



The Colombian Sisters at Blessed Trinity

We are a Missionary congregation of Colombian origin, founded by a Spanish missionary from the Missionaries of the I.E.M.E., which is the Spanish Institute of Foreign Missions, Father Francisco Font Garcia in 1937.

We arrived in Ocala on January 30, 2007. Originally we were three nuns: Sr. Vanesa Galvis, Sr. Marta Florian and myself, Sr. Magalis Baldovino.

How did we come to Blessed Trinity?

I believe that our arrival here is an example of God's plan, which does as He wants, when He wants and with whom He wants, because He writes straightforward in crooked sentences.

I remember that in 2004 Father Alfoso Cely, then in charge of the Hispanic ministry at Blessed Trinity, felt the need to find some Religious to help assist the different groups and ministries at BT, Guadalupana and Christ the King.

After approval by Father Pat, he consulted Father Luis Alfredo Restrepo, then Vicar for Consecrated Life in the Archdiocese of Medellin, Colombia. Father Restrepo referred him to

Sister Adelina Castro, Superior General of our order at the time. With the consent of Bishop Thomas Wenski, the prayer process began to discover together God's will as to whether to work here or not.

After two years of study and consultation, Sister Adelina along with Sister Economa, visited the parish to better understand the job offer and to see if it followed our Congregational Charism. After seeing for themselves what the parish required, the decision was made to come to Ocala.

So, what do the Missionary Catechists do?

I think we do a very simple job; in evangelization we walk with (or accompany) the different ministries and groups such as: Legion of Mary, Cursillo, Lectors, Ministry of the sick at their homes, or at the hospital, nursing homes, visiting families (listening and encouraging people who live alone), helping with liturgy, etc. We also help with pre-sacramental catechesis of parents and sponsors for Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation at BT, Guadalupana and Christ the King.

I personally consider it a special Grace to have come to Blessed Trinity.

The last eleven years have enriched me with the cultural plurality enjoyed in this community. The human warmth and fraternity are palpable; they encourage and stimulate growth every day.

I never thought I would some day come to the United States. When informed of the petition from Blessed Trinity, I was in Spain and the possibility never crossed my mind of coming here, as I was very happy there and I took for granted that they would send sisters from Colombia.

I was very surprised when they told me to fly to Colombia to then fly to the United States. I flew to Colombia on December 12, 2006 then here on January 30, 2007 and here I am today.

In December 2017 our Sister Angela was voted Superior General of the order and had to rush back to Colombia. We are now waiting for the paperwork with the State Department to come through for our new sister at Blessed Trinity.

