



**Birth**  
May 15, 1925

**Baptism**  
May 19, 1925

**Profession**  
July 29, 1948

**Death**  
May 21, 2014

**Burial**  
Sancta Maria  
in Ripa Cemetery  
St. Louis, Missouri

*Precious and blessed is  
the death of the faithful  
before God... for  
they die in union with  
their dear Jesus, in the  
grace of God, in peace.*

Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger  
Foundress of the School Sisters of Notre Dame  
Letter 11, September 10, 1831

## *In Loving Memory*

### Sister Adele [Matthew Marie] Huling, SSND

The youngest of four children was born to Elizabeth (Vogt) and Matthew Huling in St. Louis, Missouri on April 15, 1925. Four days later, she was baptized at Holy Rosary Church and named Adele Louise. She had two older sisters and a brother. Her brother, Walter, was called home to God when Adele was four years old, leaving the home empty of the boy who wished to become a priest.

Adele attended kindergarten and elementary school at Holy Rosary. She enrolled at Rosati-Kain High School for her secondary education. Her father became ill during her junior year and she worked after school at Miss Huling's Cafeteria as a waitress to financially assist the family and to continue to pay for her Catholic education. Her father recovered but during her senior year, he again became ill and died one month before her graduation. For the next two years, Adele worked as a file clerk at the Meier-Pohlmann fur manufacturing plant.

During her high school years, she felt a desire to enter religious life but did not ask her mother's permission for several years in order to help with the family's financial situation. When she made her request, her mother was shocked and hesitated but after several months gave her consent. Adele entered the candidature at Ripa on August 29, 1945. She was received into the novitiate on July 28, 1947, and given the name Matthew Marie in memory of her father. Profession of first vows was on July 29, 1948, and final vows on July 29, 1954.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education from Webster College, St. Louis, Missouri in 1955; a Master of Arts degree in elementary education from San Diego State College, San Diego, California in 1958; a Master of Arts degree in special education from Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1971.

Sister Adele was an elementary educator for 32 years. She taught at Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Louis, Missouri; St. Peter Cathedral, Belleville, Illinois; St. Joseph, Conway, Arkansas; St. Joseph, Holtville, California; St. Rita, San Diego, California and All Souls, Overland, Missouri.

In 1964, she began the first Catholic classes for special education children at St. Peter, Jefferson City, Missouri with 15 students. She used the same textbooks as the regular school but adjusted the learning to each student's ability. This individualized learning enabled the children to understand what they were learning. Later, many of them would find employment in sheltered workshops and live in their own apartments. Eventually, contributions came in and the program grew. This program was the foundation for the current Vogelweid Learning Center associated with St. Peter Interparish School in Jefferson City.

After four years, Sister Adele was transferred to St. Jude Special School in Aviston, Illinois as the director of special education. She remained in this position for 11 years. When Illinois passed a law that every public school

*continued*

# *In Loving Memory*



*Sister Adele Hulling*



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**School Sisters  
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Central Pacific Province

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THROUGH EDUCATION

was to have some type of special education class, the assistance of the sisters was no longer needed.

After 47 years in the classroom, Sister Adele was missioned to Villa Gesu where she assisted the community with her needlework skills. With the closing of Villa Gesu, she was transferred to Veronica House in 1999. Sister Adele was the last of the original group of SSNDs from Villa Gesu to go to Veronica House. In 2008, she was transferred to Anna House. In May 2014, she experienced congestive heart failure and was placed on hospice after a short stay in the hospital. She died peacefully at Anna House on May 21, 2014 at 6:30 a.m.

A wake/vigil was held at Anna House and Theresa Center on May 23, 2014. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated the following morning with Rev. Edward Fitzgibbon presiding. Relatives, friends and SSNDs attended the funeral services. Sister Adele was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, Walter, and her two sisters, Dorothea Guerrero and Virginia Ryan.

Sister Adele loved children and had a special place in her heart for those with special needs. She prepared hundreds of children for the reception of the sacraments. She enjoyed crafts, reading and doing crossword puzzles. May she now rejoice in the fullness of life that her loving God has prepared for her and experience the reward Jesus promised to those who instruct the little ones!

*By Sister Carol Marie Wildt, SSND*