



Finding Calcutta Presentation and Book Signing

Sunday, November 8

Book signing in the Holy Family Bookstore
10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Author, Dr. Mary Poplin will be at Holy Family sharing her remarkable experiences and reflections on this

“Saint who lived in our time”

Presentation will be in the Galilee Room,
Holy Family Pastoral Center
2:30—3:30 p.m.

On August 26, 2009, the Missionaries of Charity launched a year of programs to celebrate the birth centenary of their founder, Blessed Teresa of Kolkata. Sister Mary Prema, who heads the congregation, said the celebration would conclude on August 26, 2010, which will be the 100th anniversary of Blessed Teresa’s birth. At a recent mass, Sister Mary told the gathered congregation that “the best gift we can all prepare for Mother’s 100th birthday is our sincere endeavor to be channels of God’s love and peace to the poor.”

During this year of remembrance, the Holy Family Bookstore will feature books by and about this remarkable “contemporary saint”. The first book I want to call your attention to is *Finding Calcutta: What Mother Teresa Taught Me About Meaningful Work and Service* by **Mary Poplin**. A Southern California resident, Mary Poplin earned her Ph.D. in Education from the University of Texas. She began her career teaching elementary school and special education, later becoming a professor at Claremont Graduate University in California where she was director of the Teacher Education Program, 1985-1995 and Dean of the School of Educational Studies, 2000-04. Between those positions Poplin worked with Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta. She has hosted a Summit on Accountability and Social Justice which sought to define the major principles inherent in accountability systems in the U.S. that have been found to be effective in closing the achievement gap between rich and poor and between racial and ethnic groups. She is the author of "Voices from the Inside: A Report on Schooling from Inside the Classroom" (1992). More recently, Dr. Poplin has begun to work on the application of the intellectual, social, and psychological principles of the Judeo-Christian worldview as they apply to higher education, particularly among culturally and linguistically diverse peoples and the poor. and share her remembrances of Mother Teresa. We are most grateful to Dr. Poplin for her willingness to share her reflections on this holy woman.

I read this *Finding Calcutta* over the summer, and can honestly say that it is “life changing. Well written and very readable, it combines the personal experiences of Mary Poplin with Mother Teresa and her Missionaries of Charity, as well as remarkable insight into the spirituality and devotion to the “small things” that make their work such as huge force in the lives of those that they serve.

Finding Calcutta won a 2008 CPYU Bookshelf Book Award for excellence.

