



Dr. Sr. Flavia Mariapragasam, fmm

English Literature

PUC 1958-59, B.Sc Maths 1962-64
MA English 1962-64, M.Phil 1985-86
Ph.D 1993

Faculty 1968 – 2000

Sr. M. Flavia, F.M.M. Ph.D, Vice-Principal, Stella Maris College has been teaching Literature for nearly 25 years. Her field of interest is American Fiction, more particularly the Southern Writers. Sr. Flavia had her philosophical and theological training at Dharmaram College, Bangalore, De Nobili College, Pune and Regina Mundi institute, Rome. Religious Philosophy is her lifelong interest and this has drawn her to study the hidden mysticism of Flannery O'Connor. She has recently completed her doctoral dissertation on Flannery O'Connor and has returned from one-year teaching assignment at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster Pennsylvania, USA. During her stay in America she participated in the Flannery O'Connor Conference at Georgia College, Milledgeville, GA, commemoration the writer's 30th death anniversary.

Flannery O'Connor is a short story writer of international repute.

A Southern fiction writer, she explored the ills of her society with penetrating satire. Deeply religious herself she saw a world where materialism and the absence of right values had turned man away from God. The resulting abnormality is heightened with grotesque violence in her works. A writer whose work aroused enormous critical interest, her brief literary career of 14 years saw the production of a small but finely crafted output of 31 short stories and two probing novels much admired for structural mastery, ironic brilliance and surprise endings. These qualities together with the complexity of her fiction and moral tenor make her an outstanding fiction-writer of our times. Her short stories have gone into twenty-three editions and her novel **Wise Blood** is now a fascinating film.