



Birth
May 7, 1926

Baptism
May 16, 1926

Profession
July 30, 1947

Death
June 15, 2020

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 Charlotte Gaughan

The oldest of two daughters of Nora (Warren) and Monte Gaughan was born May 7, 1926 in Pana, Illinois. She was baptized on May 16, 1926, at St. Patrick Church and named Charlotte Irene. A younger sister, Doris, completed the family unit.

When she was six years old, Charlotte began her education at the public school in Pana. Two years later, the family moved to Effingham, Illinois. She attended St. Anthony Grade School and High School where she met the School Sisters of Notre Dame. After her Junior year of high school, she was encouraged to come to the Aspiranture at Sancta Maria in Ripa in St. Louis for her senior year.

Following graduation, Charlotte entered the candidature at Sancta Maria in Ripa on August 29, 1944. She was received into the novitiate on July 29, 1946, and given the name Mary Carol Therese. She pronounced her first vows on July 30, 1947, and final vows on July 30, 1953. She returned to her baptismal name in 1970. Sister Charlotte was awarded a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the former Notre Dame College, St. Louis, in 1958 and a master's degree in education from Xavier University, New Orleans, in 1964.

Sister Charlotte ministered in elementary education for 37 years as teacher, musician and principal. She taught at Madonna Manor, Marrero, Louisiana, and St. Joseph, Ponchatoula, Louisiana; St. Anthony, Knoxville, Iowa, and St. Mary, Fort Madison, Iowa; Immaculate Conception, Laurel, Mississippi. In Missouri, she taught at Sacred Heart, Valley Park; St. Peter, Robertson; St. Mary of Victories, St. Bernadette, Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Dominic Savio in St. Louis. In Illinois, she taught at St. Peter Cathedral, Belleville; Sacred Heart, Effingham and St. Joseph, East St. Louis. She was principal at St. Teresa, Belleville, Illinois.

Sister Charlotte also performed community service at Villa Gesu, St. Louis, for nine years. In 1985, she embarked on a career change. She became the chef for the men at the North American Novitiate of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate in Godfrey, Illinois. Often, a young man would make his way into the kitchen for a slice of her freshly baked bread. These 13 years of sharing in the charism of the Oblates touched her and the Oblate community deeply.

After several years of community service at Sancta Maria in Ripa, she was missioned to Veronica House, The Sarah Community, Bridgeton, Missouri, in 2003. Sister Charlotte was often on the welcoming committee when a new sister arrived and invited the person and those with her to cookies and tea. She was transferred to Anna House in 2013. She passed away peacefully around 12:45 p.m. on June 15, 2020 at Anna House.

A burial service was held on June 19, 2020. Nieces, nephews, their spouses and children joined the sisters from Theresa Center in commending her soul to God. She was buried in the Ripa cemetery. A memorial Mass will be celebrated at a later date. The Oblates of Mary Immaculate also celebrated a special Mass for her on this date. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Doris Willenborg.

continued

In Loving Memory



Sister Charlotte Gaughan



Most of the years Sister Charlotte spent teaching music involved instructing students how to play various band instruments. Her love of the students and music was evident to all who had the privilege to enjoy the performances of the band members. Her smile won the hearts of those who met her in her various ministries. She had a delightful sense of humor and was an enjoyable community member. Her culinary skills were exemplary and many shared the delicious meals and baked goods that she provided. She was devoted to her family and cared for her mother in Mrs. Gaughan's hour of need.

May Sister Charlotte now rejoice with her God and her family members who have gone before her as she enters into her new and eternal life!

By Sister Carol Marie Willt, SSND

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