



Birth
December 23, 1910

Baptism
December 25, 1910

Profession
July 22, 1932

Death
April 18, 2013

Burial
Chatawa Cemetery
Chatawa, Mississippi

*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 Alix le Clerc Winkelmann, SSND

Catherine Agnes Winkelmann was born in Brinktown, Missouri on December 23, 1910, to Casper and Elizabeth (Wiegers) Winkelmann. Two days later, on Christmas Day, she was baptized at Guardian Angel Church in Brinktown.

Agnes thrived in her family of eleven where she was the second youngest of the nine children. Faith and service seem to have taken deep root in this family, for two years before Agnes' entrance into the School Sisters of Notre Dame, her sister, Loretta, entered the Franciscan order. Of the next generation, a nephew became a LaSalette priest.

About her formative years, Agnes related, "The family variety store, the only store in Brinktown, experienced consecutive disasters of two major fires, then the depression. 'Papa Winkelmann' as he was known, is as joyous as can be, for he knows all comes from the hand of a generous God." This attitude of "joy" permeated Sister Alix's life and the memories of many whose lives she touched. Her words conveyed her optimism, "I desire to bring a cheerful heart, lively conversation, a good time, and a love of music wherever God calls me to minister."

Agnes, at the age of five, started her eight years in the parish's one-room school. Most people in Brinktown considered their education complete when they graduated from eighth grade. But Agnes, the youngest girl in the family, was encouraged to further her education with aspirants of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in St. Louis.

Following graduation, in 1927, Agnes returned to her family home in Brinktown. From there she walked for a mile and a half each day to teach in a small, rural school in Salem, Mo. After two years she found the experience so rewarding that she felt drawn to join the congregation of women religious who taught her at Notre Dame High School.

In 1929, Agnes entered the candidature at the motherhouse in St. Louis. After completing her early formation period and was received as Sister M. Alix le Clerc. She professed her first vows in 1932.

Sister Alix completed almost a half-century of teaching. She taught academics and music to children in Illinois, Missouri, Mississippi, Arkansas, and in Louisiana. When she left the classroom, she continued to minister for another decade of service on the staff of parishes in San Antonio, Texas and in Jeanerette, La.

Over the years, Sister Alix enjoyed a wide range of activities: baseball with her class and attendance at St. Louis Cardinals games; simple concerts by children as well as classical music; recreational card games or all-day tournaments; and the celebration of Mardi Gras with parties and parades. She continued a vicarious participation in most of these when she joined the community in Chatawa, Miss.

continued

In Loving Memory



*Sister Alix le Clerc
Winkelmann*

Sister came to the retirement home at St. Mary of the Pines, Chatawa, in 1992. Her ministry appointment read “community service” until 1995, when this changed to “prayer and hospitality.”

Sister Alix le Clerc died peacefully at home in the early morning of April 18, 2013.

Sister’s parents preceded her in death as did her eight siblings. Sister is survived by several generations of nieces and nephews, most of who live near Brinktown, Missouri.

Visitation and prayer service were on April 22, 2013. This was followed by the Eucharistic Celebration. The presider was Rev. Thomas Potts, SVD. Burial was in the cemetery at Chatawa.

By Sister MarieClare Powell, SSND

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