But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

~Philippians 3:20

Obituary
Sister Maria Ines Becerra, OP

(As shared by Sister Selenia Quinones)

Sister Maria Ines was born in Yauco, Puerto Rico and was the fifth of eleven children of Cora Rueda and Roque Becerra. She met our Congregation while attending catechesis classes in Holy Rosary Parish in Yauco. It was there that she met Mother Dominga with whom she related very well. Ines entered our congregation in 1950 with two other young women from Puerto Rico. She spent the first thirteen years of her religious life in St. Joseph’s School in Suydam Street, Brooklyn. The Italian students and their parents in that parish loved her very much. In 1963 she returned to her native land, Puerto Rico. Her first place of ministry there was in Our Lady of the Rosary School and Parish in Vega Baja. There she spent seven years as a Fifth Grade teacher. S. Ines enjoyed teaching that age level. She also taught Catechetics in the Parish. When she left Vega Baja S. Ines taught in our Colegio in Isabela where she spent eleven years as a Second Grade teacher. She prepared all the children in the school and in the parish to receive their First Holy Communion. Her last seventeen years as a teacher and librarian were most gratifying for her in the Colegio and Parish of St. Vincent Ferrer in Catano where she ministered among the poor families and taught their children.

In 1998 S. Ines came to live at Convento Santa Cruz, our little Motherhouse in Puerto Rico. While living in the convent she was a very active participant in the Daycare Center, El Remanso for ten years. Whenever there were competitions with other Day Care Centers S. Ines always received a medal or a trophy because of her gifted singing voice. Actually, everywhere she was she entertained people with her singing and became known as a “beautiful singer.”

In her community life Sister Ines was always willing to help each person. The sisters in Puerto Rico describe her as someone who lived her entire life being a respectful, humble and joyful sister. She had great devotion to the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Mother. Ines loved her family and enjoyed sharing time with her many nieces and nephews. Those closest to her were with her the day before she went home to God and, she was fully conscious of their presence. They also joined the sisters for the Mass of Resurrection.

We were certainly blessed to have Ines as member of our Congregation.