



THE WORD LIVES

July 3, 2018

SISTER STELLA BARRIENTES
FEBRUARY 27, 1914—

Words of the Incarnate Word to
Jeanne Chézard de Matel:

*My Providence watches over you,
and my mercy will serve you
all the days of your life.
I am the Lord who governs you.
Nothing will be lacking to you.
Delight in the Lord
who is all-loving toward you,
and He will hear
your heart's request; that is,
He will heed its pleas
even beyond what you
could possibly imagine."*

Jeanne Chézard De Matel



L-R: Srs. Lucy Garcia and Stella as postulants; Felipita Garza, Sr. Stella, Estella Martinez in Beeville; Sr. Stella celebrating her 100th birthday



Sr. Stella Barrientes passed on to eternal life with God on June 21, 2018 after 104 years of life. Those of us who knew Sr. Stella may remember her with dancing heart and feet and smiling eyes as she shared her great love of music and art with her students and with the Sisters. Her many years of teaching included schools in Beeville, Brownsville, Corpus Christi, Port Isabel, and Goliad. Her joy in life served her well in her ministry. She stated that her desire "has always been to teach children about God and to bring the good news of salvation in all areas of my ministry."

In addition to her teaching ministry, Sister Stella taught conducted reading and art workshops, and gave first aid classes for the American Red Cross. Her volunteer work with the Red Cross also included entertaining handicapped children. Through the years she also sponsored the Sodality and the Legion of Mary, coordinated CCD and the Catholic Youth Organization.

She has often exclaimed in wonder," It doesn't feel that I have lived this long!" The Incarnate Word has blessed the congregation with over seventy years of joyful presence and love in his beloved Sister Mary Stella!

The Homecoming

The spirit, newly freed from earth,
is all amazed at the surprise
of her belonging: suddenly
as native to eternity
to see herself, to realize
the heritage that lets her be
at home where all this glory lies.

By naught foretold could she
have guessed
such welcome home: the robe,
the ring, music and
endless banqueting,
these people hers;
this place of rest
known, as of long remembering
herself a child of God and pressed
with warm endearments
to His breast.

-Jessica Powers



Sr. Stella with her nephew, Mr. Adolfo Garza



Sr. Stella on Halloween Night

Contributions for The Word Lives may be sent to Sister Rose Miriam at
SecretaryGeneral@jwbscc.org by the 20th of each month.