



Sister Frances Franzluebbbers

**“You have Not Chosen Me, I Have Chosen You”**

Little did I realize what God had in mind for me as I was growing up on a small farm in northeastern Nebraska. I am the ninth child in a family of eleven siblings. We all attended St. Boniface School in Monterey staffed by the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration.

My parents treasured their Catholic Faith and were inspiring examples for us. We attended and participated in the devotions and religious functions of the parish. This was always a priority in our family.

We were not an affluent family so we were taught to share, to work together, assist one another, to be appreciative of our belongings, and not to be wasteful with our material possessions.

During my seventh or eighth grade, a missionary came to the classrooms to speak to us on vocations. It was at this time that God called me to follow Him and to be of service to others. There were no objections from my parents or family members. They were always very supportive.

We were only acquainted with the Sisters who taught us in school, so this was the Community I was interested in. After all the necessary preparations, my parents took me to the Motherhouse in Denver, Colorado on August 28, 1947.

We were a close knit family and I had never been away from the family so there were some difficult times during the first years. I was an aspirant for two years, a postulant for one year, invested with the habit on August 12, 1950 and made perpetual vows on August 12, 1957. Sisters Regina Rose and Alice Marie were influential persons during my formation years.

During my years in religious life, God has blest me tremendously with many roses among which there have also been some thorns. Without the cross there is no crown. God continues to say, "I have called you by name, you are Mine."