother figure to the students and told the stories of our faith and Mother Mary in a way that brought it to life for the children.” – Phyllis Kho

“She was a very good person.” – Marie Wong



At the Lift
Jesus Higher
Rally, 2018 –
with Our Lady,
Queen of
Canada, a
month before
she passed



At Fatima

Shrine, NY,
at the
Rosary
Apostolate
pilgrimage,
Oct, 2016