

# *In Loving Memory*

## Sister Mary Lucida Hoskens, SSND



**Birth**  
December 5, 1917

**Baptism**  
December 7, 1917

**Profession**  
July 28, 1938

**Death**  
May 1, 2014

**Burial**  
Notre Dame of  
Elm Grove Cemetery  
Elm Grove, Wisconsin

*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

**B**orn in De Pere, Wisconsin on December 5, 1917, to Joseph and Catherine (Smits) Hoskens, she was baptized Marie at St. Mary's Church in De Pere. Nine children survived beyond infancy. Marie grew up with four brothers and four sisters on the family's 300-acre farm where she helped out as chore girl with the haying, driving the horses, milking the cows and practically every kind of work on the farm. Each night after the work was finished, the family prayed the rosary. Marie attended country school, about a half mile from home and completed her elementary education in seven years. It was during her junior year at East De Pere High that Marie had thoughts of becoming a teacher – a religious teacher. The presence of sisters coming into St. Mary's Church on Sundays made a deep impression on her and so a longing grew to give her life to God.

Following her high school graduation in 1935, Marie entered the SSND candidature. At her reception in 1937, she received the religious name, Mary Lucida. She professed her first vows on July 28, 1938. Sister Mary Lucida received a bachelor's degree in education from Mount Mary College, Milwaukee in 1947. Additionally, she earned a theology certificate from Mount Mary in 1965 and a library certificate from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee in 1969.

Sister Mary Lucida served in Catholic education for 45 years, teaching mostly primary level students. She taught at the following schools: St. Margaret of Scotland and St. John De La Salle, both in Chicago; and in Wisconsin at: St. Anne, Milwaukee; St. Mary, Elm Grove; St. John the Baptist, Marshfield; St. Henry, Watertown; St. Elizabeth, Milwaukee; St. Vincent de Paul, Oshkosh; St. John Kanty, Milwaukee; Sacred Heart, Appleton; St. Charles Borromeo, Chippewa Falls; and Catholic Central Grade School, Appleton.

On April 30, 1972 she was baptized in the Spirit and from that time on, her relationship with the Lord took on a deeper meaning. The following June she went to the House of Prayer at Mequon and made her first directed retreat...which she described as an overwhelming experience. With her baptism in the Spirit, she became actively engaged in the charismatic movement and was co-leader for five years for the "New Life Prayer Group" at St. Joseph Parish, Appleton, Wisconsin, and also served for five years at St. Charles Parish, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. These were truly blessed days, a coming home to the Father.

When Sister Mary Lucida left classroom teaching, there came an opportunity to tutor the Hmong people who had settled in Appleton. For four years she tutored the Hmong immigrants in the mornings and visited the elderly and worked with the RENEW program in the afternoons.

The summer of 1983 was a memorable one for Sister Mary Lucida. She described it as a dream come true – the opportunity to participate in a renewal program with fellow SSNDs of her profession class in Rome. She

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said the memories of those blessed days will always be cherished. She wrote in the 1988 update to her autobiography about being thankful for the ups and downs, the joys and sorrows that brought her to a deeper walk with God.

In 1986, Sister Mary Lucida took on service and ministry roles with the SSND community in Milwaukee and Elm Grove. She retired in 1991, living initially at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Convent in Mount Calvary, Wis. In 1993, she joined the SSND community at Notre Dame of Elm Grove where she continued to share her gifts of service, prayer and presence.

Sister Mary Lucida died at the age of 96 on May 1, 2014 at Notre Dame of Elm Grove. She is survived by her loving extended family of nieces and nephews, dear friends and the SSND Community.

“How my heart rejoices in God my Savior.” Now she is truly united with her God and Savior. Thank you, Sister Lucida, for the beautiful life you have shared with us.

*By Sister Joan Emily Kaul, SSND*



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