



Adelaide Smith, S.D.S.

<i>Date of Birth</i>	<i>May 7, 1933</i>
<i>Date of Commitment</i>	<i>May 1, 2001</i>
<i>Date of Death</i>	<i>November 10, 2010</i>

Adelaide Smith was born on May 7, 1933. She was a native of Santa Maria, California with family roots in Sebastopol where she was baptized at St. Sebastian's Church shortly after birth. She graduated from Salinas Union High School and attended Hartnell College and San Jose State. Adelaide was married to her beloved husband, Homer for nearly thirty years before losing him in a car accident some twenty years ago. She carried the injuries and scars of the physical trauma of that accident until last year when hip replacement surgery corrected and repaired some of the damage that she lived with all those years.

In the words of Jan Bencken, "Adelaide was a very special lady whose Salvatorian witness was a magnet for me. She radiated such peace and joy! I had the special treat of spending a week with her and Joann Kuphaldt in a friend's condo in Arroyo Grande, CA near the beach. We had deep spiritual conversations and discussions, lots of laughter, great spans of silent contemplation, picnics, drives, and a visit to the Comaldalese Monastery near Monterey. Adelaide was a gourmet cook, a fan of Thomas Merton, a classy lady, and a hard worker. One of her greatest desires was to "feed the hungry" and she meant that spiritually and physically. She served as a Franciscan Covenant person living in community for several years, cooking for the monks as well as their guests at San Damiano Retreat Center and other retreat centers in CA. One of her dreams was to establish a soup kitchen at Divine Savior parish in Orangevale, a dream that still awaits fulfillment.

Adelaide was involved with the Salvatorian Community for ten years before making her commitment in 2001. In her letter requesting commitment as a Lay Salvatorian, she stated "I am not a leader, but I make leaders look good. I love sharing my faith on a one to one basis. I have a contemplative spirit which leads to action in the church community as well as the greater community." Her life was a lived balance of "Mary and Martha" as she brought her prayer life to all she did whether it was arranging flowers, cooking and serving with the bereavement committee, or Eucharistic minister duties. She used her talents wherever needed.

Adelaide is survived by her four children, Sarah, David, Matthew and Steven, grandchildren Kaitlin, Allison, Joseph, and Melinda and her great grandson, Preston. Friends are invited to the Mass of Christian Burial on Monday, November 15th at 10 a.m. at Divine Savior Catholic Church in Orangevale.

Adelaide touched the lives of the many Salvatorians that she met and she will be sorely missed but we are comforted in the knowledge that she is in the presence of our Lord who she served so faithfully.